

Grace Episcopal Church  
124 Maple Hill Avenue  
Newington, CT 06111  
Phone: 860-666-3331;  
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The Rev. David C. Parachini, Interim Rector  
The Rev. CJ Puskarz, Deacon  
Martha Brundage, Organist and Choir Director  
Art Riihimaki, Office Manager  
Web Site: [www.gracechurchnew.org](http://www.gracechurchnew.org)  
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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*





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
<b>1 7 Easter</b> 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM Church School 2:00 PM AA - PH	<b>2</b> 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH	<b>3</b> 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 4:00 PM AA - PH 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	<b>4</b> 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L	<b>5</b> 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 4:00 PM AA - PH 7:00 PM Al Anon - PH, MR, L	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8 Pentecost Graduate Sunday</b> 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Church School 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Finance Committee - MR	<b>9</b> 12:00 PM Hi-Noon Group 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH	<b>10</b> 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 4:00 PM AA - PH 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR 7:00 PM Vestry - L	<b>11</b> 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L	<b>12</b> 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 4:00 PM AA - PH 7:00 PM Al Anon - PH, MR, L	<b>13</b> 7:00 PM Friday Craft Meeting - MR	<b>14</b>
<b>15 1 Pentecost</b> 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM Church School	<b>16</b> 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH	<b>17</b> 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 4:00 PM AA - PH 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	<b>18</b> 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L	<b>19</b> 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 4:00 PM AA - PH 7:00 PM Al Anon - PH, MR, L	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 8:00 AM Welcome Table
<b>22 2 Pentecost</b> 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM Church School	<b>23</b> 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH	<b>24</b> 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 4:00 PM AA - PH 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	<b>25</b> 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L	<b>26</b> 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 4:00 PM AA - PH 7:00 PM Al Anon - PH, MR, L	<b>27</b> 7:00 PM Friday Craft Meeting - MR	<b>28</b> 8:00 AM St Thomas - PH,
<b>29 3 Pentecost</b> 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM Church School	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b> 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 4:00 PM AA - PH 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	<b>2</b> 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L	<b>3</b> 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 4:00 PM AA - PH 7:00 PM Al Anon - PH, MR, L	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>



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*

*June, 2014*

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



## FROM THE RECTOR

### **Gifts of the Spirit and God's Mission for the Church**

Dear Grace Church Family,

As we turn the page of the calendar to June we are all aware that the summer season is upon us and, I suspect, many of us hope and look forward to a respite from the level of activity that we encounter during the "program year". However, this is not a typical year, if there ever was such a thing, and there is much for us to do. The month is ushered in with the celebration of the feast of the Ascension (May 29) which we celebrate on June 1. This marks the return of the risen Christ to the realm of His Father (and ours) in heaven. One week later we observe the day of Pentecost when, as Christ promised, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples and the mantle of leadership was placed upon their shoulders. This was all foretold by Jesus and we have been focused on this transition throughout the Easter season and now we stand with the apostles on the threshold of the next chapter of the story of God's salvation. The day of Pentecost (June 8 this year) falls some fifty days after Easter (hence its name) and is sometimes called "the birthday of the Church". If we think about it that way and draw out the analogy, we have certainly been blessed with an abundance of birthday presents. All that is left is for us to embrace and then use the gifts that we have been given. This is, of course, the challenge. Jesus assured the disciples, as he assures us, that all of the gifts that will be required to carry out God's mission\* have been given to us. It is up to us to discern how to use those gifts and the story of that process of faithful discernment fills volumes of the history of the church and introduces us to the holy women and holy men who have down through the centuries be the loyal and faithful followers of God who have tried as best they could to do God's work. We hear about the triumphs as well as about the failures but we learn that the mission of God goes on. That brings us to the celebration of Pentecost in 2014 at Grace Church here in Newington. We have been abundantly and creatively gifted and at this juncture in our history and experience as a community of faith we are called to discern what is next.

We have recently adopted a new mission statement. It affirms that our mission is, "to renew, to serve, and to accept all people as we grow together in Christ". Good enough but how do we do that? Of course, that's the urgent question that lies ahead of us. Do we really believe that we possess the abundance of the gifts of the Spirit to accomplish the mission we have affirmed? I firmly believe that we do but that it will require the active participation of every member of our parish family to move us forward. No one can stand on the sidelines. Everyone's gifts are vital and urgently needed. We are called to set aside many things that are comfortable and familiar and to embrace the challenge of exploring new seas where God will push back the horizons of our hope. It does not matter how insignificant you may feel your gifts are. They are critical to God's mission and ours here at Grace Church.

During June and the summer months that will follow, the Vestry and the Discernment team will be working on goals which will help to shape our missional journey as we prepare to call a new Rector. At the same time the APOSTLE\*\* ministry teams will be forming and working to identify specific goals and objectives in each of their respective ministry areas that will help to advance and further define to overall goals of the congregation. All of us need to be a part of this process and to support by our prayers and action the work of actualizing God's mission in, by, and for Grace Church. Please don't wait to be asked and don't hold back as your participation is vital. Speak to one of the Wardens, to CJ or to me and we will help to connect you and to make you a critical part of our mission strategy.

May God abundantly bless us as we seek faithfully to do the work that God has given us to do!

Faithfully,

David+

\*God's mission: To restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ (see BCP page 855)

\*\*APOSTLE: Administration; Pastoral care; Outreach; Stewardship; Teaching and learning; Liturgy; Evangelism

06/29 Dorothea Morrison



### Thanks So Much!

- ☺ The members of our Altar Guild for their faithful service.
- ☺ Our chancel choir, soloists, and instrumentalists for their musical leadership in worship this past year.
- ☺ To all who helped on our Grace Church Work Day.



- 06/01 Judy Merritt
- 06/03 Craig Holland Jr.
- 06/03 Nathan Gaydos
- 06/09 Kathleen Shoemaker
- 06/10 Michelle Dumont
- 06/10 Christopher Page
- 06/13 Jon Stevens
- 06/13 Gavin Holland
- 06/14 Charlotte Buckingham
- 06/16 Mari Merwin
- 06/20 Karen Halpert
- 06/20 Ann Pasek
- 06/21 Barbara Block
- 06/23 Grace Ancona
- 06/23 Jordi Balducci
- 06/24 Marianne Doolittle
- 06/29 Ann Lockery



- 06/06 Martin and Valerie Dumont
- 06/11 Jennifer and Patrick Gebhardt
- 06/12 Richard and Lynne Goodwin
- 06/13 Paul and Jeanne Bailey
- 06/15 William and Clare McCusker
- 06/29 Walter and Jeanne Parker
- 06/29 Carrie and Michael Gaydos
- 06/30 Frank and Katherine Ancona
- 06/30 John and Pat Rogorzanski






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 June dates are: 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.




 **Deadline for Summer *Pace of Grace* is Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>.** This issue will cover both July and August. Please, make every effort to meet this deadline to allow us to send 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. You can send a test email to: [office@gracechurchnew.org](mailto:office@gracechurchnew.org).

 The office will be closed from May 28 through June 9 except for June 4.

 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*



*Hi-Noon Group*

**June 2, Monday –Elizabeth Park Rose Garden, Hartford.** Meet at the Church at 12:00, bring a bag lunch to eat prior to departing for the garden. Car Pooling.

**July / August** – Have a fun summer – activities continue in September.

**September 9, TUESDAY – Katharine Hepburn: Dressed for Stage and Screen at the Connecticut Historical Society in Hartford.** Meet at the Church at 12:00, bring a bag lunch to eat prior to departing for the exhibit. Car Pooling.

This exhibition features stage costumes from *The Philadelphia Story* and *Coco*; screen costumes from films like *Adam's Rib* and *Stage Door*; an ensemble of her signature tailored beige trousers and linen jackets; as well as vintage posters, playbills, photos, and other Hepburn-related artifacts.



Our Community Welcome Table Breakfasts continue. The next date is 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.

### **Hit the road**

When a teenager received his driving permit, he asked his father, who was a minister, if they could discuss use of the car.

His father said, "I'll make a deal with you. You bring your grades up, study your Bible a little and get your hair cut, and then we'll talk about it."

A month later, the young man returned to continue the discussion. "Son, I've been real proud of you," the father said. "You've brought your grades up and studied your Bible diligently, but you didn't get your hair cut!"

The teenager replied, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that. Samson had long hair, Moses had long hair, Noah had long hair and even Jesus had long hair .... "

"Yes," the father said, "and they walked everywhere they went!"



### Fundraising Committee Notes

The Church Fair is October 25, 2014. Save the date. If you want a table to sell items please contact Liz Welk at [elizabeth.welk30@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.welk30@gmail.com) or 860.559.0414. We will be having a series of Friday night crafts very simple to make to sell at the fair. See above.

New members and ideas are always welcome. Thanks, Liz Welk. Jeanne Parker, Lorraine Belyea, Valerie Dumont, Jane Stewart, and Lynn Page.



### New Prayer Chain Coordinator

We are pleased to announce that Marie Ritchie has agreed to be the Prayer Chain coordinator. It has been awhile since we have had an "official" person overseeing our prayer efforts – we've cobbled it together for too long. With Marie in this position it is our hope to have this be a more intentional and timely ministry.

As you know we pray daily for all the folks listed in the bulletin as well as in the Prayers of the People. Prayer requests may be made through Marie by calling her directly at 860-529-6180, or by contacting the church office at 860-666-3331. The prayer box on the shelf as you go into the Narthex may also be used as Marie will be checking it on a regular basis. We are in the process of designing and updating a form to be used for requests; we hope to have it out within the next week or so.

Moving forward the prayer list in the bulletin will include all those folks who are home-bound as

well as those who are living in an assisted living facility. Should you have any suggestions about how we can improve this process, please let Marie know.



### Summer Garden Watering

We are asking people to sign up to water the gardens around the church. An individual, couple, family or group would sign up for a week of watering. A sign up sheet is in the narthex. Water at least every other day in the heat of the summer unless there is rain that week. The gardens to be watered include the newly *renewed* butterfly and bee garden in the front, the entryway garden, the "front porch" pot and the three urn pots in the Memorial Garden.

Instructions on where the water key is will be given to those who sign-up; church access is not required.





"Please excuse my mother,  
it's my first service."