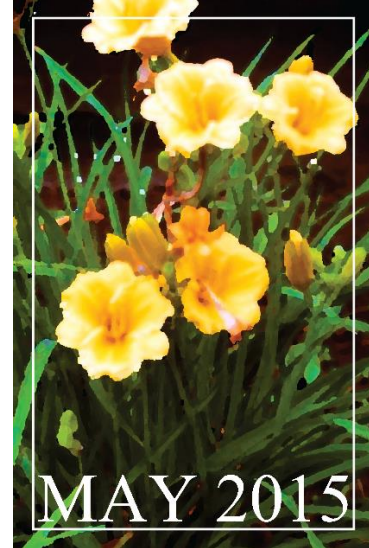


Grace Episcopal Church
124 Maple Hill Avenue
Newington, CT 06111
Phone: 860-666-3331;
Fax: 860-666-3332

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
Email: office@gracechurchnew.org
Father David: eakp@aol.com

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

PACE OF GRACE



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
26 4 Easter 8:30 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 6:30 PM Exercise Class N	28 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	29 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L 6:30 PM Exercise Class PH	30 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	1	2
3 5 Easter 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal	4 11:30 AM Hi-Noon Group 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH 6:30 PM Exercise Class N	5 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	6 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L 6:30 PM Exercise Class PH	7 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	8	9 Vestry Retreat
10 6 Easter 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal	11 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH 6:30 PM Exercise Class N	12 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR 7:00 PM Vestry - L	13 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L 6:30 PM Exercise Class PH	14 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	15 7:00 PM Friday Craft Meeting - MR	16 Safe Church Training
17 7 Easter 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal	18 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH 6:30 PM Exercise Class N	19 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	20 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L 6:30 PM Exercise Class PH	21 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	22	23
24 Pentecost 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal	25 Memorial Day	26 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	27 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L 6:30 PM Exercise Class PH	29 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	29	30
31 Trinity Sunday 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal	1 12:00 PM Hi-Noon Group 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH 6:30 PM Exercise Class N	2 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	3 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L 6:30 PM Exercise Class PH	4 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	5	6

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

Pace of Grace

May, 2015

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

The Spirit's Gifts for Mission

Dear Grace Church Family,

As we move into the fullness of the return of spring, we prepare for the abundance of God's gifts given to us at baptism and recalled each year as we celebrate the feast of Pentecost. Pentecost always falls fifty days after Easter (hence the name) and, therefore is a movable feast depending upon the date of Easter. Pentecost has been called the "birthday of the church" because it marks that moment when the responsibility for carrying God's mission forward comes to rest upon the disciples. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are designed to enable them to take the next steps in expanding the work which Jesus began during his ministry. They weren't sure that they were ready to take this work on and there were many who approached the task with uncertainty and apprehension but in faithfulness they moved forward. They knew that the Teacher had promised that they would receive all the gifts they needed to equip them for the work. The story of what happened next is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles and in the histories of the early church.

What does this have to do with us? We are the inheritors of the work which the apostles began. We may feel no more equipped than they did but I can assure all of us that the gifts we need to move forward are already in our midst. We simply need to identify them and call those gifts into the work of mission. We have been through a difficult and lengthy process and, as a result of the hard work of the Vestry and Transition Team have discerned that we are ready to call a Missional Priest and to embrace the work of being a Missional Baptismal Community. We are still in the process of fully understanding what that means and this is our next task. We have already made an important start and one upon which we will be building over the summer and into our new program year. This start is built on the A.P.O.S.T.L.E model and the related Ministry Teams we have and continue to put in place.

The key to the work of the Ministry Teams is to actively identify and encourage the further development of the ministry gifts needed for us to become a truly missional community. This will require us to dig deep and identify the many gifts of the Spirit that are already present in our parish family and to take proactive steps to nurture and develop those additional gifts needed to move us forward in mission. Pentecost for us needs to become an ongoing and creative reality not just on the Day of Pentecost but every day. I find that prospect exciting and energizing and I hope that you do as well.

You will be hearing more about this in the weeks ahead and I hope that all of us will prayerfully consider how we might advance the journey of faith here at Grace as we grow together into the promise of embracing being a Missional Baptismal Community.

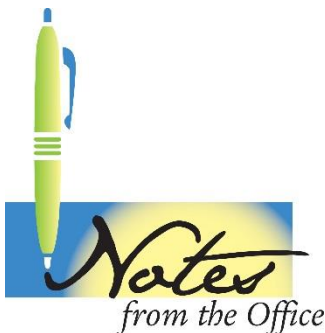
*Faithfully,
David+*



- 05/01 Paul Barr
- 05/05 Jane Siviski
- 05/14 Nathaniel Page
- 05/15 Mary Albrycht
- 05/17 Andrew Ancona
- 05/17 Alexander Ancona
- 05/17 Nancy Tatsapaugh
- 05/23 Dan Carcaud
- 05/23 Linda Haley
- 05/24 Mitch Page
- 05/26 Baylen Bielitz
- 05/29 Lynn Page



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



- Deadline for June *Pace of Grace* – **Tuesday, May 26th**. 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.
- Please notify the office of your email addresses. We would like to send more information by email when possible.
- We are looking for volunteers to staff the office when I am on vacation. I will be gone from July 24 through August 3. If you are interested in doing so this summer or fall, please call me (860-666-3331).
Art Riihimaki



United Thank Offering

The United Thank Offering Ingathering takes place on May 3. The United Thank Offering has been sponsored by the Episcopal Church Women for well over 100 years. It is for any church member who is aware of how much they owe to God's blessings. We return our blessing with donations which go to support the needy around the world. The blue boxes give us a daily remind. You can put a coin in your box each time you think of one of your blessings.

The United Thank Offering Prayer

Gracious God, source of all creation, all love, all true joy: accept we pray these outward signs of our profound and continuing thankfulness for all of life. Keep each of us ever thankful for all the blessings of joy and challenge that come our way. Bless those who will benefit from these gifts through the outreach of the United Thank Offering. This we ask through Him who is the greatest gift and blessing of all, Jesus Christ. Amen.

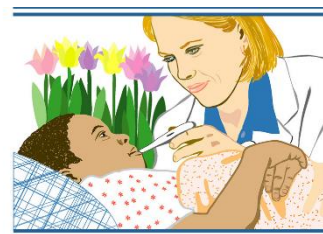
This prayer will help prepare for the United Thank offering on May 3rd.

Bev Manning



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, 2015 is National Nurses week. Please wish all the Nurses you know a Happy Nurses' week.



Hi-Noon Group

HI NOON (11:30) – Monday, May 4 Lunch and Tour of Cedar Mountain Commons – A senior living community sponsored by Hartford Hospital in Newington Center.– Meet at the Church at 11:30 to carpool to Cedar Mountain Commons where we will be hosted for lunch. **LUNCH RESERVATIONS** must be made no later than Wednesday, April 29. Call / email Jeanne Parker 860-666-6808 walpar@hotmail.com or Nancy DiPrato 860-665-7747

HI-NOON Annual Picnic – Monday, June 1- Pot Luck – Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Veggieburgers, Coffee, Iced Tea provided. Guest bring salad or dessert. Suggested: If the Chef of the Home was born January – May bring a dessert; if the Chef of the Home was born July – December bring Salad (Fruit, Potato, Pasta, Tossed Green, Etc.)



Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee is up and running! We have lots of new and exciting ideas in the works. The new chairs are Valerie Dumont and Lynn Page. Committee members are Lorraine Belyea, Melissa Haseley, Jeanne Parker, Jane Stewart, Liz Welk. Welcome to our new members, Mari Merwin and Laura Lynch. New members are always welcome.

The Fall Festival is October 24, 2015 9am-3pm Lunch will be served.

There are prayer beads available for sale. They are \$20.00. Please see Val Dumont. Email her at marval261@yahoo.com or call 860-690-0727



Hartford Earth Festival - Sunday, May 31!

Save the date for the Hartford Earth Festival (formerly Riverfront Earth Day), which IREJN is co -sponsoring on Sunday, May 31 from 1 - 5 pm at Riverfront Plaza. Riverfront Plaza will have two stages, a Main Stage, and a children's stage, called Inspiration Station. Activities will include musicians, a magician, a face painter, and a storyteller. The CT Science Center is creating a full day of activities around climate change as part of the Hartford Earth Festival. In conjunction with the Hartford Earth Festival, there will also be a rally and march for climate justice. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Terri at terri@irejn.org.



- | | |
|---------|--|
| May 4 | Hi- Noon travels to Cedar Mountain Commons for lunch and a tour. |
| May 9 | Vestry Retreat |
| May 10 | Just Show Up & Do It Award |
| May 16 | Safe Church Training, advance registration needed |
| May 17 | Graduate Sunday |
| May 24 | Pentecost |
| June 1 | Hi-Noon, end of year picnic |
| June 7 | Grace's Seniors Birthday and Anniversary Brunch |
| June 25 | Blood Drive |



FINANCE REPORT

General Fund Update:

With a wonderful Easter and finally some nice spring weather, April continued in at least a minor positive direction. With a continuing healthy balance in the checkbook, we were able to return \$1,200 to the Money Market reserves that we “borrowed” in December as a buffer for a special pre-payment for an activity towards the end of this year. Please note that the utilities are still a significant expense, and that although we didn’t have a snow plowing invoice that was paid in April, we do have one final invoice for \$1,135 to be paid in about 2 weeks.

The Finances for the month of April should be as follows:

INCOME	<u>April</u>	<u>Y.T.D.</u>	EXPENSES	<u>April</u>	<u>Y.T.D.</u>
<i>Beginning Checkbook:</i>	\$ 7,108	\$ 9,972			
Pledge Receipts:	\$ 7,965	\$ 35,031	Salaries & Benefits:	(\$ 5,324)	(\$ 21,146)
General Receipts:	\$ 559	\$ 1,994	General Expenses:	(\$ 2,747)	(\$ 9,131)
Use of Church Building:	\$ 850	\$ 3,135	General Utilities:	(\$ 2,187)	(\$ 8,403)
Fund Raisers, General:	\$ 439	\$ 589	Fund Raiser Expenses:	(\$ 285)	(\$ 285)
Fellowship:	\$ 0	\$ 376	Fellowship Expenses:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Church Fair:	\$ 0	\$ 26	Fair Expenses:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Special Events:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Special Event Expense:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Cap.Camp from M.Mkt:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Grounds (Snow/Lawn):	(\$ 0)	(\$ 4,850)
Capital Campaign:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Capital Camp to M.Mkt:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
“B-to-B” & Special:	\$ 78	\$ 362	Capital Campaign Exp:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Memorial Donations:	\$ 5	\$ 20	Memorials to M.Mkt:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Memorial Garden:	\$ 25	\$ 70	Mem. Garden Exp:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Seasonal Offerings:	\$ 860	\$ 1,011	Diocese Pledge:	(\$ 1,321)	(\$ 5,284)
H.Week, Good Friday:	\$ 194	\$ 194	Church in Jerusalem	(\$ 200)	(\$ 200)
Outreach:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Outreach:	(\$ 159)	(\$ 716)
The Grace Fund	\$ 25	\$ 107	The Grace Fund	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Workshop Donations:	\$ 0	\$ 319	Workshop Exp:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 306)
Rectory Rent:	\$ 1,500	\$ 4,500	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:	(\$ 1,200)	(\$ 1,200)
Total Received:	\$12,500	\$ 47,734	Total Paid Out:	(\$13,423)	(\$ 51,521)
			<i>Ending Checkbook:</i>	\$ 6,185	\$ 6,185

Thanks to all who are keeping up with your pledges. Although we seem to be falling a little behind the projected White Envelope income, the contributions are coming in fairly steadily. We do have an exciting year ahead of us, and it is important that we all continue to support God’s work in our very special worship place.

Thanks also to everyone who submitted a new pledge card with your giving estimate. At present, we have received 29 pledge cards. If you haven’t had a chance yet, please review your giving and fill in a new card for 2015/2016 to help us plan for the next 12 months. I was hoping to see at least 15 to 20 more cards from active members so we don’t have to guess what our overall pledge support will be as we do plan our continued adventure together with Christ.

Faithfully Yours, Mark Shoemaker – Treasurer

Capital Campaign and General Money Market Update:

At the end of February, the overall Money Market account balance should be **\$51,389**. Of this amount, the major elements are: \$24,747 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