

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
Mei-Tsen Chen, Organist/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

OCTOBER



2015



OCTOBER 2015

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
<p>27 18 Pentecost 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>28 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH, MR</p>	<p>29 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 8:30 AM Employment Group L 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR</p>	<p>30 6:00 PM Drop the Rock - L</p>	<p>1 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 6:30 PM Stewardship Committee 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 19 Pentecost 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Church School 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 11:30 AM Animal Fair</p>	<p>5 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH, MR</p>	<p>6 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 8:30 AM Employment Group L Creative Energy Team 6:30pm MR 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR</p>	<p>7 6:00 PM Drop the Rock - L</p>	<p>8 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L</p>	<p>9 7:00 PM Craft Workshop MR</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11 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</p>	<p>12 Columbus Day 12:00 PM Hi-Noon Group</p>	<p>13 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 8:30 AM Employment Group L 7:00 PM Vestry - Meeting Room 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR</p>	<p>14 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 6:00 PM Drop the Rock - L</p>	<p>15 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 9:30 AM Craft Workshop MR</p>
<p>18 21 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</p>	<p>19 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH, MR</p>	<p>20 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 8:30 AM Employment Group L 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR</p>	<p>21 6:00 PM Drop the Rock - L</p>	<p>22 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 9:00 AM Church Fall Fair</p>
<p>25 22 Pentecost 8:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>26 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH, MR</p>	<p>27 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 8:30 AM Employment Group L 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR</p>	<p>28 6:00 PM Drop the Rock - L</p>	<p>29 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Halloween</p>



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

Pace of Grace

October, 2015

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



**FROM THE
RECTOR**

[we are reprinting this letter from last October]

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 in turn 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+



- | | |
|-------|--------------------|
| 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 |





Thanks So Much!


- ☺ All who are working to make our fall fair a success.
- ☺ The Altar Guild for their faithful service.



 **Deadline for November Pace of Grace - Tuesday, October 27th.** 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.

 Office hours during the fall will normally be 10:00am – 2:00pm, Tuesday and Wednesday and 10:15am-11:15am and 1:00pm – 4:00pm on Thursday. The office will normally be closed on Mondays and Fridays.

Art Riihimaki



Hi-Noon Group

Fall Schedule:

October 12, Monday - 12:00 – Annual visit to Gouveia Vineyards in Wallingford. – By popular demand the Group will return to beautiful Gouveia Vineyards.

Bring lunch and a snack to share at the vineyard. Wine and all other beverages must be purchased there. Meet at Church at Hi-Noon to car pool.

November 2, Monday – 12:00 – Tour of THE COMMONS – Episcopal Church of Connecticut Diocese Headquarters located in Meriden. Meet at the Church at noon - bring a lunch (coffee, tea provided). Following lunch the group will car pool to the Diocese Headquarters.

December 7, Monday – 12:00 - Annual Christmas Party in the Parish Hall.



As we continue our “tour” of the A.P.O.S.T.L.E. ministry paradigm the next area we’ll talk about is Pastoral Care. As a reminder, the APOSTLE ministries is the way we are now organizing our work together as we continue forward transitioning ourselves into a Missional parish. And we are taking the next few months to introduce and define each ministry in this concept.

To review, last month we introduced the Administration ministry – A is for Administration – “the nuts and bolts of keeping things moving forward and supporting the work of all of the teams.” It encompasses the broad categories of staffing and personnel, facilities, rectory and grounds management, finances, communications, including publicity and website management, outside group coordination and anything else that needs to be done to ensure the smooth day to day operation of the church. For the most part, it is a fully functioning ministry although we are still in need of someone to oversee our publicity and advertising.

According to Father David, Pastoral Care is “looking after the wellbeing of all of the apostles in this place and in the broader community.” The Team Leader for this ministry is JoAnn Cromwell. The team members are Kathy Johnson, Melissa Haseley, Mabel Maynard, Mari Merwin, Marie Richie and Liz Welk. Father David participates regularly as well.

Over the last year this group has had regular meetings to define and pull together all the activities and events that we currently do that would fall under this definition. And there is a lot – it covers most all of our fellowship and special events as well as our card and flower ministries. Home visits, hospital and nursing home visits, ushers and greeters, the blood drive, safe church, the prayer chain, the Recovery ministry, all awards and recognition receptions, name tags, the Community Breakfast, the Integrity/LGBTQ workshops and the Neighborhood Care Groups are also under this group.

As you can see, the list is extensive and active

and most activities are well covered, although there are some we’ve let fall by the wayside – the Neighborhood Care Groups come to mind. The team is looking at reworking the above group as the need for more intentional and demonstrative care and concern for each other becomes apparent with an aging demographic.

The team is also looking to increase the number of people available to make home and hospital visits. In particular, we are in need of more trained and licensed Lay Eucharist Visitors (LEV’s). The LEV’s are able to take communion directly from the service to members of our parish family at retirement homes, hospitals or at home when they cannot come to church. If you are interested in becoming a LEV, please talk with Father David.

With the loving, caring community that we are, there is always something to do in the Pastoral Care area. If you are interested in volunteering to help in this area, please contact JoAnn Cromwell.

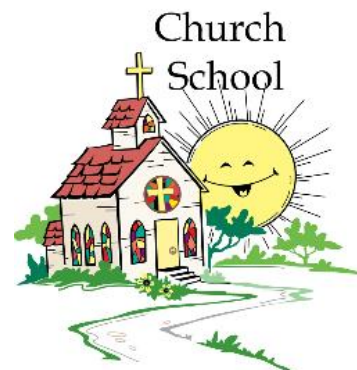
Next month we will talk about Outreach. O is for Outreach.

Blessings,
Melissa Haseley
Senior Warden



From Martha

Martha Brundage has sent notes of thanks to the parish and to the choir. They are posted on the narthex bulletin board for you to read. If you would like to send her a note, speak to Melissa Haseley or call the office for her address.



Church School has begun! We will be meeting on the following dates: October 4 and 18; November 1, 15, and 22; December 6 and 13. It is not too late for children to join us to learn of God’s love for them.



DID YOU NOTICE?

FALL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY OCTOBER 24, 2015

9AM - 3PM

YIKES... THERE ARE LESS THAN 20 DAYS TILL THE FAIR!!

THERE IS STILL A LOT OF WORK AND LOOSE ENDS TO TIE UP FOR THE FALL FESTIVAL.

PLEASE COME BE A PART OF THIS FANTASTIC EVENT!

Have you thought about how you can help before the fair, during the fair and the clean up after? So the saying goes...We need all hands on deck!! Think about what you can do to help. There will be a sign up sheet for a variety of jobs. Please step up to help support one of our biggest fundraisers. Any way you can... will be greatly appreciated. For the Fall Festival to be a success we need help from everyone. There are little jobs and big jobs. There is a job for everyone!

See or call Valerie Dumont for the sign-up sheets.

CRAFT NIGHTS

There are still craft dates before the Fall Festival. Many hands make for light work. We will welcome any and all help. We alternate between Fri night and Sat mornings. All crafting is in the upstairs meeting room unless otherwise noted.

Upcoming Dates are...

FRI OCT 9TH AT 7PM

SAT OCT 17TH AT 9:30 AM WE WILL BE WRAPPING OUR SILENT AUCTION BASKETS.

There may be crafting dates to be added. We will send an email blast to let you know. We will also make an announcement on Sunday morning at the one minute ministries.

Thank you to everyone who showed up to help make the last crafts. They came out awesome. It was great to have so much help. It also was great to hear so much laughter!!

VENDORS

We are almost to capacity for vendors. A few more vendors, crafters, or artisans would be great. If you know of anyone who would like to be a vendor or have a suggestion for your favorite vendor, please let

Lorraine Belyea or Liz Welk know.

ITEMS NEEDED

What we need most now is everyone's help. Any way shape or form would be most appreciated.

- ✓ Help with purchasing or asking for donations for Silent Auction gifts.
- ✓ Help with wrapping silent auction gifts on Oct 17th at 9:30am.
- ✓ Help with Labeling Silent Auction gifts with the help of a laptop or iPad.
- ✓ Help with leaflets that will be typed and printed of vendors at the fair. Our Greeters will be handing these out the day of the fair as people come in both of our entrances.
- ✓ Help with Hanging Fall Festival Flyers around town.
- ✓ People to help paint 2 large lawn signs for our Fall Festival. Please speak to Val Dumont if you want to help me. I can be reached at 860-690-0727.
- ✓ Help hanging the 2 large lawn signs with Marty Dumont.
- ✓ Help finishing up some crafts.
- ✓ Help with some outside work to make our church look great!
- ✓ We need help with purchasing our food for Grace's Cafe for the day of the Fall Festival. We need our many talented bakers to start thinking of what to bake for our Bake sale. We are looking for smaller packaged items.
- ✓ Coupons and or Gift Certificates for Joann's, Michaels & AC Moore.

Did you sign up yet??? That is sign up to work for the Fall Festival? You can choose your day, time or area to help. There are a variety of jobs in all different areas that you can do. Many are sit down jobs too. Ask yourself: What can I do to help?

We will need help setting up on Thursday and Friday before the Fall Festival. We will need help the day of the Fall Festival and of course clean up after 3pm.

MEETING

Our next meeting is Tues October 6, 2015 at 6:30pm. All are welcome to attend. We meet in the upstairs meeting room. This meeting is primarily about the Fall Festival.

LOOK FOR ANOTHER DINING FOR DOLLARS DATE

We are in the process of setting up another Dining for Dollars dinner. After much research we have decided to have it again at Bertucci's in Newington. They offer the biggest discount with many flexible options. It's a great night out and you don't have to cook! Laura Lynch is setting this up. Look for a date in November before Thanksgiving!!

DID YOU NOTICE?

We have a new piece of furniture in the Narthex. A beautiful teak Curio Cabinet. This will be so we can display and sell our Anglican Prayer Beads and religious jewelry. They will be on display with seasonal gifts from our own "Grace Filled Creations", part of the Creative Energy Team. You will be able to purchase any items on Sundays after church. We accept cash, or credit card. There is a small fee if you use a credit card. If you see something you want and we are not available please see or call -

Lorraine Belyea 860-543-2069

Valerie Dumont 860-690-0727

Lynn Page 860-841-2539.

ANGLICAN PRAYER BEADS AND RELIGIOUS JEWELRY

We are selling our handcrafted Anglican Prayer Beads. Prices start at \$20.00 There are a variety of styles, colors and crosses available. We also are selling religious jewelry. We have Faith Bracelets, Psalm 23 Bracelets and Prayer Bead bracelets. Each item purchased comes with an explanation in a white organza bag. They all can be custom ordered. If you have any questions please see Lorraine Belyea, Valerie Dumont or Lynn Page. You can call at the above cell phone numbers. Please leave a message if we don't answer and we will get back to you as soon as possible. These will be available the day of the Fall Festival to purchase too.

INK CARTRIDGES

We are still collecting empty ink cartridges to be refunded for money. Bring in all your empty ones. Leave them in the Narthex, in the little wooden box in the corner underneath the red bulletin board. If you have any questions Lynn Page is collecting them.



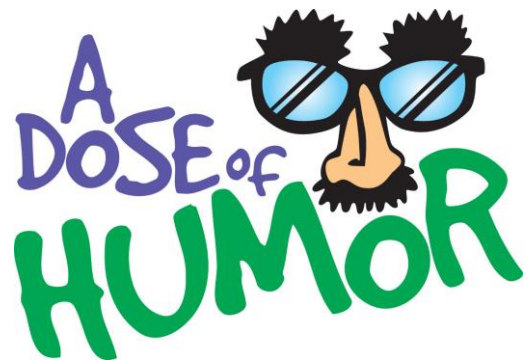
In Food Gathering

Thanksgiving is just around the corner. It is a time to be thankful for what we have and time to help those less fortunate. It is time for our annual In Food Gathering. Social Services is requesting that we have the food at the Food Bank by November 9. Here are some suggestions: pumpkin pie filling, pie crust, canned sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, stuffing, green beans, mushroom soup, French fried onions, sweet corn, pickles, beets, olives, bread mixes, corn bread mix, boxed potatoes, gravy, cake mix, brownie mix, or whatever your favorite side dish or desert. Gift cards are also appreciated. We will also be happy to shop for you if you would like.

We will have some reminder shopping lists in the Narthex.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Shirley Adams and Barbara Johnson,
Co-Chairs of the Outreach committee



Save the Date

December 5, 2015

Grace Church will host the Sweet Life Comedy of Scott Davis, a nationally-known comedian. Scott will serve up his special brand of humor, which is sure to leave you laughing. His comedy has delighted hundreds of thousands across the US and abroad.

More information will be shared as we continue on the journey of planning this great event. Flyers and tickets should be available by the end of October.

Sweet Life comedy help needed:

- Help with publicity, decorations and volunteers for December 5th.
- Contact JoAnn Cromwell, 860-841-6296, or Mabel Maynard, 860-301-4918.



Forward Day By Day

The next issue of Forward Day By Day (November through January) is available in the narthex in both regular and large print. Please take one and leave a small donation to help cover the cost.



Remember to turn your clocks back on November 1st or you will be early for church and miss your extra hour of sleep.



FINANCE REPORT

Fall is now upon us, with lots more anticipated activities and increased cold-weather expenses. For a number of reasons, September was very quiet financially. Overall income was the lowest so far this year, even though the pledge envelope total was above the predicted level. Luckily, September expenses were also the lowest for the year and we actually saw a net gain to the checkbook. I hope this doesn't mean we will get hit extra hard in October. At least our cash reserves in the checkbook will help cover any reasonable increase in expenses. We need to remember that several situations affect our current reduction of costs: A quiet summer with minimal mowing, still no Sexton expenses, no full-time organist for September, and still only the interim rector position. Thanks to everyone who is pitching in to help, and don't be afraid to ask if there is a chore that you can help with.

The overall finances for the month of September were as follows:

INCOME	<u>September</u>	<u>Y.T.D.</u>	EXPENSES	<u>September</u>	<u>Y.T.D.</u>
<u>Beginning Checkbook:</u>	<u>\$11,272</u>	<u>\$ 9,972</u>			
Pledge Receipts:	\$ 8,335	\$ 75,902	Salaries & Benefits:	(\$ 4,390)	(\$ 46,056)
General Receipts:	\$ 128	\$ 8,140	General Expenses:	(\$ 1,560)	(\$ 17,747)
Use of Church Building:	\$ 890	\$ 8,590	General Utilities:	(\$ 1,118)	(\$ 14,132)
Fund Raisers, General:	\$ 6	\$ 1,345	Fund Raiser Expenses:	(\$ 186)	(\$ 531)
Prayer Bead Project:	\$ 0	\$ 273	Prayer Bead Expenses:	(\$ 98)	(\$ 1,306)
Church Fair:	\$ 175	\$ 446	Fair Expenses:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Fellowship:	\$ 0	\$ 376	Fellowship Expenses:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 21)
Special Events:	\$ 0	\$ 756	Special Event Expense:	(\$ 600)	(\$ 1,925)
Cap.Camp from M.Mkt:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Grounds (Snow/Lawn):	(\$ 185)	(\$ 8,205)
Capital Campaign:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Capital Camp to M.Mkt:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
"B-to-B" & Special:	\$ 18	\$ 581	Capital Campaign Exp:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Memorial Donations:	\$ 5	\$ 165	Memorials to M.Mkt:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Memorial Garden:	\$ 25	\$ 212	Mem. Garden Exp:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 944)
Seasonal Offerings:	\$ 0	\$ 1,011	Diocese Pledge:	(\$ 1,321)	(\$ 11,889)
H.Week, Good Friday:	\$ 0	\$ 194	Church in Jerusalem	(\$ 0)	(\$ 200)
Outreach:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Outreach:	(\$ 104)	(\$ 1,949)
The Grace Fund	\$ 525	\$ 759	The Grace Fund	(\$ 0)	(\$ 500)
UTO Donations:	\$ 0	\$ 221	UTO Forwarded:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 221)
Rectory Rent:	\$ 0	\$ 10,800	Rectory Rent to M.Mkt:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 0)
Special Donation:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Audit Fee:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 1,100)
Reserves from M.Mkt:	\$ 0	\$ 0	Reserves to M.Mkt:	(\$ 0)	(\$ 1,200)
<u>Total Received:</u>	<u>\$10,107</u>	<u>\$ 109,771</u>	<u>Total Paid Out:</u>	<u>(\$ 9,562)</u>	<u>(\$ 107,926)</u>
			<u>Ending Checkbook:</u>	<u>\$ 11,817</u>	<u>\$ 11,817</u>

Lots of action is coming up, not the least of which is our Fall Fair. We are looking forward to a wonderful event and are grateful to our Creative Energy Team for all their effort to get ready for the event. There are still lots of small ways for everyone to get involved so the work can be spread around and not take too much effort individually.

Faithfully Yours, Mark Shoemaker – Treasurer

Capital Campaign and General Money Market Update:

At the end of September, the overall Money Market account balance was **\$50,543**. Of this amount, the major elements are still: \$23,868 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