

Grace Episcopal Church  
124 Maple Hill Avenue  
Newington, CT 06111  
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The Rev. CJ Puskarz, Deacon  
Mei-Tsen Chen, Organist and Choir Director  
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Email: [office@gracechurchnew.org](mailto:office@gracechurchnew.org)  
Father David: [eakp@aol.com](mailto:eakp@aol.com)

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

# ***PACE OF GRACE***






*February*

# ***2017***



# February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:20 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Annual Meeting	30	31 8:30 AM Morning Prayer – C 8:30 AM Employment Group - MMR 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	1 6:00 PM Drop the Rock - L	2 9:30 AM Tai Chi – PH 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal MMR 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	3	4 9:30 AM Craft Time - MMR
5 5 Epiphany 8:20 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Altar Guild Meeting	6 12:00 PM Hi-Noon Group 6:00 PM Boy Scouts – PH	7 8:30 AM Morning Prayer – C 8:30 AM Employment Group - MMR 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	8 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 6:00 PM Drop the Rock - L 6:30 PM Pastoral Care Team Meeting – MMR	9 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal MMR 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	10	11 8:30 AM – Hold for Boy Scouts
12 6 Epiphany 8:20 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist	13 6:00 PM Boy Scouts - PH	14 8:30 AM Morning Prayer – C 8:30 AM Employment Group MMR 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR 	15 6:00 PM Drop the Rock - L	16 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal MMR 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	17	18
19 7 Epiphany 8:20 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist	20 	21 8:30 AM Morning Prayer – C 8:30 AM Employment Group MMR 7:00 PM Vestry - MMR 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR	22 6:00 PM Drop the Rock – L 6:00 PM Boy Scouts – PH	23 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal MMR 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	24	25 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Vestry Retreat (snow date March 4)
26 Last Epiphany 8:20 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Creative Energy Team Meeting	27 6:00 PM Boy Scouts - PH	28 8:30 AM Morning Prayer – C 8:30 AM Employment Group MMR 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR 5:00 PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 	1 6:00 PM Drop the Rock – L	2 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal MMR 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L	3	4

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



# *Pace of Grace*

## *February, 2017*

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

*From the  
Missional Priest*



### **Missional Or Mission-ish**

Dear Grace Church Family,

We have declared that we are a Missional Congregation with a Missional Priest and an organizational structure that depends on dynamic and creative lay ministry for its leadership. What does that really mean and what has or will be changing at Grace Church because of this decision? This, and related questions, are at the heart of conversations that have been taking place, especially in the Vestry, over the last two years but what does this all mean? As we prepare to move forward following our Annual Parish Meeting last week, it seemed a good idea to try to provide a framework that might be helpful in understanding what it means to be a missional congregation rather than one uncertain of what this means. This conversation will be at the heart of our upcoming Vestry retreat but will, more importantly, be an important part of our larger conversations going forward in decisions such as those influencing, for example, how we will implement Family Promise in the next few months. Rather than trying to start with a theological dialogue about being a missional church, it seemed to me that it might be easier to engage our thinking by posing a series of questions and to invite all of us to prayerfully consider our answers. These questions are designed to help us consider what it means to be missional (i.e. fully understanding and supportive of this model of ministry versus a baptismal community that is trying out a new vocabulary that we don't fully understand). The questions below are adapted from material from TREC-CT (the Episcopal Church in Connecticut/sometimes known as the Diocese) that is itself, and on a much larger scale, seeking to embrace becoming more missional in our shared approach to being the church in an increasingly changing and more complex world. Let me invite you to share your thoughts about the answers to these questions as "letters to the editor" of the Pace or in conversation with Vestry or clergy.

That said, here are the questions for you to ponder, and remember that there are no right answers' only honest and thoughtful opinions.

1. Are we focused on discerning what God is up to ahead of us out in the world – in other words are we responsive to God’s leadership rather than our own? - OR
2. Are we focused on thinking about the church and what the church is doing for others?
3. Are we working to embrace a whole new life style? - OR
4. Are we only adding on programs and activities?
5. In our relationships with others, are we looking for mutually transformative relationships which are truly expressions of reciprocity? – OR
6. Are we choosing projects/ministries just to meet needs?
7. If the building were not there, what would we do next? – OR
8. How do we better use our resources to respond to opportunities for reciprocity?

There are no quick or easy answers but our answers may well reveal God’s invitation to missional action in our midst.

I look forward to your thoughtful response and active participation in our journey together.

Faithfully,

David+



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

Epiphany Year A	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
<b>Presentation of the Lord</b> February 2, 2017 <i>ART -- PRAYER</i>	Malachi 3:1-4	Psalm 84 <b>or</b> <i>Psalm 24:7-10</i>	Hebrews 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40
<b>Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany</b> February 5, 2017 <i>ART -- PRAYER</i>	Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)	Psalm 112:1-9 (10)	1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)	Matthew 5:13-20
<b>Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany</b> February 12, 2017 <i>ART -- PRAYER</i>	Deuteronomy 30:15-20 <b>or</b> <i>Sirach 15:15-20</i>	Psalm 119:1-8	1 Corinthians 3:1-9	Matthew 5:21-37
<b>Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany</b> February 19, 2017 <i>ART -- PRAYER</i>	Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18	Psalm 119:33-40	1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23	Matthew 5:38-48
<b>Transfiguration Sunday</b> February 26, 2017 <i>(Last Sunday before Lent)</i> <i>ART -- PRAYER</i>	Exodus 24:12-18	Psalm 2 <b>or</b> <i>Psalm 99</i>	2 Peter 1:16-21	Matthew 17:1-9



02/04 Jeanne Parker  
 02/13 Clare McCusker  
 02/20 Laura Bielitz



02/08 Paul and Shirley Crosswaith

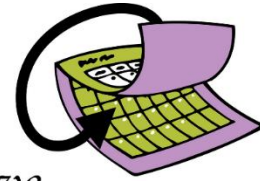


The Annual Meeting was held on Sunday, January 29, 2017. The following officers were elected: Senior Warden – JoAnn Cromwell; Junior Warden – Walt Parker; Treasurer - Mark Shoemaker; Secretary – Laura Lynch; Members: Term Ending 2018 - Barbara Johnson; Term Ending 2019 - Val Dumont and Lynn Page; Term Ending 2020 – Mabel Maynard; Alternate – Karen Halpert; Convention Delegates - Karen Halpert and Elizabeth Welk.



### Weather Closing

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



### Save the Date

**February 5<sup>th</sup>:** Altar Guild Meeting  
**February 6<sup>th</sup>:** Hi Noon  
**February 21<sup>st</sup>:** Vestry Meeting  
**February 25<sup>th</sup>:** Vestry Retreat 9 am – 3 pm  
 (snow date March 4)  
**February 26<sup>th</sup>:** Creative Energy Team Meeting  
**February 28<sup>th</sup>:** Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5-7 pm



**HI-NOON** - A group of "Young at Heart" Church friends meets monthly (except summer) for lunch and activities in the Parish Hall and short excursions. All are welcome!

**Feb 6, 2017, Monday:** Movie Matinee, Bring bag lunch and movie snacks to share. Movie to be announced.  
**Mar 6, Monday:** Lunch at Polish Restaurant - Meet at Church at 12:00 – Car pooling  
**April 3, Monday:** Connecticut Old State House – Following 12:00 bag lunch in Parrish Hall car pool to visit historic 1796 Historic State House in Hartford  
**May 1, Monday:** To be announced  
**June 5, Monday:** Annual Picnic, Parish Hall & Patio – Meal provided – volunteers for salads / desserts, Donation for meal.  
**Summer:** Lobster Roll & Hammonasset Park – Meet at Church 12.00 Noon – Following lunch at **Lobster Landing**, Clinton, (lobster rolls, or hot dogs or kielbasa roll) the group will have a short stroll on the beach and visit the new Meigs Point Nature Center.



Creative Energy Team  
February 2017

### Fall Festival...

Even though there is no definite date set yet for the Fall Festival, it will take place in October this year.

We are having our first craft day on Sat, Feb 4th at 9:30 am in the upstairs meeting room. All are welcome. There will be something to do for all craft levels. It is always fun with lots of laughs and great fellowship.

### Tag Sale...

The Tag Sale will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2017 (rain date May 13) from 9am to 2pm. All donations will be accepted; boxed items can be placed in the Potting Shed room.

### An Invitation to Advertise in our Church Bulletin

We are starting our new campaign of advertising in the Sunday weekly bulletin. It is our hope to raise funds without using a lot of people power like the Fall Festival. If anyone from the parish or any family or friends wishes to place a business size ad of 2" x 3.5" for their business please see Valerie Dumont or get in touch with me at creativeenergyteam@gracechurchnew.org or call 860-666-3331, press #3.

We are starting with 24 ad spaces. So get your ad in soon. Just by word of mouth we have many ready to commit to this advertising offer. There is an information sheet and order form in the narthex under the red bulletin board. The cost is \$125.00 for one year of advertising. We will be placing our ads by the first Sunday in April 2017.

Please see the forms for more information or ask Valerie Dumont.

*Valerie Dumont*



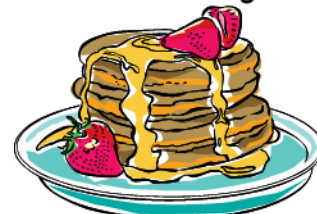
Lifeline Screening will be held at the Newington United Methodist Church on Wednesday, February 22, 2017. Please pick up a flyer in the narthex.



## Thanks So Much!

- ☺ To all who showed support for Grace Church by attending the annual meeting.
- ☺ To our retiring Vestry members for a job well done: Melissa Haseley, Shirley Adams and Kathy Johnson
- ☺ To Mark Shoemaker and Jane Stewart for continuing as our Treasurer and Accounts Payable Manager.

## Shrove Tuesday



**February 28, 2017 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM**

Our Savior's Lutheran Church will again join us in a fun time. Looking forward to working with them and enjoying fellowship together.

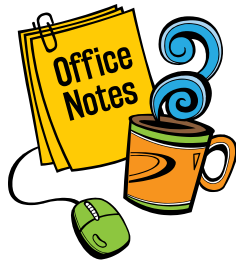
We will have the usual Pancake Supper fare with Mardi Gras music playing in the background.

We may have a surprise or two, also. Stay tuned for more information.

Sign-up sheets for attendance and food donations will be available on Sunday, February 5th.

Again this year we ask for a \$5 donation per person. Children under 5 years old are FREE.

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



The deadline for March *Pace of Grace* is **Thursday, February 23rd**. 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.

*Debbie Forrest*



On Saturday, January 28, the Grace Church book club gathered for a lively discussion on the two books read since their last meeting in November: *The Summer Before the War* and *Rainy Day Sisters*. Both books were

enjoyed by the group and provided an interesting and wide range of discussion points on family relationships, history, the English countryside, gender and class bias and even a touch of politics!

Nancy Bielman did her usual good job of keeping us on track and had a list of suggested discussion questions at the ready in case it was needed (it was not).

The next book club gathering is Saturday, March 4 at 2 pm in the church library. The book selection is *Some Luck* by Jane Smiley. It is the first book in The Last Hundred Year trilogy. If the book is well received by the group, they will go ahead and read the other two books as well. Jane Smiley is an award winning author of both fiction and non-fiction books as well as several young adult books.

The group truly enjoys reading and always has a great list of recommended reads at their fingertips. We are a casual, fun group and welcome any and all into the group. Please join us on March 4 and see for yourself.

Happy Reading!

*Melissa Haseley*



The next meeting for the Altar Guild will be Sunday, Feb. 5, 2017, right after the 9 am service. Snow date will be Sunday Feb. 11, 2017. We will be planning for Ash Wednesday, Lent and Easter. I would like all members to attend the meeting.

*Elizabeth Welk*



Chili crew request

FoodShare has had a very limited supply of the protein beans we use in our chili, ex. red, black or white beans. We use about fifty cans of various beans a month.

Please help by donating a can or two of these beans to continue this 30+ year ministry that is so appreciated by South Park Inn and the Friendship Service Center.

We also have dry beans to be cooked and frozen. See JoAnn or Mabel if you would like to take dry beans to cook, freeze and put in the large freezer in the kitchen.

Thank you for your help. Your chili crew.

RECEPTION

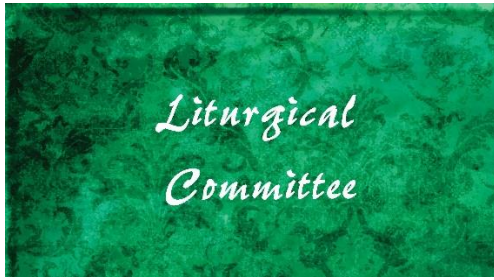


**Reception of Charles L. Kamano into the Episcopal Church**

Thursday, March 16; 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Church of the Holy Spirit, 28 Church St., West Haven





1. Meeting schedule for 2017:
2. May 21 : Schedule for June 4 to October 29
3. September 24 : Schedule for November 5 - January 6

### Schedule for Ash Wednesday to Pentecost

Ash Wednesday - March 1 - services at 6:00 am, 7 pm

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent - March 5 Rite I (Great Litany?)

Lenten program begins March 8 6:30 pm for 6 weeks

### **Holy Week**

Palm Sunday - April 9 - Palms, Dove, Procession

Wednesday - April 12 - 7 pm Tennenbrae

Maundy Thursday - April 13 - 7 pm Stripping the Altar, Vigil

Good Friday - April 14 - Services at noon and 7 pm

Easter Eve - April 15 - 7 pm service

Easter - April 16

Ascension Day - May 25 - Thursday 7 pm Service

Pentecost - June 4 - Balloons

*Beverley Manning*



It is great pleasure to announce that the Board of Directors will be signing the lease for our Day Center at 40 Cornelius Way in New Britain on February 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be opening the facility to families starting March 5<sup>th</sup>; the Congregational Church in Newington has taken on being the host church for the first two weeks in March.

Our Director of the facility will be Don Carlson and starts Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>.

Grace signed up with our support church, Our Savior Lutheran, for May 28<sup>th</sup> PM- June 4<sup>th</sup> AM. This gives us some time to get thing arranged here at Grace.

We need to start gathering our supplies and totes to store the linens in for our guests. We will also be needing some bedside tables and small lamps in the sleeping quarters. The room dividers are being made by a few volunteers and the Boy Scouts at Our Savior's. These dividers will be stored at the Day Center for use by any church needing them.

We are still searching for a donation of a van or one to purchase. Requirements are for 14 passengers plus a driver. If anyone has a contact please let me know and I will follow up.

Thank you all for your help in this worthwhile endeavor. It has taken the group three plus years to make this a reality.

*Mabel Maynard*  
860-665-7160



New legislation effective dates are typically January 1st, July 1st, and October 1st in a calendar year. So, as 2016 comes to an end, we prepare for a number of new laws to take effect starting January 1, 2017. These new laws may have an impact on you, your business, or our community. I therefore encourage you to take a look at the full list of laws, which includes some of the noteworthy legislation listed below.

An Act Concerning Opioids and Access to Overdose Reversal Drugs

This new law, PA 16-43, puts a seven-day cap on prescriptions for opioid drugs. The bill also requires municipalities to train all first responders on the use of Narcan, a drug that may reverse an opioid overdose. In addition to this law, the state created a 24/7 opioid addiction. hotline: 1-800-563-4086.

Insurance Coverage for Tomosynthesis for Breast Cancer Screenings

This legislation requires certain Connecticut health insurance policies to cover, at the option of the beneficiary, breast tomosynthesis. Breast tomosynthesis is a three-dimensional mammogram. By law, such policies already cover baseline mammograms for women age 35 through 39, and annual mammograms for women age 40 or older.

An Act Concerning Fair Chance Employment

This law prohibits employers from asking prospective employees about their prior arrests, criminal charges, or convictions on an initial employment application unless the employer must do so under a state or federal law; or, if a prospective employee is applying for a position for which the employer must obtain a security, fidelity or equivalent bond.

Minimum Wage Increase to \$10.10 an Hour

Connecticut is one of fourteen states that will increase their minimum wage starting next year. The new rate will go from \$9.60 to \$10.10, starting January 1st.

*JoAnn Cromwell*

**Lay Ministry Schedule  
9:00 AM Holy Eucharist**

	February 5, 2017	February 12, 2017	February 19, 2017	February 26, 2017
	5 Epiphany	6 Epiphany	7 Epiphany	Last Epiphany
<b>LECTOR</b>	Mabel Maynard	Karen Halpert	Nancy Tatsapaugh	JoAnn Cromwell
<b>MINISTER OF COMMUNION</b>	Liz Welk	Shirley Adams	Lynn Page	Karen Halpert
<b>CRUCIFER</b>	Karen Halpert	Jane Stewart	Liz Welk	Karen Halpert
<b>PRAYERS</b>	Mabel Maynard	Nancy Tatsapaugh	Beverley Manning	Karen Halpert
<b>USHERS</b>	Marty Dumont	Bob MacCalmont	Brandon & Kathy	Nancy Beilman
	Chelsea Belyea	Charlie Albrycht	Johnson	Marianne Doolittle
<b>FELLOWSHIP</b>				
<b>NRRRC-10:30am</b>	Beverley Manning		JoAnn Cromwell	
<b>HTFD REG CTR</b>			JoAnn Cromwell	
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Kathy Shoemaker	Liz Welk	Liz Welk	Kathy Shoemaker
	Barbara Johnson	Nancy DiPrato	Nancy DiPrato	Barbara Johnson
	Marie Ritchie	Jane Stewart	Jane Stewart	Candy Casciano
<b>COUNTERS</b>	JoAnn Cromwell	Beverley Manning	Walt Parker	JoAnn Cromwell
	Paul Crosswaith	Lorraine Belyea	Nancy DiPrato	Paul Crosswaith