

Grace Episcopal Church
124 Maple Hill Avenue
Newington, CT 06111
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The Rev. CJ Puskarz, Deacon
Art Riihimaki, Office Manager
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Holy Eucharist - Sunday at 9am
Morning Prayer - Tuesday at 8:30am

PACE OF GRACE



September 2015

September 2015



Room Key: PH=Parish Hall; L=Library; S=Sanctuary; PO=Pastor's Office; C=Chapel; MR=Meeting Room; CR=Choir Room; K=Kitchen

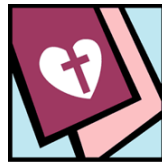
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| 30 15 Pentecost 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist | 31 | 1 8:30 AM Employment Group 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR | 2 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L | 3 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L | 4 | 5 |
| 6 15 Pentecost 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist | 7 Labor Day | 8 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 8:30 AM Employment Group 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR 7:00 PM Vestry - L 7:00 PM Creative Energy Team - MR | 9 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L | 10 8:30 AM Chili Prep - K 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L | 11 7:00 PM Craft Night - PH | 12 St. Thomas Celebration |
| 13 16 Pentecost 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Liturgical Committee MR | 14 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH | 15 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 8:30 AM Employment Group 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR | 16 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L | 17 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 12:00 PM Hi-Noon Group 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L | 18 | 19 9:00 Morning of Charity 10:00 AM Craft Workshop MR |
| 20 17 Pentecost 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM Book Discussion - L | 21 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH | 22 8:30 AM Employment Group 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR | 23 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L | 24 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L | 25 | 26 |
| 27 18 Pentecost 8:30 AM St. Thomas - PH, MR, CR 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist | 28 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - PH | 29 8:30 AM Morning Prayer - C 8:30 AM Employment Group 7:00 PM Narc Anon - PH, MR | 30 4:00 PM Drop the Rock - L | 1 9:30 AM Tai Chi - PH 7:00 PM AI Anon - PH, MR, L | 2 | 3 |



Pace of Grace

September, 2015

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



FROM THE RECTOR

Welcome Back All You Apostles! – A Reprise

Dear Grace Church Family,

Most of what appears below was included in my letter in last September's *Pace* but it seemed appropriate to revisit these reflections on ministry in light of our decision to move forward as a Missional Parish in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut. This decision will shape not only the role of our ordained ministers but also, and most importantly, the role of all the baptized as the principal ministers of this congregation. I invite, encourage and urge all of you to give the information shared below your careful consideration in advance of Welcome Back Sunday on September 20. As Jesus promised the disciples everything necessary for us to do the work to which the Father calls us are already in our midst all we need do is embrace and act on them. Please prayerfully consider the gifts for ministry entrusted to you and how you might employ them most creatively as together we move forward in our quest to be God's faithful people on mission here in Newington and beyond.

"It hardly seems possible but the summer, for all practical purposes, is over. The unofficial end of the season will come as we celebrate Labor Day and as we watch our children return to their academic pursuits in school or college. Yes, the restful, at least I hope is that is what this summer has been for you, season is over and it is now time for us to turn our attention to the next steps in our journey of faith. It is time for us to remind ourselves that there is much work to be done as we continue to live in to God's call to us to be active members of the community of the way. Our transition work goes on apace and we look forward to having it bear fruit in the nearer future. In the meantime, there is much to do. As Saint Paul reminds the Christians in Rome, all of the gifts of the community, no matter how insignificant they may seem, are vital to carrying forward God's mission. Over these summer months, we have clarified our mission statement at Grace and are in the process of ratifying goals for the Parish to shape our work together in the months ahead.

In order to enlist the gifts of the many and not just the few, we will be holding a ministry fair on Sunday, September 20 following the 9:00 service. The various ministry teams and other parish organizations will have information and sign up materials to encourage you to extend your apostolate in new or expanded directions. We need and invite your active participation so please don't be shy and hide your gifts under the proverbial basket.

In case you have forgotten, we are organizing our work together under the APOSTLE paradigm as

a way of reminding all of us that we are the apostles upon whose shoulders rests the mission work of the church. As we were reminded in the Gospel reading a few weeks ago, Jesus asked the disciples to tell him who the people thought he was. They offered a number of answers but then he asked them the more important question, “who do YOU say that I am?” That is the question that we as contemporary apostles must also answer and then as the twentieth century theologian Paul Tillich suggests, we must confront the next and perhaps the more urgent question, “what are you going to do about it?”

As part of what you may choose to do about it, I hope that you will prayerfully consider renewing and, hopefully, expanding our ministry as an apostle. We need all of us to be actively engaged. In case it has slipped your mind over these summer months, our APOSTLE ministry teams are:

- ✠ Administration (the nuts and bolts of keeping things moving forward and supporting the work of all of the teams)
- ✠ Pastoral Care (looking after the wellbeing of all of the apostles in this place and in the broader community)
- ✠ Outreach (seeking out and serving those beyond our own Grace Church Community who are in need of God’s presence through us in their lives)
- ✠ Stewardship (promoting the faithful use of the time, talents and treasure that God has entrusted to our care)
- ✠ Teaching and learning (designing and carrying forward a full program of Christian formation for ALL the members of the parish family)
- ✠ Liturgy (shaping and helping to design how we worship together when we gather to offer our prayers and praises)
- ✠ Evangelism (helping to find ways for all of us to tell the stories of our own faith journeys so that we may bring others to know Christ as their Lord and Savior)

I look forward to welcoming everyone back as we begin another program year and I will see you at the Fair.

Faithfully,

David+



- 09/06 Jeanne Bailey
- 09/14 Phyllis Backofen
- 09/18 George Johnson
- 09/18 Michael Gaydos
- 09/20 Beverley Manning
- 09/20 Fr. David Parachini
- 09/25 Robert Belyea
- 09/25 Donald Buckingham
- 09/29 Bette Forcash



- 09/16 Laura and Colleen Bielitz



BackPack Project

On August 23, Carolyn Jasper from the Prudence Crandall Women's Shelter visited and accepted our donations of backpacks and school supplies for the children currently living at the Center. We had originally planned to end our drive on August 30, but with school starting the next day, she knew it would be helpful to the children and their mothers to have the supplies a week earlier. During her time with us, Carolyn spoke for a few minutes and expressed her sincere gratitude for all we have done as a parish to support the Prudence Crandall Center over the years. Thank you very much for your support of this important outreach program.

Nancy Tatsapaugh



Save the Date

| | |
|--------------|--|
| September 20 | Welcome Back Sunday, Ministry Fair |
| September 20 | Sunday School Registration |
| September 27 | Grace's Seniors Birthday and Anniversary Brunch |
| October 4 | Celebration of Animals |
| October 24 | Fall Fair |
| November 4 | Follow up Transgender Workshop |
| December 5 | Sweet Comedy Club and Roast Beef Dinner |



Creative Energy Team

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.

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.

MEETING

Our next meeting is Tues Sept 8, 2015 at 7pm. All are welcome to attend. We meet in the upstairs meeting room.

LOOK FOR ANOTHER DINING FOR DOLLARS DATE

We are in the process of setting up another Dining for Dollars dinner. Look for information in September. It's a great night out and you don't have to cook! Laura Lynch is setting this up.

FALL FESTIVAL

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 24, 2015
9AM - 3PM**

OH MY... THERE IS 7 AND 1/2 WEEKS TILL THE FAIR!!

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 on Welcome Back Sunday, Sept 20, 2015. 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!

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 Sept 11, 2015 at 7pm Meet in Parish Hall
Sat Sept 26 at 9am Fri Oct 9 at 7pm

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 sunflowers. It was great to have so much help.

VENDORS

We are still looking for vendors for our Fall Festival. 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

Used candles, candle wax

Wicks to make candles

People to paint 2 large lawn signs for our Fall Festival.

Coupons and or Gift Certificates for Joann's, Michaels & AC Moore.

Please speak to Val Dumont if you want to help me. She can be reached at 860-690-0727.



Administration

Ministry

A is for Administration

And for how many years did you think that A is for Apple?! Well in some circles it still is but for our purposes A is now for APOSTLE Ministry and Administration. This article will review the concept of the APOSTLE Ministries and how we are doing implementing it within the parish as we continue our transition to a Missional parish over the coming program year. For the next six or so months we will review each ministry, what their responsibility is within the parish, introduce the Team Leader(s) and team members, what activities they are working on and in what areas they could use some help.

Father David introduced the idea to the Vestry at our 2014 retreat and we brainstormed the pros and cons in view of our transition process in calling a new Rector. With our strong lay leadership base and a small but tireless core of parish volunteers, the vestry willingly embraced the concept. And they had no idea how prophetic that move would become as the Transition Team continued with their work, and coupled with the constraints within the Church and the limited pool of available clergy for us and for other parishes in transition, all lead to the decision to go with a Missional Priest early this year.

The APOSTLE Ministry will pick up the areas of church management that need to be done but not necessarily by clergy. The way this ministry is defined and structured it becomes the perfect complement to a Missional priest, and in the case of Grace Church, the perfect solution for keeping

our church running smoothly and keeping it the vibrant, albeit small, energetic community we all know and love.

The first ministry we'll define and talk about is Administration. A is for Administration. As Father David explains it, "Administration is the nuts and bolts of keeping things moving forward and supporting the work of all of the teams." As the vestry sees it, it covers the broad categories of staffing and personnel issues, 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. The old committee structure of the Property, Finance and Environmental Committees are now folded into the Administration Ministry.

The Teams Leaders are Paul Crosswaith and Mark Shoemaker. They each wear multiple hats; both function as our cleaning staff on a weekly basis. Additionally, Paul acts as the Facilities and Grounds Manager and Mark is the parish Treasurer. Others who assist with the facilities management including cleaning, repairs and gardening are Brandon Johnson, Greg Parker, Neil Scott and Melissa Haseley.

In his role of Treasurer, Mark is supported by Charlie Albrycht, Asst. Treasurer and Jane Stewart, Accounts Payable. The weekly offering counters work on a rotating schedule based on their schedules. JoAnn Cromwell is the coordinator as well as a counter and others are Lorraine Belyea, Paul Crosswaith, Nancy DiPrato, Bette Forcash, Melissa Haseley, Beverly Manning, Betty Moulton and Walt Parker. Additional counters are always welcome – no experience is needed and all the training is provided.

Roy Zartarian is our able Webmaster and has been invaluable this past year with the set-up of the new computer system. Additionally he keeps the website current and also acts as an occasional photographer for parish events. A back-up for these tasks would be most welcome – especially if Mr. Mayor is added to his resume later this year!

In the past, staffing and personnel issues have been handled on an as needed basis by the clergy. With the likelihood of two new replacement staff in the next few months, Kathy Johnson has agreed to act as our "personnel manager" and will oversee the interview process for Art's replacement later year. Father David will interview for the organist position. Kathy will also put together a job application for us. Can you believe we don't even have one? Anyone with HR or

personnel expertise would be helpful for this endeavor.

Publicity is sporadic at best. We do run regular ads in several papers overseen by the office manager. Mitch Page and Melissa have placed special event advertising but we don't do a consistent job of placing items in the papers and on social media in advance of an event. We need someone to "own" this task for us. And the whole idea of publicity will become more important as we ramp up our hospitality and evangelism efforts as the program year progresses.

As you can see, there is something for everyone. Some tasks are one time only, some are seasonal and some are part of the day-to-day church operation. Each of us are apostles upon whose shoulders rests the work of the church. We all need to be actively engaged to keep us moving forward. Our Ministry Fair will be part of our Welcome Back Sunday event later this month. Come and learn more from the displays and handouts from each of the ministry teams.

Next month our Pastoral Care Team will be introduced. P is for Pastoral Care.

Blessings,
Melissa Haseley



Thanks So Much!

- 👉 to JoAnn Cromwell and Mabel Maynard for their help with vacation coverage for the church office while Art was on vacation.
- 👉 to Brandon Johnson for taking all the "stuff and junk" from Classroom 10 downstairs to the Goodwill. It means that classroom is now neat and tidy and available for our outside support groups to use for their youth groups.
- 👉 to Mark Shoemaker and Paul Crosswaith with an occasional assist from Brandon Johnson for their continued efforts to keep the church clean and picked up on a weekly basis.
- 👉 to Greg Parker, son of Walt and Jeanne Parker, for his volunteer efforts to do some of the bigger cleaning jobs around the church: floors, windows, kitchen area etc. His help is very much appreciated with very

noticeable results. Sometime this fall we'll see his handiwork in the sanctuary as he prepares to tackle the floors with a good cleaning and a fresh coat of wax.

- 👉 to Neil Scott, husband of Melissa Haseley, for his efforts in refinishing the curbside table found by the Dumont's earlier this year. The table is used for our Sunday fellowship and facilitates the flow of people and conversation.
- 👉 to the Creative Energy Team for all of their energy, enthusiasm and focus on fundraising ideas - their efforts are appreciated in helping us supplement our income stream. And we've had some great laughs, fun and fellowship as a by-product.
- 👉 to Roy Zartarian for his continued support of the office phone, computer and voice mail systems. There have been serious, reoccurring problems with it all most of the summer and Roy's patience, perseverance and knowledge have kept the office functioning through it all.
- 👉 to Martha Brundage for her talent, beautiful voice and musical gifts she graced us with over the years.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**9:00 A.M., SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH
@ GRACE EPISCOPAL**

Join Our Savior's Lutheran and Grace Episcopal for "St Francis Day: A Celebration of Animals"! Our two faith communities will gather on October 4th for worship in Grace's Memorial Garden at 9am. Blessing the animals will be a central part of the service, so be prepared to bring your furry and scaled friends, or just come to be part of the fun! Then stick around for Grace's Celebration of Animals, a fair complete with booths from animal organizations like the Canine Unit and the Humane Society and an exotic animal exhibit from Animal Embassy.



Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer of Our Savior's Lutheran Church and I have spent some very productive time this summer exploring ways in which our two congregations might work together and support one another in our faith journeys as

People of the Way. One of the results of these conversations has been the extension of an invitation to our OSLC brothers and sisters to worship with us here at Grace on Sunday, October 4 (St. Francis of Assisi) and to share in the Celebration of Animals that will be part of our fellowship that day. It also seemed good to us to share material from our respective monthly newsletters. To that end, you will find Pastor Julie's letter for the OSLC September newsletter and an accompanying invitation to her congregation to worship here at Grace on October 4. I will be sharing my Pace of Grace piece for September with Julie for use with the OSLC family. In addition, we have begun several lay led connections as together our two very similar congregations explore how God may be calling us to walk together in our journeys of faith.
David+

HOWDY, PARDNER!

I urge Euodia and Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they struggle beside me in the work of the Gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Philippians 3:2-4

When I was growing up, my friends and I liked to put on our southern drawls and greet each other with a rousing "Howdy, Pardner!" We were just kidding around, but as middle schoolers, having a partner was pretty important. There were always those moments of panic when the teacher would say, 'everyone choose a partner' – and you were thinking you might be the only one without a partner. That was only second to being chosen last for the team in gym class in the list of pre-teen social embarrassments. Having a partner was first and foremost about being included.

St. Paul used the word 'partner' to describe fellow leaders in the early church. In Philippians 4:3, a passage where St. Paul refers to a number of co-workers, Paul calls one such leader his 'loyal companion.' This phrase can also be translated as 'partner' or more literally, 'yoke-mate.' I think this latter rendering is illuminating, for a partner for St. Paul was someone who shared the load, like two oxen pulling in one yoke.

Our council has been talking about 'partnering' quite a bit in the past year. We know that forming mutual relationships is critical for people as well as communities. When we form partnerships, we join forces on issues that affect us all, becoming stronger and more able to make

an impact than by ourselves. Family Promise is a terrific example of this. By ourselves, it would be hard for OSLC to help homeless families find steady work and a permanent home, but with the partnership of other churches and organizations, this ministry will become a reality in Central Connecticut, likely by the end of the calendar year.

Partnerships are also a lot of fun. Ask any of the youth who have attended a National Gathering. Each time OSLC has sent youth, they have partnered with several other congregations. Like the old Luther League days, having a larger group of kids improves the mix, helps kids to see that Christianity is bigger than their little church, and that there are Christian kids just like them to learn from and serve with.

And partnerships are indeed about being yoke-mates and sharing the load. This past year our council has been reaching out to two congregations in particular to see what 'yoke' we might share. One is St. Paul Lutheran Church in Wethersfield. They are a 10 minute drive away, and have been partners in the past for Gatherings and Youth work. This fall we will see the re-forming of joint Youth Group events, focusing primarily on confirmation age youth.

The other church we are developing a partnership with is Grace Episcopal here in Newington. We have signed on to be partners in hosting families at Grace's building when Family Promise launches; we are also beginning to share adult education and special events together. The first special event we will share will be a special celebration of **St. Francis Day: A Celebration of Animals, on Sunday, October 4, 2015, at 9AM at Grace Church, 124 Maple Hill Avenue, Newington.** We will worship with folks at Grace, and then help them set up and run their St. Francis Day Celebration, a community fair focusing on animals, with vendors coming from around the state to set up booths and give out information and serve the community.

It may feel like a big change for us to be elsewhere on a Sunday morning. The council realizes there are issues of mobility and accessibility, and they want to help get everyone there regardless of age or physical ability. Please give Pastor Julie or Sue Carlson a call to discuss your needs or those of a loved one. We also will station a few people at Our Savior's for any visitors who come that day, so that they can be greeted and invited to the Fair at Grace.

St. Paul was a pretty great leader of the church, but he nonetheless depended on partnerships to spread the Good News. It just

could not be done by only one person or one community, but together they were able to touch many lives with Jesus' healing, liberation, and love. The same is true for us. We are fostering a relationship with our Christian brothers and sisters, so that our partnership can make us more effective in sharing the Good News of Jesus.

So come on, Partner! Saddle up and join us in sharing the good news of Jesus, who said,
My yoke is easy, and my burden is light. Matthew 11:30 *Pastor Julie*



Hi-Noon Group

September 10, Thursday - 12:00 – Tour of the **1782 Butler – McCook House & Victorian Ornamental Gardens** in Hartford. Meet at the Church at noon - bring a lunch (coffee, tea provided). Following lunch the group will car pool to the House & Gardens – **NOTE:** This is a Thursday as the House & Gardens are closed on Monday.


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.



 Deadline for October *Pace of Grace* - **Tuesday, September 22nd**. Please, make every effort to meet this deadline to allow us to distribute 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

Come join us for a Morning of Charity on Saturday, September 19th from 9:00 to 1:00 organized by the MMVS – St. Thomas IOC, CT & MMVS Bronx-Boston-CT-Westchester Area to support Foodshare 9:00 to 11:30 – Volunteer Activities (Two options available)

1. Harvesting produce at Varney Farms (760 Pleasant Valley Road, South Windsor, CT) Varney Farms has donated all its produce to Foodshare. Foodshare volunteers harvest the produce. We have booked this day for our group. Person limit is 30 (children above 5 years of age will be allowed as long as accompanied by a parent). In case there's more than 30 people willing to volunteer, we will break the time availability to multiple slots to enable all to participate. For more info, please visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e_ntlCOZMmY
2. Creating mesh bags to repackage wholesale foods (Grace Episcopal Church, 124 Maple Hill Avenue, Newington, CT) Foodshare repackages wholesale food into smaller packages (mesh-bags) for distribution. Foodshare provides the mesh-bag fabric to volunteers who create the mesh-bags for them. We will be picking up sufficient fabric for all our volunteers.

12:00 to 1:30 – Lunch and Foodshare Presentation
 MMVS Area donation to support the Bridges Out of Poverty Program (Grace Episcopal Church, 124 Maple Hill Avenue, Newington, CT) Varney Farms is about 20 minutes from Grace Episcopal Church. All volunteers will re-group at Grace for lunch and a presentation of the monetary donation to Bridges Out of Poverty, an educational program of

Foodshare that helps the poor get out of the cycle of poverty. Foodshare will be bringing a past graduate of the Program to also talk to us. For more information on the program, please visit, <http://foodsharect.blogspot.com/2015/07/become-ally-to-success.html>
 Please RSVP Binu Chandy at 860.465.7680 or binu_chandy@sbcglobal.net by Sep 17th. Certificates will be provided to all participants.



FINANCE REPORT

Hard to believe that summer is almost gone, despite the recent head wave. August, with 5 Sundays, turned out very well. Income was up, and expenses were down which gave us a positive net checkbook balance for the month. It also brought the net operations budget almost positive and more than \$5,000 better than the deficit predicted by the budget. In particular, white envelope income was much better than predicted for both the month of August, and the year to date. It was also wonderful to send our organist Martha off to university with the gift of your generous collection of \$675 which will help offset some of her initial expenses as she settles in to her PHD program.

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

| INCOME | August | Y.T.D. | EXPENSES | August | Y.T.D. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Beginning Checkbook:</i> | \$10,013 | \$ 9,972 | | | |
| Pledge Receipts: | \$ 8,579 | \$ 67,567 | Salaries & Benefits: | (\$ 5,104) | (\$ 41,666) |
| General Receipts: | \$ 873 | \$ 8,012 | General Expenses: | (\$ 2,726) | (\$ 16,108) |
| Use of Church Building: | \$ 990 | \$ 7,700 | General Utilities: | (\$ 718) | (\$ 13,014) |
| Fund Raisers, General: | \$ 51 | \$ 1,339 | Fund Raiser Expenses: | (\$ 0) | (\$ 345) |
| Prayer Bead Project: | \$ 0 | \$ 273 | Prayer Bead Expenses: | (\$ 0) | (\$ 1,208) |
| Church Fair: | \$ 0 | \$ 271 | Fair Expenses: | (\$ 0) | (\$ 0) |
| Fellowship: | \$ 0 | \$ 376 | Fellowship Expenses: | (\$ 0) | (\$ 21) |
| Special Events: | \$ 0 | \$ 756 | Special Event Expense: | (\$ 0) | (\$ 1,325) |
| Cap.Camp from M.Mkt: | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | Grounds (Snow/Lawn): | (\$ 555) | (\$ 8,020) |
| Capital Campaign: | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | Capital Camp to M.Mkt: | (\$ 0) | (\$ 0) |
| “B-to-B” & Special: | \$ 78 | \$ 563 | Capital Campaign Exp: | (\$ 0) | (\$ 0) |
| Memorial Donations: | \$ 5 | \$ 160 | Memorials to M.Mkt: | (\$ 0) | (\$ 0) |
| Memorial Garden: | \$ 5 | \$ 187 | Mem. Garden Exp: | (\$ 0) | (\$ 944) |
| Seasonal Offerings: | \$ 0 | \$ 1,011 | Diocese Pledge: | (\$ 1,321) | (\$ 10,568) |
| H.Week, Good Friday: | \$ 0 | \$ 194 | Church in Jerusalem | (\$ 0) | (\$ 200) |
| Outreach: | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | Outreach: | (\$ 104) | (\$ 1,845) |
| The Grace Fund | \$ 35 | \$ 234 | The Grace Fund | (\$ 0) | (\$ 500) |
| UTO Donations: | \$ 0 | \$ 221 | UTO Forwarded: | (\$ 0) | (\$ 221) |
| Rectory Rent: | \$ 1,800 | \$ 10,800 | Rectory Rent to M.Mkt: | (\$ 0) | (\$ 0) |
| Special Donation: | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | Audit Fee: | (\$ 550) | (\$ 1,100) |
| Reserves from M.Mkt: | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | Reserves to M.Mkt: | (\$ 0) | (\$ 1,200) |
| Total Received: | \$12,416 | \$ 99,664 | Total Paid Out: | (\$11,078) | (\$ 98,285) |
| | | | <i>Ending Checkbook:</i> | \$ 11,351 | \$ 11,351 |

Please watch for all our increased fall activities, and get involved as much as you are able. There should be something for everyone.

Faithfully Yours, Mark Shoemaker – Treasurer

Capital Campaign and General Money Market Update:

At the end of August, the overall Money Market account balance was **\$50,998**. Of this amount, the major elements are still: \$24,330 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