

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
Debbie Forrest, Office Manager
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Holy Eucharist - Sunday at 9 am
Morning Prayer - Tuesday at 8:30 am

PACE OF GRACE




September 2019

Grace Episcopal Church
124 Maple Hill Avenue
Newington, CT 06111



September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 12 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	2 	3 8:30 am Morning Prayer - C 9:00 am Employment Group - MMR 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH, MR	4 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	5 9:30 am Tai Chi - PH 12:00 pm Hi-Noon 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal - MMR 7:00 pm AI Anon - PH, MR, L	6 6:30 pm Succulent Plant Party - PH	7
8 13 th Sunday after Pentecost Welcome Back Sunday 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	9 6:30 pm Cub Scouts - PH	10 8:30 am Morning Prayer - C 9:00 am Employment Group - MMR 6:00 pm Vestry Mtg - MMR 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH, MR	11 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	12 9:30 am Tai Chi - PH 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal - MMR 7:00 pm AI Anon - PH, MR, L	13	14 2:00 pm Book Club Meeting
15 14 th Sunday after Pentecost 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	16 6:30 pm Cub Scouts - PH	17 8:30 am Morning Prayer - C 9:00 am Employment Group MMR 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH, MR	18 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	19 Tentative Date for Dining for Dollars 9:30 am Tai Chi - PH 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal - MMR 7:00 pm AI Anon - PH, MR, L	20	21
22 15 th Sunday after Pentecost 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	23 6:30 pm Cub Scouts - PH	24 8:30 am Morning Prayer - C 9:00 am Employment Group MMR 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH, MR	25 5:30 pm Property Committee Mtg - MMR 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	26 9:30 am Tai Chi - PH 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal - MMR 7:00 pm AI Anon - PH, MR, L	27	28
29 16 th Sunday after Pentecost 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	30 6:30 pm Cub Scouts - PH					

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



Pace of Grace

September 2019

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

Dear Parishioners of Grace Church,

At the last service in August we had the pleasure of having our future Missional Priest, The Reverend Patricia Cunningham, as our visiting priest. Trish will be staying with her daughter, Chrystal, through October. Her husband will be moving their household from California to Connecticut at the end of October. She will become our missional priest on October 1 and will lead services starting Sunday, October 6. Concerning title, she prefers to be called "Pastor Trish" officially and "Trish" by her friends. We are confident that as soon as you get to know her you will feel "Trish" is your friend.

As a visiting priest on August 25 she started her sermon with a quote from our Mission Statement: "to accept all people as we grow together in Christ." This led to a message that was clear and thoughtful concerning the challenges we face in an ever-changing world.

On Sunday, October 6 there will be a potluck brunch following the service to celebrate the beginning of Trish's ministry with Grace Church. As always, many of you will be sharing your favorite dishes, pastries, fruits, etc. with your fellow parishioners.

We hope that you had an enjoyable summer and had time for relaxation and rejuvenation! September will be a busy month at Grace. The first week of September on Thursday the Hi-Noon group will visit the flower fields of Lavender Pond Farm in Killingworth and on Friday a Succulent Plant Party, a fund raiser, an opportunity to learn something new and a fun event, will result in your taking home a miniature garden you have created. Details concerning both of these events are in this newsletter. Review the activities calendar for all September events.

Holy Eucharist and Morning Prayer will be celebrated in September with returning visiting clergy: Jim Speer, Jane Stickney, David Pople and Julie Mudge.

See you in Church.

Faithfully, Your Wardens, JoAnn & Walt



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

	First reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
12 th Pentecost September 1	Jeremiah 2:4-13	Psalm 81:1, 10-16	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Luke 14:1, 7-14
Labor Day September 2	Ecclesiasticus 38:27-32	Psalm 107:1-9	1 Corinthians 3:10-14	Matthew 6:19-24
13 th Pentecost September 8	Jeremiah 18:1-11	139:1-5, 12-17	Philemon 1-21	Luke 14:25-33
Holy Cross Day September 14	Isaiah 45:21-25	Psalm 98	Philippians 2:5-11	John 12:31-36a
14 th Pentecost September 15	Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28	Psalm 14	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Luke 15:1-10
St. Matthew September 21	Proverbs 3:1-6	Psalm 119:33-40	2 Timothy 3:14-17	Matthew 9:9-13
15 th Pentecost September 22	Jeremiah 8:18-9:1	Psalm 79:1-9	1 Timothy 2:1-7	Luke 16:1-13
16 th Pentecost September 29	Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15	Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16	1 Timothy 6:6-19	Luke 16:19-31
St. Michael and All Angels September 30	Genesis 28:10-17	Psalm 103	Revelations 12:7-12	John 1:47-51



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

09/06	Jeanne Bailey
09/14	Phyllis Backofen
09/18	George Johnson
09/20	Beverley Manning
09/25	Robert Belyea
09/25	Donald Buckingham
09/29	Bette Forcash



Save the Date

09/08	Welcome Back Sunday
09/06	CET Succulent Plant Party
09/09	Hi Noon
09/10	Vestry Meeting
09/14	Book Club Meeting
09/19	Tentative Date for Dining for Dollars
09/25	Property Committee Meeting



SENIORS ON THE GO

Hi-Noon – The group meets monthly (except August) for lunch and activities in the Parish Hall and/or short excursions. Activities planned though June 2020 are listed below. All are welcome!

September 5, Thursday (Change of Date) – Lavender Pond Farm, Killingworth – Meet at Church at 12 noon. Following bring your own lunch in Parish Hall, carpool to the lavender fields. What to do there: *Walk the fields.* There's nearly 10,000 lavender plants in 30+ beds. *Take a Ride on the LPF Express.* Take purple train ride around the property - Fare \$5. *Visit the bees.* On sunny days honeybees are busy as, well, you know... and you can see them working around the hives. *Shop the Shoppe.* selling live plants, and a bevy of other lavender goodness. *Stroll around the pond.* If you're up for a nice walk, there's a path around the big pond in back. See *the covered bridge*—An Arnold M. Graton authentic covered bridge.

October 14, Monday - Gouveia Vineyards, Wallingford – Our annual visit to this picturesque winery. We will have our lunch inside overlooking the vineyards surrounded by rolling hills painted by colorful fall leaves hopefully at their peak. Meet at Church at Noon - Bring lunch & appetizers to share / eat at winery. All beverages—wine, soda, water— must be purchased at winery.

November 6, Wednesday - Barker Character Comic and Cartoon Museum, Cheshire - *Home of 80,000 antique toys and collectibles!* A trip down memory lane with an unbelievable collection of games, toys and cartoon character displays that will take you back to your childhood. 4.5 stars on TripAdvisor. Meet in Parish Hall at 12 noon. Following bring your own lunch, carpool to the museum.

December 2, Monday – Annual Holiday Party **2020**

January 6, Monday – Fun and Games in Parish Hall

February 3, Monday – Movie Matinee

March – Restaurant adventure – Location and Date to be determined

April & May – Do you have a suggestion for a place of interest to visit?

June – Annual Picnic – Parish Hall & Patio



BAKE A CAKE – Every month Birthdays and Anniversaries are celebrated the **FIRST** Sunday of the month with a cake served at Fellowship Time after the service. Please consider baking or buying a cake to be served. Notify Debbie in the Church Office by email or phone the month you will bring a cake: office@gracechurchnew.org / 860-666-3331. A cake baked in a standard 9 X 13 pan using one cake mix package or homemade ingredients is a good size.



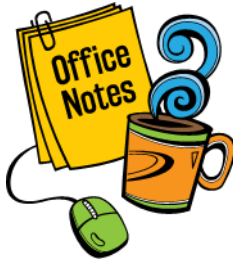
Newington Food Bank: We continue to support the food bank with peanut butter, parsley flakes, canned salmon, salad dressings, olive oil, and 100% Fruit spread.

JoAnn Cromwell

The deadline for the October Pace of Grace is Tuesday, September 24. 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.

Office Hours: Monday 11-4; Tuesday 1-5: and Thursday 11-5.
The office will be closed for Labor Day on September 2nd, and closed for vacation September 17-20.

Debbie Forrest



Book Club: The Grace Church Book Club will meet on Saturday, September 14 as planned. There was some talk about rescheduling but the group has decided to meet as planned. The group meets in the church library from 2 to 4 pm. All are welcome to join us. Please bring a friend!

Our summer selection read is “The Help” by Kathryn Stockett. While the book has been out since February 2009 and the movie was released in August of 2011, there are several in the group who haven’t read the book or seen the movie. It was felt the themes and ensuing discussion would fit neatly with some of the past and current discussions in our church community as well as in our society today.

The idea that racial perspectives are open to change is the overarching theme of the book along with hypocrisy and integrity and doing the right thing. The story is told through the perspective of three women: two African American, both maids, and one white, the daughter of a prominent family in town. The book is set in Jackson, MS in the Jim Crow era. Against the rules of society, they end up becoming friends.

The characters are memorable and engaging. The story is beautiful and poignant while being real and filled with bigotry and hate; and laugh out loud funny in places. And the story gives perspective from both sides of the American racial divide. NPR puts it right up there in importance with “To Kill a Mockingbird.” And Goodreads suggests it is a must read for every book club across America.

During our previous summer breaks we usually read two books. This summer our one and only selection is The Help. In September, please come with a list of recommendations for future book club selections. We will meet in October and November, taking a break in December and resuming in January. Happy Reading!

Melissa Haseley



COUNTERS NEEDED

Do you like playing with money???
The counters do that every Sunday
and occasionally other days.

Join us! You will have extensive
training and never be left to count
along. On average, we each count
about once a month. Many hands
make lite work. Come join us.

We are a very flexible group who trade weeks when
our schedules require we do so. Most of us have been
involved in this Ministry for over 15 years. Very
dedicated people.

If your heart has been saying “you can do this” but
you are not sure, give it a try by counting for a few
weeks before making a final decision.

We do enjoy doing this each week.

Thank you for considering this Ministry,

*JoAnn Cromwell
Counting Coordinator*



Sunday School Volunteers

Although we haven't had
youngsters in church for a
while, we always want to keep
that door open. Last year,
Sunday School was offered two
Sundays a month, the dates

announced in the Pace of Grace.

Looking forward to the new school year, we are
hopeful that with our new pastor, our church family
will grow and include children.

Please consider becoming a *Sunday School
Volunteer!*

All that is necessary is one or two Sundays a month on
a flexible schedule. The time is short, around 30
minutes, and activities are provided that include a
short narrative and a craft or activity sheet that is
adaptable to any age. So much fun, and you don't
have to be an "experienced teacher!"

Please let JoAnn or Debbie Forrest know of your
interest.



We are still receiving gifts
for the Library.

Just recently we received
Jan Karon's newest book from the Mitford series. We
have most of her books in the Fiction Collection.

The new title is “Bathed in Prayer: Father Tim's
Prayers, Sermons and Reflections from the Mitford
Series.” Fans will be interested in this summary from
Father Tim.

There are many interesting items in the
Library. Please sign one out!

The Children's collection is still downstairs.

Beverley Manning



Morning Prayer

Please join us for a peaceful, centering time of prayer
and worship. Early week Morning Prayer is held every
Tuesday at 8:30 AM in the Chapel. All are welcome.
Beverley Manning and JoAnn Cromwell rotate leading
the service.



With supply clergy
celebrating our services,
it's important that
everyone wear their
name tags. If you are in
need of one, please
leave a note in the
office and Debbie will
make one up for you. Thank you!

K is for KINDNESS

As part of my participation as a board member of both the Newington Interfaith Housing (NIH) and the Southfield Children’s Center, I took on the responsibility of updating the Parent Policy Manual for the children’s center since I have had previous experience in my career of policy manual writing. The task for NIH included organizing, editing, deleting, updating and adding new policies.

One of the policies the board has struggled with over the years is some sort of social media policy. The need for it came to a head last winter when someone went on a rant about the Center on social media. The board is sensitive to the importance of freedom of speech in our society as a fundamental human right. As you may be aware, NIH is a not for profit and we don’t have a media or community relations type person on staff so our solution was to craft a policy that speaks to something so basic in our day to day living: the importance of kindness.

The following “policy” is from several sources. The opening quote is from a seminar I attended last year for work. And the THINK policy is posted in the hallways of one of the schools here in town. I don’t know where it came from; no one seemed to know either. And the rest I put together to tie it all together.

It seems as though the policy is onto something since shortly after this was included in the parent manual, the Town of Newington rolled out its Building a Strong Community Kindness Counts movement with its focus on kindness. And the difference it makes in people’s lives and within the community.

I thought I would share it with all of you as a simple reminder to all that we are and all that we do here at Grace Episcopal Church, Newington. And that no act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.

K is for KINDNESS

“In a world where you can be anything, be kind.”
Jennifer Dukes Lee

What simple but powerful words, especially in today’s world where it seems as though people are becoming meaner by the day, both in their actions and in their communications.

Communication touches the lives of those around us, both in large and small ways. It also has the power to impact people in a negative way or in a positive way. At the center, we try to encourage kindness, not negativity, in all that we do to make an impact in a positive, uplifting manner.

One way to measure this is to ask yourself: “Would I say this to someone standing right in front of me?” If the answer is no, it probably shouldn’t be put in writing, or posted online either for that matter. A helpful way to check on the potential impact on someone is to put into the THINK policy:

T	is it	TRUE
H	is it	HELPFUL
I	is it	INSPIRING
N	is it	NECESSARY
K	is it	KIND

If the answer is no to just one of these questions then it shouldn’t be thought, spoken, written or posted. It becomes what our mothers used to tell us: If you don’t have anything nice to say about someone, then don’t say anything at all. In other words: “Watch your words”.

Submitted by Melissa Haseley

Supply Clergy



Supply Clergy Schedule:

September 1	Rev. Jim Speer
September 8	Rev. Jane Stickney
September 15	Rev. David Pople
September 22	Morning Prayer
September 29	Rev. Julie Mudge



Southfield Children’s Center: Melissa Haseley is on the board at Southfield Children’s Center and wanted to let you know about this new music program they are instituting. *It Takes a Community to Raise a Child.* How often have we heard this and not realized how very true it is? We are asking the greater community to help us, Southfield Children’s Center, implement a very important musical addition to our curriculum called “Music Together – Little Hands in Harmony.”

Southfield Children’s Center is a non-profit daycare center and is fully enrolled with approximately 70 children. The Center provides high quality and affordable daycare for infants, toddlers and preschoolers.

The music program would enhance the lives of our children and their families in many ways. The cost is a little more than \$300 per child and covers an entire year of classes and all course materials, some of which are theirs to keep and enjoy at home with their families. There are many families at the Center that can’t afford to contribute the full per child cost.

We are asking individuals, families, and businesses from the greater community to help us bring the gift of music and its proven benefits into the lives of our children. Please consider sponsoring one of our children for the tuition cost of \$300. If that is too much, the Center will gladly accept whatever help you can give us at this time to help us launch the program this fall.

Donations may be sent directly to Southfield Children’s Center located at 84 Faith Road, Newington. We will list your name on our website unless you direct otherwise. Thank you from the staff and children of Southfield Children’s Center in Newington!!!



QUICK FINANCE UPDATE: JULY 31, 2019

<u>INCOME:</u>	<u>TOTAL BUDGET</u>	<u>YR-TO-DATE BUDGET</u>	<u>YR-TO-DATE ACTUAL</u>
Pledge Income	\$ 87,558	\$ 49,908	\$ 49,517
Total Income	\$125,908	\$ 69,334	\$ 68,779
<u>EXPENSES:</u>	(\$125,328)	(\$ 73,461)	(\$ 62,249)
<u>NET CHANGE:</u>	\$ 580	(\$ 4,127)	\$ 6,530



**Creative Energy Team
September 2019**

The Creative Energy Team has made some schedule changes for the rest of the year. Look for upcoming events from the CET in October 2019. If you have any questions please speak to one of the Creative Energy Team members. They will gladly talk to you.

**SUCCULENT PLANT PARTY
FIRDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2019 AT 6:30 PM**

Wine, non-alcoholic beverages and snacks will be for sale.
Please see the attached flyer

**PAINT PUMPKINS ON CANVAS PARTY
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2019
COME AT 11:00 AM ~ START PAINTING AT 11:30 AM – 3:30 PM**

Wine, non-alcoholic beverages and snacks will be for sale.
The flyer will be available in August. It will be emailed separately.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26th AND SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27th 9 AM – 4 PM
2019 EPISCOPAL CONVENTION
AT THE CONVENTION CENTER IN HARTFORD.**

We will be selling all of our religious items. We also will be looking for some additional help in 4 hour shifts for each day. See Val, Lynn or Lorraine if you are interested.

**CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL 2020
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2020
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

SELLING ALL THINGS CHOCOLATE FOR VALENTINES DAY!!

We will start to do our paper crafting signage and then decide how to package this summer. We would love for you to come join us. Everything is easy to do. We are starting July 9 at 10 am in the Music Meeting Room.

The chocolate making will start immediately after Christmas.
We will be looking for some workers for this day...before, during and after.

If you have any questions or would like to join us to help with any activity we would love to have you.

Val Dumont

Lay Ministry Schedule
9:00 AM

	September 1	September 8	September 15	September 22	September 29
	12 th Pentecost	13 th Pentecost	14 th Pentecost	15 th Pentecost	16 th Pentecost
Supply Clergy	Rev. Jim Speer	Rev. Jane Stickney	Rev. David Pople	Morning Prayer	Rev. Julie Mudge
Deacon/LWL	CJ Puskarz	CJ Puskarz	CJ Puskarz	CJ Puskarz	CJ Puskarz
LECTOR	Walt Parker	Mabel Maynard	Karen Halpert	JoAnn Cromwell	Shirley Adams
MINISTER OF COMMUNION	Kathy Johnson	Mabel Maynard	JoAnn Cromwell		Shirley Adams
CRUCIFER	Karen Halpert	Jane Stewart	Elizabeth Welk	Karen Halpert	Jane Stewart
PRAYERS	Walt Parker	Mabel Maynard	Beverley Manning	Karen Halpert	Paul Crosswaith
USHERS	Jane Stewart	Bob MacCalmont	Brandon & Kathy	Mark & Kathy	Nancy DiPrato
	Paul Crosswaith	Charlie Albrycht	Johnson	Shoemaker	Lorraine Belyea
FELLOWSHIP					
NRRRC-10:30am	JoAnn Cromwell		Beverley Manning		JoAnn Cromwell
HTFD REGIONAL CTR - 12n	JoAnn Cromwell				JoAnn Cromwell
Lay Eucharist Visitor			Liz Welk		
ALTAR GUILD	Elissa Schumann	Marie Ritchie	Marie Ritchie	Pat Rogorzenski	Pat Rogorzenski
	Nancy DiPrato	Kathy Shoemaker	Kathy Shoemaker	Candy Casciano	Candy Casciano
	Jane Stewart	Barbara Johnson	Barbara Johnson	Jane Stewart	Jane Stewart
COUNTERS	Walt Parker	Beverley Manning	Melissa Haseley	JoAnn Cromwell	Walt Parker
	Paul Crosswaith	Lorraine Belyea	Nancy DiPrato	Paul Crosswaith	Lorraine Belyea

COME JOIN US FOR A SUCCULENT PLANT PARTY!!



Friday September 6, 2019



6:30 pm



Learn how to plant a succulent garden with step by step instructions. The price includes a variety of new 5 inch containers. All items to make a succulent garden are included - plants, soil, rocks, moss, a decorative item and at home care instructions.



The cost is \$30.00

Payment by credit card at
www.gracechurchnew.org

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For questions call 860-666-3331 ext #3

WINE SOLD BY THE
GLASS. NON ALCOHOLIC
BEVERAGES &
REFRESHMENTS
AVAILABLE