

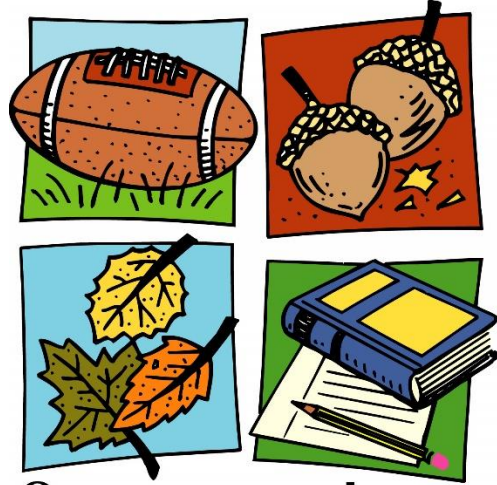
Grace Episcopal Church
124 Maple Hill Avenue
Newington, CT 06111
Phone: 860-666-3331

The Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller, Priest-in-Charge
The Rev. CJ Puskarz, Deacon
Mei-Tsen Chen, Organist and Choir Director
Debbie Forrest, Office Manager
Web Site: www.gracechurchnew.org
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Holy Eucharist – 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays at
9 am

Morning Prayer – 2nd & 4th Sundays at 9 am

PACE OF GRACE




September

2022

Grace Episcopal Church
124 Maple Hill Avenue
Newington, CT 06111

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 13 th Pentecost 9 am – Holy Eucharist	5 	6 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH	7 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	8 7:00 pm Al-Anon - PH	9	10 12:00 Newington Children's Theater (back lawn & PH)
11 14 th Pentecost 9 am – Morning Prayer	12 12:00 pm – Hi-Noon - PH 6:00 pm Scouts-PH	13 6:00 pm Vestry 7:00 pm Narc Anon – PH	14 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	15 7:00 pm Al-Anon - PH	16	17 8:30 am ECW Board Meeting – PH 2:30 pm – Newington Children's Theater - PH
18 15 th Pentecost 9 am – Holy Eucharist	19 6:00 pm Scouts-PH	20 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH	21 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	22 7:00 pm Al-Anon - PH	23	24
25 16 th Pentecost 9 am – Morning Prayer	26 6:00 pm Scouts-PH	27 7:00 pm Narc Anon - PH	28 12:00 Book Club Meeting - L 6:00 pm Drop the Rock - L	29 7:00 pm Al-Anon - PH	30	

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



Pace of Grace

September 2022

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

Dear Grace Community of Faith,

Good day to all of you. I hope that everyone had a pleasant summer even with the high temperatures we had. As a community we continue to connect with each other by visiting and bringing communion and fellowship to our home-bound friends. We have continued to worship together in-person and via zoom.

It has been a summer with so many things happening around our nation. As we look at the world changing, we are calling upon God's loving vision for the world. Deacon CJ often prays for the end of gun violence during our Prayers of the People.

Last month many fellow diocese members of the Episcopal Church gathered to address gun violence awareness/action and to pray for the end of it. Our deacons met in June when former Bishop Jim Curry introduced Swords to Plowshares: Northeast. Bishop Curry gave the example that this movement is rooted in Mozambique Africa where the Anglican community there encouraged their fellow countrymen/women to turn in guns after war and bloodshed.

I shared about Swords to Plowshares to give us the hope that something is being done to address gun violence. All over our state the police force is working with the churches and Swords to Plowshares to take guns and make them into something that can grow. This movement is rooted in the scripture reading from Isaiah 2:4, "He will settle disputes among great nations. They will hammer their swords into plows and their spears into pruning knives. Nations will never again go to war, never prepare for battle again." We are making change through prayer and action. Even when it seems overwhelming, know that God is at work within our community, state, and country. We are looking forward to the weeks ahead as we welcome fall, Advent, Christmas and more.

Peace and Joy,

Rev. Val



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

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



Greetings!

Summertime is coming to an end. This makes me sad as summer is my favorite season. I hope everyone had a safe and fun summer. I had the opportunity to take a day trip to Rhode Island with my family. My brother has a house in Point Judith which is close to where I spent my summers before college. I have lots of fond memories of fishing, boating, crabbing, quahogging, swimming, and enjoying the beach. What memories come to your mind when you think of summers past? Do any of them include some getting to know Jesus on a more spiritual level? The beach and music are my go to places to feel a closeness to my Lord and Savior (if not in church).

I also made a family trip to NJ for my granddaughter's dance competition. Her studio danced well but there was a lot of great competition. She did not come home with a trophy but two of the cutest kittens instead. Last year my oldest daughter and I went to NJ for a mini vacation and came home with a rescue dog. I am not sure if I want to go to NJ next year.....

I hope that you had some family time and vacation time this summer. I would be very interested to hear of some of the activities you did this past summer.

Unfortunately, there continued to be a lot of gun violence this summer. I pray that we can have more conversation and less confrontation. We also need to be more mindful of what to do to help our fragile earth stay green for generations to come. Climate change is a major issue but one small positive action by each one of us can help. Please let me know if you have any ideas that we as a church could do in this area. Equality for all is still a problem. We must continue to make an effort to improve relationships and reconcile with those we have hurt. Love, education, and appropriate action must be on our to-do list. Speaking of to-do lists, please try to clean out your clothes closets to bring in the bags for your contribution to Savers. This helps earn some money for our church.

Mark your calendars for October 13, 2022 as this is the date our new Bishop-elect Jeffrey Mello is officially installed as our 16th Diocesan Bishop. It will be held at the CT Convention Center in Hartford at 11 am. It will also be live-streamed. It will be very exciting to see where God is leading us with our new Bishop Diocesan. Bishop Laura Ahrens will still be our Suffragan Bishop.

We have the celebration of Labor Day in September. It became a federal holiday in 1894. It is a time to honor those who are working and those who did work. This country continues on because of all the gifts and talents that are used by those in the workforce. We have had many who came before us with ideas and solutions to a multitude of problems but there is still a long road to travel. Let us give thanks for the workers of our country. There is also Patriots Day on September 11th to remember those who died in the World Trade Center in NYC, the Pentagon in VA, and United Airlines Flight 93 that crashed in PA.

I hope to see you in September before the fall season is upon us. Time is just moving too quickly in this stage of my life. I would like a longer summer season!

Stay safe-stay well-stay connected- vax to the max

cj



SEPTEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

September 2	CJ Puskarz
September 6	Jeanne Bailey
September 14	Phyllis Backofen
September 20	Beverley Manning
September 25	Robert Belyea
September 29	Bette Forcash



Newington Food Bank: We continue to support the food bank by donating salsa, brownie mix, garlic powder, whole grain crackers, canned tuna or chicken in water, single serve 100% juice. You are truly the hands of Jesus serving the poor. Bless you all and thank you for your ongoing generosity.

JoAnn Cromwell



SENIORS ON THE GO

Hi-Noon -.All parishioners and their friends are invited to attend the meetings of Hi-Noon. The group's activities vary and are a combination of informative, cultural, social and entertaining events.

Monday, September 12, Noon – Following our summer hiatus, we will meet for discussion and planning. Bring a bag lunch – coffee, tea provided. The following are suggestions for future meetings. Details will be discussed at the September meeting.

October – We traditionally visit Gouveia Vineyards in Wallingford. We bring our lunches and share appetizers at this picturesque winery overlooking the vineyards surrounded by rolling hills painted by colorful fall leaves hopefully at their peak.

November activity – Suggestion?

December – Annual Holiday Party – In past years a Pasta Lunch and Holiday Sing-A-Long highlighted the party in the Parish Hall.



September 4	Holy Eucharist
September 11	Morning Prayer
September 18	Holy Eucharist
September 25	Morning Prayer



The deadline for the October issue is Tuesday, September 20. 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.



Our next book club meeting is Wednesday, September 28 at noon. We are reading *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles and *28 Summers* by Elin

Hilderbrand.

After September the remaining book club schedule is as follows:

- October 19 *The Sun Does Shine* by Anthony Ray Hinson
- November 16 Book TBD
- December 7 Holiday Luncheon from the Italian Gourmet
No book discussion

All are welcome to participate in our book club. You can come for all of the discussions or you can come for just one. We are always looking for book titles that others have enjoyed and would recommend. If you have a title you would like to recommend, please leave a message with the office. We hope to see you on September 28.

Happy Reading!
Melissa Haseley

BISHOP TRANSITION PRAYER

Gracious God, we thank you and praise you for guiding the people of ECCT in the discernment of our next bishop diocesan culminating in the election of Jeffrey Mello as the XVI Bishop Diocesan. We pray for Bishop-elect Jeff and his family, as they journey in transition to Bishop-Elect Jeff's new call. We pray also for the people of St Paul's Episcopal Church in Brookline as they journey in transition, saying goodbye to Bishop-elect Jeff and as they enter their own discernment process.

We thank you for everyone who offered themselves to our discernment, especially for nominees Glenna, Kate, Tanya, and Whitney. May you continue to grace them with their gifts as they continue to follow your call.

We pray for Bishop Laura, for her continued grace and steadfastness, as she transitions to partner with Bishop-elect Jeff in leading ECCT.

We pray in gratitude for our Bishop Ian, his leadership, guidance, and service, and for his spouse Kristin, asking blessings for their next journey.

All this we pray through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God now and forever. *Amen.*

SAVE THE DATE:



Blessing of the Animals: Please join us on October 2nd at 11:30 am for our Blessing of the Animals to celebrate the ministry of St.

Francis of Assisi. Any animal is welcome.



Grace Episcopal Church - Newington is again hosting another fall clothing drive this year. As you are aware, the efforts of this program help us with our outreach programs in Newington and beyond.

We started our advertising campaign in early August and will continue through the end of October; we have collected about 65 bags so far. We are collecting all types of clean clothing and soft goods including shoes, sneakers, boots, sandals, handbags, wallets, belts, hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, sweaters, vests, jackets, coats, all bed and bath linens including towels, bath mats, sheets, fabric tablecloths, window coverings and any other soft items. We will not accept any hangars, books or hard items.

All items need to be placed in garbage bags and placed in the blue bins outside our front doors. If you happen to be at the Church and there are bags of clothes outside by the bins or in the bins, please bring them into the Narthex. We will take them back to the Nursery from there. Thank you and remember many hands make light work.

If you know of someone who has multiple bags of items for the collection and they are unable to bring the items to church, please call or have them call Lynn Page at 860-841-2539 and arrangements will be made for pick-up.

We don't have a final date yet but we are collecting clothing until at least the end of October. Once the final date is scheduled, there will be a sorting and organization date and a loading of the truck day scheduled sometime in early to mid November. There will notices in the Sunday bulletin and October Pace of Grace once these dates are finalized. We hope to get an outside service organization looking for community service hours help us load the truck. All help will be welcome however, and we hope you will consider coming to help us out.

Lynn Page
Clothing Drive Coordinator



QUICK UPDATE: June 30 / July 31, 2022

	<u>JUNE + JULY</u> <u>OPERATIONS</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>OPERATIONS</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>TOTAL 2022</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
Pledge Income	\$ 6,111 + 3,273	\$ 35,409	\$ 36,178	\$ 63,468
<u>INCOME:</u>	\$ 6,743 + 9,454	\$ 55,787	\$ 57,643	\$ 101,028
<u>EXPENSES:</u>	(\$ 10,937 + 12,254)	(\$ 74,112)	(\$ 77,005)	(\$ 130,248)
<u>NET CHANGE:</u>	(\$ 4,193 + 2,799)	(\$ 18,324)	(\$ 19,362)	(\$ 29,220)

Checkbook Balance: \$ 14,067

End 2021 Checkbook: \$ 32,797



We are still collecting ink and toner cartridges. Please drop off in the box on the shelf in the narthex.

Lay Ministry Schedule
9:00 AM

	September 4	September 11	September 18	September 25
	13th Pentecost	14th Pentecost	15th Pentecost	16th Pentecost
	Holy Eucharist	Morning Prayer	Holy Eucharist	Morning Prayer
Clergy	Rev. Valerie Miller		Rev. Valerie Miller	
Deacon/LWL		Rev. CJ Puskarz	Rev. CJ Puskarz	Rev. CJ Puskarz
		Elizabeth Welk		
LECTOR	Karen Halpert	JoAnn Cromwell	Walt Parker	Marie Ritchie
PRAYERS	JoAnn Cromwell	Walt Parker	Beverley Manning	Mabel Maynard
ALTAR GUILD	Elizabeth Welk	Elizabeth Welk	Pat Rogorzenski	Pat Rogorzenski
	Barbara Johnson	Barbara Johnson	Candy Casciano	Candy Casciano
COUNTERS		JoAnn Cromwell		Melissa Haseley
		Lorraine Belyea		Walt Parker