

Grace Episcopal Church

NEWSLETTER September 2004

Trust the Lord! Be Brave and strong and trust the Lord. Psalm 27

Grace Episcopal Church
160 High Street
Medford, MA, 02155

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Grace Episcopal Church **NEWSLETTER** *September 2004*

160 High Street + Medford MA 02155 + 781.396.7215 + www.gracemedford.org

Events at Grace Church

The Bishop is coming, the Bishop is coming

The Right Reverend Gayle Harris, of the Diocese of Massachusetts, will make an official visit to Grace Church on **Saturday, September 11 – 3:00 – 5:00 P.M.** Reception at 3 pm and Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 4 pm.

Grace Church in Mission – Phase One: Inviting, Forming

Recalling to the days of Grace Church's Adult Forum, the Grace Church Sunday Learning Series will present (or SLS) topics of interest in Faith and Spirituality, Community Services, Christian Living, and the Episcopal Church. SLS will be held each Sunday following the 10 am Eucharist. See Rector's message

Fundraiser for Camp on Saturday, September 18

A car wash by the youth of the parish will be held on Saturday, September 18 from 11 am – 2 pm. Proceeds will benefit the Barbara C. Harris Camp.

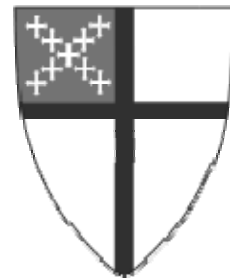
Home for the Holidays Fair – Friday, November 5 and Saturday, November 6.

Be a part of this important fundraiser for Grace Church!

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*Grace Church is a congregation of the
Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts
and a part of the worldwide
Anglican Communion of Churches*

**Bishop's Visit
Church on Saturday!?! You Bet!**

The Right Reverend Gayle Harris, Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Massachusetts, will make an official visit to Grace Church on the afternoon of Saturday, September 11. The entire congregation is called to attend a reception and conversation with Bishop Harris at 3:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist will follow. So mark your calendars...

What: Episcopal Visit with the Right Reverend Gayle Harris

When: Saturday, September 11

Time: 3:00 – 5:00 P.M. Reception and Holy Eucharist

Sunday School Volunteers & Teachers

In addition to regular Sunday teachers for our youth, the Sunday School leadership is are looking for volunteers who may not want to teach Sunday School but who can be involved with this ministry on a special project basis. The activities are one time events usually occurring during the regular Sunday School class time around 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon (during the fellowship time). **SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19. CLASSES WILL START ON SEPTEMBER 26.**

**Women's Reading Group meets
September 22**

The Women's Reading group will be meeting on September 22. They are planning to read the Book of Ruth from the Old Testament.

When: Wednesday, September 22

Time: 7:30 pm

Where: Beverly Convery's home
171 Forrest Street, Medford

Grace Church in Mission

**Phase One: Inviting, Forming
Introducing...**

***The Grace Church Sunday Learning Series
Beginning Sunday, September 19***

Recalling to the days of Grace Church's *Adult Forum, the Grace Church Sunday Learning Series (or SLS)* presents for our members and the general public speakers on topics of interest in Faith and Spirituality, Community Services, Christian Living, and the Episcopal Church. Presentations will occur most Sunday mornings at 11:30 a.m. in the nave of the Church. Invited speakers include the Rev. Bob Durkee, Marie Cassidy, director of the Medford Family Network, Agnes Opara and our own Father Tom and more. Episcopal 101, Father Tom's survey of the basics of the Episcopal Church will be presented the last Sunday of each month as a part of the *SLS*.

A complete schedule is forthcoming in parish bulletins and newsletters, as well as the web (www.gracemedford.org).

This *SLS* is a part of the enhancement of the Mission of Grace Church providing inviting opportunities to be formed and educated in the Christian faith. You can help by participating and inviting others to participate as well.

**Grace Church:
Transforming Faith and Practice,
Transforming Life**

A faithful life is made stronger by regular spiritual practice. This Fall members and friends of Grace Church will be invited to take part in a shared spiritual discipline, four promises that will deepen our faith and help us know more about God.

Home for the Holidays Fair

Fair Planning Underway A group of parishioners gathered following the 10:00 A.M. service on August 15 to begin preparations for the Home for the Holidays Fair. The Fair will be held on Friday, November 5 and Saturday, November 6 with the Fair Supper 1-2 weeks prior to this annual church fundraiser.

Our traditional favorites are returning such as the Lobster Lunch, Silver Tea, Trash and Treasure, Knitting Table, Jewelry, Cookies, Raffle Baskets, Christmas Ornaments, Youth crafts, popcorn and more. More table ideas are welcomed and encouraged, however, be prepared to supply and staff new tables. Help is needed for the jewelry, toy, raffle, cookie and basket tables. See the complete list of needed items for our theme baskets outside the church office.

Co-chairs, Lisa Chesnell (781.424.8375 – Fair Supper, Lobster Lunch, Snack Bar and Silver Tea) and Margaret Smist (781.639.7822 – All tables, PR, Church Tours) can be reached at the above telephone numbers if you have questions or would like to volunteer some time.

Be a part of this important fundraiser for Grace Church!

The Jewelry Table. Joan Pappalardo and the jewelry ladies would appreciate it very much if you would have your jewelry donation for the Fair to them by the end of September. The reason being they need time to meticulously clean the jewelry, bag it, and price it. Thank you so much for your help.

The Jewelry Table Needs Volunteers. Would you like to donate some of your time. Please call Joan Pappalardo at 978.535.6457

Parishioner Newsnotes

Many, many thanks to **OSCAR GREENE** who has contributed to the newsletter for over a decade. His monthly articles were anticipated by everyone in the congregation and we all learned a little bit more about Oscar and ourselves through his monthly pieces. **THANK YOU, OSCAR!**

The Kountze Family honored Grace Church's own Adele Travisano Hale by having Mayor McGlynn declare July 31 **ADELE TRAVISANO DAY**. Adele was instrumental in starting an arts festival in Doc Kountze's honor and has become the "mother of Medford artists." Congratulations, Adele!

Best Wishes to **AKILAH KING** who will begin her freshman year at Brown University this September. Akilah was presented with a Knights of King Arthur scholarship from Wes Foote on July 11 during the 10 am. Eucharist.

JUNE PIETRANTONI served as Coordinator of the very successful Northeast Region, International Training in the Communication Annual Conference held at the Hyatt Regency Downtown Boston May 27-30. Opening Ceremonies and their Speech Contest were held in the House Chamber at the State House with Legislators participating.

In July, June and Dorothy (sister) and Charlie Faulkner traveled to North Hatley, Quebec to see son Stephen's production of "Oh, Coward!" performed at the famous Piggery Theater there.

Godspeed to **LAURA FELDMAN** who is returning to her home state of Tennessee. Thank you to Laura for all her work at Grace over the past three years.

Keeping in Touch:

Doris Johnson

24 Wainright Drive

Bluffton, So. Carolina 29910

1-843.705.6321

E-mail: DRSJHS@earthlink.net

Vestry Notes What's Your Ministry?

Your Vestry has been hard at work throughout the Summer. We met on Retreat in mid-June and one of our major goals was to establish an organizational structure which will support our upcoming Fall schedule.

All parishioners are encouraged to speak to the Vestry contact listed below if you are interested in serving on any one of these Ministry Groups...and thank you to those who have already agreed to serve!

Christian Formation – includes establishment and implementation of Youth Sunday School and other Christian Formation opportunities at Grace Church. Vestry contacts are Steve Duggan (781.395.4397) and John Rogers (781.396.2930).

Evangelism, Sharing and Service – this group will meet to determine, plan and implement an Outreach Ministry for Grace Church. Vestry contact is Brenda Pearson (781.391.0928).

Parish Life and Hospitality – responsibility for scheduling established and new social events for the church in addition to the weekly Coffee Hour, interested volunteers should contact Vestry liaison, Lisa Chesnell at 781.424.8375.

Administration and Personnel Oversight – this Ministry Group is responsible for establishing and maintaining policies for church employees and also assisting with the hiring process. Vestry contact is Debra Rose Brillati (781.641.3341).

Annual Pledging and Stewardship – group implements the annual Fall Pledging campaign and will also participate in the future with a Year Round Stewardship Program. Carol

Thompson is the Vestry contact and can be reached at 781.396.8459.

Facilities Care – responsible for making recommendations on upkeep of the Facility, this committee will also assist with managing the scheduling of outside groups. Vestry Contacts are Tom Daly (781.395.5777 and Bill Williams (781.395.0711).

Communications - The newsletter, signage, hanging posters, bulletin boards, articles in local newspapers, the WEB and local cable all fall under the Communication Ministry. Vestry contacts are Jill Galluccio (781.395.4370) and Julia Lisella (781.391.3919).

Treasury/Budget – The Finance Committee makes recommendations to the Vestry on church expenditures and establishes the budget for the church year. Vestry contact is Treasurer, Walter Greene (781.483.7342).

Meet Tatiana !

Tatiana Beato, The Parish Officer Administrator, was born September 22, 1982 in Boston, MA. At the age of 5 her family moved to Randolph, MA looking for a better place to raise their children. She has two younger brothers, Pedro (20) and Angel (16). This young lady keeps busy within her congregation. She is a member of the Pentecostal Church of God in Dorchester. Tatiana teaches Bible school to the children age 9-12 at her church, she also sings in the church choir and a gospel music group named "Elohim". She also plays the flute and desires to learn how to play the piano and guitar.

In Memoriam

We offer our prayers for the souls of Edwin "Ted" White and Albert Nathan Swan who died earlier this summer and whose funerals were held at Grace Church. We also pray for the families they left behind.

Edwin "Ted" White was the husband of Barbara Morey White a long-time member of our parish. Ted and Barbara were married in 1955, and they and daughters Jane and Laura were active parishioners, Barbara and Ted moved from Medford to Rowley about eight years ago, but continued their membership at Grace Church.

Ted was a Registered Securities Trader at Brown Brothers Harriman Co. and Joseph Tal & Co. He continued to be an enthusiastic and active alumnus of Dartmouth College throughout his life.

In addition to Barbara and his daughters, Ted leaves two grandsons, Benjamin and Matthew, two nieces and a cousin. Ted was a World War II Marine Veteran. He was stationed in California when the atomic bomb was dropped on Japan. He attained the rank of 2nd Lieutenant and his tours of duty included time served in Japan and Guam.

Albert Nathan Swan was born in Portland, Maine and worked in the CCC in Bar Harbor, Maine and Winchester Arms prior to entering the US Army and, later, the US Air Force. Al served his country for 28 years achieving the rank of OSI Agent. In addition to duty in the US, he served in Korea, Guam and Japan. He

was a manger for Allstate Insurance Company for twelve years before he retired.

Al is survived by his wife, Jean Furr Swan. He was predeceased by a son and daughter, and leaves one son and four daughters, several

grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Al also leaves a sister, Dorothy Conary of Bangor, Maine.

May light perpetual shine upon these Christian men and may the Peace of the Lord be with their families always.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

Did you know Grace Church has a website? If you need any information on our monthly calendar and schedule of events it is all on www.gracemedford.org. In addition to Grace Church events, there are links to the Diocesan, National church and the Worldwide Anglican Communion sites.

Many thanks to Tom Stinson who set up the site and has been updating the site over the last few years.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Many thanks to Jill Gallucio for taking over as editor of the newsletter. The deadline for the newsletter is the 15th of the month prior to the publication month. (ie: deadline for October newsletter is September 15) Articles can be e-mailed to Jill at JillJoann6@aol.com



A Message from the Rector

Dear People of Grace Church:

It has been nearly three and half years since I first came among you as a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I am amazed by the many blessings I have known over these years. I have seen our regular attendance in worship nearly double, our annual pledging increase by nearly 70%, and our enthusiasm for Grace Church's renewal grow strong and viable. I have watched the GraceWorks After School Care Program rise out of troubled waters and, under the careful guidance of director Christine Gnadt, grow to fiscal and professional vibrancy, serving dozens of area youth and families with quality, loving care. I have participated in hundreds of friendly, hospitable Coffee Hours, numerous meals and events, dozens of meetings and hundreds of visits in home, hospital, and workplace. I have participated in 37 Baptisms, 11 Marriages, and 43 Funerals. It has been an incredible time.

Yet I perceive all this is a beginning to the renewal that can and must take place in Grace Church. There is more that we are called to be and do. I am asking all of you to take part.

The role of the priest is one of servanthood. I am here to minister to the gathered community of Christ, to preach the Gospel, to call to repentance, to bless, to absolve, to teach, to heal, and to administer the sacraments of Christ's Church. But there is a reason I am to do these things. That reason is none other than to help equip the people of God in this world for their own ministry in Christ's name. I do what I do and I am what I am, so that you may respond more fully to what God calls you to do and to be. While there is only one priest in Grace Church, there are well over one hundred ministers, called and able to respond to the promise to serve the world in the name of Christ. You are those ministers.

Every minister needs to be equipped for their work in the world. Such equipping will include a knowledge of the Christian faith, familiarity with the Holy Scriptures, regular worship, daily prayer, time for fellowship and study, time for rest and renewal, and a group of fellow ministers with whom one can learn and grow in faith.

Please take advantage of opportunities for worship and learning with Grace Church during this coming program year. And practice your ministry. Become evangelists. Invite friends and acquaintances to join you for worship and parish activities. Bring others to Church. Think of ways we might serve our members, but also ways we might serve our community; bring your ideas to the Vestry, and be ready to help carry out these ministries. Take your Baptismal Covenant seriously. If you don't know what that Covenant is, call me, and we'll talk about it.

The only thing needed for Grace Church to be a thriving community of faith is people willing to give and to serve. What about **Habitat for Humanity**? We can do it if there are those who are willing to lead. **Children's Choir**? Absolutely, if parents desire it and the Church supports it with time and money. Perhaps we can help **feed the hungry**. Who wants to think of some ways? Anybody want to organize a system of rides to **bring elders to Church**? Or to **invite our neighbors** in the apartment buildings on either side of us to join us for worship? Who might be willing to **facilitate a program of planned giving**, encouraging members to remember Grace Church in their wills in order to secure the financial future of the parish? What about **Youth group**? All we need to get started is a handful of dedicated people willing to make it happen. How about you? **Literacy assistance to area school children**? Helping little ones learn to read? We could. **Mission trips**? We can plug in with the Diocese and other parishes to help bring love and service to people in other nations... and to Medford neighborhoods. **185 people at Church each Sunday**? Why not? We only have to invite them and offer a spiritual family.

You know something of what I have done as priest and minister in three and a half years in your midst. Now, show me more of what you can do.

With gratitude,

September Birthdays

Remembering we are all children of God, let us pray for those having birthdays during the month of September

9/2	Alyssa Chiodi, Shirley Kountze, Karen Mootrey, Charrese Murray, Solomon Nwachukwu, Ryan Pearson, John Paul Zafiris III
9/4	Nicholas Gavrelis, Nancy Sullivan, Ashley Zafiris
9/6	Christine Gnad, Kristen Sweeney
9/10	Carolyn Gagnon
9/11	Renata Kleifgen
9/13	Elisa Kathryn Daly
9/14	Constance Foote, David Henson
9/16	Pamela Oweda Davis
9/17	Andrew Duggan, Patricia Monda
9/18	Peter Thuesen
9/20	Robert Baldassari
9/21	Paul Collins, Eugene Puryear
9/22	Nancy Foote Daly
9/23	Katrina Ramon
9/24	Wesley Foote, Carl Kleifgen
9/27	Lauren Henson
9/28	Louise Fortino
9/30	Alleyn Booker, William Joseph Corcoran, Mary Ellen Sherry

Grace Church Parish Leadership

Clergy & Staff:

THE REV. THOMAS R. COOK, Rector
TIM HUGHES, Organist and Choir Director
ANA AGUAYO, Sexton
TATIANA BEATO, Parish Administrator
CHRISTINE GNADT, Director, GraceWorks

Officers:

MARGARET SMIST, Senior Warden
STEPHEN DUGGAN, Junior Warden
WALTER GREENE, Treasurer
LAURA FELDMAN, Parish Clerk

Vestry:

DEBRA ROSE BRILLATI, LISA CHESNELL, TOM DALY, JILL GALLUCCIO,
FRANK HAZEL, JULIA LISELLA, BRENDA PEARSON, JOHN ROGERS, JR.,
CAROL THOMPSON, BILL WILLIAMS

Ministries:

Altar Guild: RUBY GREENE	Property: WES FOOTE, JR.
Adult Bible Study: FRANK HAZEL, OSCAR GREENE	Newcomers: MARGARET SMIST
Children's Formation / Education: STEVE DUGGAN	Fair: LISA CHESNELL, MARGARET SMIST
Acolytes and Ushers: LINDA FOOTE, JILL CAPPUCCIO	Newsletter: JILL GALLUCCIO
Hospitality: BEVERLY CONVERY & STEPHANIE DUATO	
Food Donation Ministry: CAROL THOMPSON, BEVERLY CONVERY	

Grace Church is a congregation of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Massachusetts.

THE RT. REV. M. THOMAS SHAW, SSJE, Bishop
THE RT. REV. ROY CEDERHOLM, Bishop Suffragan

THE RT. REV. GAYLE E. HARRIS, Bishop Suffragan