

Grace Episcopal Church

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2005

Abide in me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me...John 15:4

Grace Episcopal Church
160 High Street
Medford, MA, 02155

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Grace Episcopal Church
NEWSLETTER *September 2005*

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

Dates at a Glance

Sunday, September 4

Eucharist at 8:00 & 10:00 am
Food Sunday: bring your donations for local food

Saturday, September 10

Ministries Council meets 9:00am – 12noon

Sunday, September 11: Name Tag Sunday

Eucharist at 8:00 & 10:00 am
The Prayer Group: Common Room 9:15-9:45am
Ministries Fair: following the 10am Eucharist
Sunday School sign-up

Monday, September 12

Monday Evening Bible Study, hosted by
Frank Hazel and Oscar Greene: Common Room
7:00pm. This group meets every Monday from

Tuesday, September 13

St. Anne's Guild, Common Room 12 noon-3pm

Thursday, September 15

Families Know Best and GraceWorks host
The Federation for Children with Special Needs
"Turning Three" workshop
Parish Hall 7:00-9:00 pm

Thursday, September 15

DEADLINE: for October newsletter articles

Sunday, September 18

pantries
Eucharist at 8:00 & 10:00 am
First day of Sunday School: following 10am
Ice Cream Social: 11:30am-1:00pm. Only \$1;

Sunday, September 25

Eucharist at 8:00 & 10:00 am
The Prayer Group: Common Room 9:15-9:45am

Tuesday, September 27

St. Anne's Guild, Common Room 12 noon-3pm

[AND PLEASE NOTE THESE COMING EVENTS!](#)

September through June Friday and Saturday, October 14-15

Gamma's Attic Parish Fair, Parish Hall

Saturday, October 15:

Gamma's Attic Silver Tea, Common Room



PLEASE VISIT OUR MINISTRIES FAIR!

It is time for another Ministries Fair to give the Parish the opportunity to see where they can tap in and help out with church activities. Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 11 following the 10am Eucharist.

BIBLE STUDY RESUMES



We're looking forward to Monday, 12 September when the thirteenth cycle of the Bible Study Group gets underway.

For this season, we'll return to the "Harmony of the Gospels", the study of the interrelationships among the synoptic gospels, that is, the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke who reported on the life and works of Jesus.

To better appreciate their work we have to look at the time line between 4 B.C., the estimated birth year of Jesus, to the years between 51 and 105 A.D. when the gospels were probably written. It was an interesting period:

26-36 A.D. Pontius Pilate was the Roman Procurator.

35 A.D. Paul was converted.

50-64 A.D. Jews were persecuted in Rome.

66-70 A.D. Jews rebelled against Rome. Paul was executed

70 A.D. Titus destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple.

51-105 A.D. New Testament writings were published.

Now to the writings themselves – and this is where things really get interesting. Every aspiring writer learns that before the writing begins, he/she must have a clear idea of (1) their purpose in this particular attempt and (2) the audience which is being addressed.

Mark's Gospel: the shortest of the three

Purpose	Audience
Matthew's Gospel	
Purpose	Audience
Luke's Gospel	
Purpose	Audience

So much for the basic framework of the study. Now many interesting questions arise. Who were these gospellers' years? What were their sources of information. Why do their accounts of the same events differ?

As we study the Bible, what are we to think? First, almost all of our currently used bibles are modifications or popularizations of the King James version which, published in 1613, contains many errors. New discoveries create new insights into both Old and New Testaments. The Gospel of Thomas was discovered in 1945. Its original version is estimated to have been produced about 30 A.D.. The Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered only in 1948 and include some Old Testament texts that were 1000 years earlier than those used in the King James version. How do these discoveries affect our current beliefs?

All of these questions are valid, interesting, and have no definitive conclusions. Scholars have spent lifetimes seeking positive answers. In our Bible Study Group, we pose questions, suggest ideas, discuss some of the broader implications, and enjoy the opportunity to express our personal ideas without fear of being put down by our fellow students. If you think you might like to participate in this free-for-all, by all means join us.

Submitted by Frank Hazel



FALL FAIR PLANS UNDERWAY

Ruthanne Pearson and Dottie Palladino are hard at work planning for the Fall Fair, Gramma's Attic. The fair will be held Friday October 14 and Saturday October 15. If anyone is interested in having a table at Gramma's Attic contact Ruthanne at toner7@earthlink.net as soon as possible!

As plans for the annual fair shape up, it seems likely that we will have another silent auction at the Fair Supper. Last year, the silent auction was fun and a good fundraiser, raising over \$3,000 for the church. Please consider whether you have a service or item to auction off, and let your imagination run wild! Favorites last year included weekends in parishioners' vacation homes, several pots of Ray Parady's (delicious) chicken soup, restaurant gift certificates, tickets to events at the Museum of Fine Arts and Springstep, and a framed collection of baseball cards featuring the Red Sox World Series champions. Please contact Catherine Smith at 781-306-1243 or smith.catherine@epa.gov with your ideas!



SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS SEPT. 18TH

It is almost time for Sunday School to start again! Registration will be on Sunday, September 11, during the Ministries Fair. The first day of Sunday School will be the following Sunday, September 18. After meeting with several teachers and parents, we decided to keep having Sunday School right after the the 10:00am service (to prevent losing several teachers who participate in the service). The children will be divided up into three groups, depending on age. We now have a group of children who are over ten years of age, so there will be a special program for them, too. As the Ministries Fair approaches, please consider whether you would be willing to volunteer in the Sunday School. We are seeking regular teachers, teacher assistants, and coordinators for one-time projects. Our

teachers generally teach in teams. You do not need to have teaching experience or perfect knowledge of the bible to volunteer because we have a curriculum that provides detailed lesson plans.

We are open to suggestions for new activities for the Sunday School. By being involved in the Sunday School, you will be working with the future!

A barbeque will be held during the Ministries Fair.

Please contact Catherine Smith at 781-306-1243 for more information.

Submitted by Catherine Smith and Steve Duggan

FATHER TOM COOK ANNOUNCES THE FORMATION OF A PARISH MINISTRIES COUNCIL



As our parish continues to grow in Grace, the Vestry has given support for the formation of a parish Ministries Council, whose purpose is to join together representative members of our many parish ministries in order to communicate our various activities to one another and to construct our parish life and ministries schedule.

The Council will be comprised of two representatives of each active ministry of the parish and the Vestry as a whole. Parish administrative and musical staff will take part to support the work of the Council.

We would envision the group meeting probably twice each year, likely for up to three hours on a Saturday morning, to inform the gathered body of ministry activities in the parish, share schedules and review the parish calendar to set dates for parish events, and to gather as ministry groups to review areas of ministry and service.

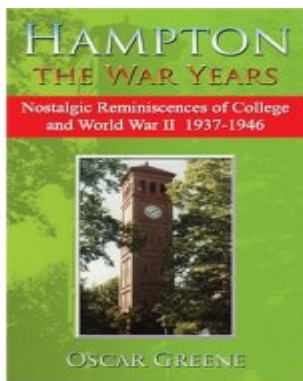
The Inaugural Meeting of the Parish Ministries Council is set for Saturday, September 10, 9:00am-12:noon. Please discuss this initiative with your ministry group and arrange for two

representatives to attend the meeting prepared to help plan for the coming program year.

Please RSVP to the Church Office by September 1 (graceoffice@verizon.net or 781-396-7215) with names of representatives who will be in attendance on September 10. If you need child care services for young children, please let us know when you RSVP, in order that we can make appropriate arrangements.

Submitted by Father Tom Cook

PARISHIONER NOTES



NEW BOOK

**OSCAR
GREENE
COMPL
ETES**

HAMPTON AND THE WAR YEARS, by Oscar Greene, is a finely crafted memory with a traumatic background that portrays a beautiful love story. The reader will be moved by the gracious moments of humanity while being shaken by the difficult decisions that must be made.

The author reflects upon his years of self-discovery in college. At that time, America was emerging from the Great Depression and heading into World War II. Oscar faced many challenges aside from the global turmoil. He had to adjust from a predominately white school in the North to an all-black college in the South. His experiences are extraordinary, and pertinent to the study of history, civil rights, humanity and self-worth.

Published by Bookman Publishing and Marketing, Martinsville, Indiana

NEW PARISH MINISTRY



Deborah Smith is beginning a new parish ministry for families with special needs children. The ministry is called “Families Know Best”, in honor of the families who advocate for their children every day. GraceWorks Director Christine Gnadt, is joining Deborah in co-hosting the first Families Know Best workshop on September 15, 7-9pm in the Parish Hall. The Federation for Children with Special Needs will be presenting “Turning Three”, a workshop aimed towards families who have a child who is ageing out of Early Intervention and who will begin to receive services from the public school system. The workshop is FREE, and limited childcare will be provided by GraceWorks. Pre-registration is required. To register or for more information please contact Deborah Smith at 781-306-1431, or deborah.smith4@comcast.net GraceWorks is providing light refreshments. Join us for a wonderful workshop!

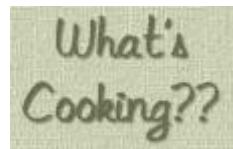
Submitted by Deb Smith



Many thanks to **Dorothy Barros**, who recently retired from the Presidency of Medford Senior Citizens, Inc.

PARISH LIFE

Are you able to organize a dinner or brunch for the parish? We have many long-time volunteers who are able to assist with day-of set up, preparation and clean-up. The parish family just



needs someone to plan a menu, purchase the food (you will be reimbursed!) and organize the kitchen crew!!

GraceWorks WISH LIST

Please consider donating one of the following items to the GraceWorks Child Care Program!

Wish List

- Jump ropes
- Footballs
- Sidewalk Chalk
- Bubble Soap
- Seeds
- Glue
- Glitter
- Rice
- Toddler puzzles
- Stringing beads

VESTRY NOTES

The Vestry has begun to share some regular time and conversation around leading the Parish in the Long Range Planning process. We will follow up with the Parish, but parishioners are encouraged to speak to the Vestry about our ongoing conversation.

PLEDGE STATEMENTS

Second Quarter pledge statements were mailed in early September. Please contact Treasurer Walter Greene, if you have any questions about the statement. If you are in arrears on your pledge, now would be a most helpful time to make your contributions current.

The Vestry and Wardens thank you for your support of the work and ministry at Grace Church, and we are looking forward to a busy fall schedule at the church.

STEWARDSHIP SEASON!

Autumn brings a lot of activity to Grace Church, and our annual Stewardship drive is also just

around the corner. You will be hearing more from the Stewardship Committee as the Fall progresses.

OFFICE UPDATE

Greetings to ALL at Grace Church! My name is Donna Gargiulo and I am your new Office Administrator. I hope you have all enjoyed your Sunday Bulletin. If you have information for the bulletin please send it to me by the Wednesday before. If you have any questions and/or need assistance, feel free to contact me on 781 396-7215, visit me at the Church office, or email me at graceoffice@verizon.net.

Office hours are:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday:
9AM – 2PM
Wednesday: 10:30AM – 1PM

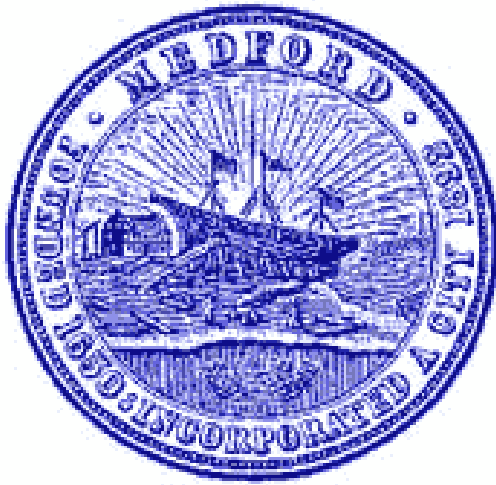
I look forward to meeting you in the near future.
Submitted by Donna Gargiulo

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Information about the application process for the Youth Leadership Academy's class of 2006 is available on-line at www.diomassyouth.org. The YLA develops leadership skills and Christian faith formation among diocesan high school youth.

MEDFORD DAY TO BE CELEBRATED ON OCTOBER 1st AND 2nd

A city-wide celebration of Medford's 375th birthday will be held the first weekend of October. Plans are underway at Grace Church to celebrate the day and include the following:



10:30
am:
Dedication
of the
WWI
I

Memorial

11:00am: Light refreshments on the parish lawn

12noon: Holy Eucharist according to the rites of the 1539 Prayer Book (the book in use in the year 1630)

1:00pm: Lunch and other activities on the church lawn

2:00pm: Parade begins at Playstead Road and makes its way past the the church. Karen and Bill Williams are coordinating a Grace Church float which will participate in the parade!

Submitted by Margaret Smist

MEDFORD, MA: 375 YEARS!

September 2005 Birthdays

Remembering we are all children of God, let us pray for those having birthdays during the month of June, July and August.

Sept. 2 Solomon Chima Nwachukwu, Sr., Shirley Kountze, Charrese Quattro Pearson Murray, Ryan Pearson, John Paul Zafiris III, Alyssa Colby Chiodi,
Sept.4 Nicholas Evriviades Gavrelis, Nancy Matson Sullivan
Sept.6 Christine Gnadt, Kristen Sweeney
Sept.10 Carolyn Gagnon
Sept. 11 Renata Louise Lisella Kleifgen
Sept. 13 Elise Kathryn Daly
Sept. 14 Constance Elizabeth Foote, David Henson, Ashley Zafiris
Sept. 16 Pamela Oweda Davis
Sept. 17 Andrew Scott Duggan
Sept. 18 Peter Johannes Thuesen
Sept. 20 Robert Baldassari
Sept. 21 Paul Collins
Sept. 22 Nancy Foote Saly
Sept. 23 Katrina Elizabeth Ramon
Sept. 24 Wesley Foote, Sr., Carl Edward Lisella Kleifgen
Sept. 25 Karen Mootrey
Sept. 26 Andrew Charles Zafiris
Sept. 27 Lauren Elizabeth Henson
Sept. 28 Louise B. Fortino
Sept. 30 Alleyne Booker, MaryEllen Sherry, William Joseph Corcoran, III

GRACE CHURCH PARISH LEADERSHIP

Clergy & Staff:

THE REV. THOMAS R. COOK, Rector
THE REV. TED J. GAISER, Deacon
ANNA AGUAYO, Sexton
CHRISTINE GNADT, Director, GraceWorks
DONNA GARGIULO, Office Administrator

Officers:

MARGARET SMIST, Senior Warden
STEPHEN DUGGAN, Junior Warden
WALTER GREENE, Treasurer
NAIDA GAVRELIS, Parish Clerk

Vestry:

BRANWEN KING, RAY PARDY, JIM PEARSON, JR., WARREN RAMIREZ, JOHN ROGERS, JR., JANE SCHERBAN, CAROL THOMPSON, BILL WILLIAMS

Ministries:

Acolytes & Ushers: LINDA FOOTE, JILL CAPPUCCIO
Adult Bible Study: FRANK HAZEL, OSCAR GREENE
Altar Guild: CAROLYN ROGERS, DIRECTOR, RUBY GREENE, DIRECTOR EMERITA
Annual Pledging & Stewardship: CAROL THOMPSON
Christian Formation / Education: STEVE DUGGAN, JOHN ROGERS
Communications: MARGARET SMIST
Evangelism: BRENDA PEARSON
Facilities Care: JIM PEARSON JR.
Finance Committee: WALTER GREENE
Food Donation Ministry: CAROL THOMPSON, BEVERLY CONVERY
Hospitality: BEVERLY CONVERY
Newcomers: MARGARET SMIST

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