

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

160 High Street
Medford, MA 02155
781-396-7215

WWW.GRACEMEDFORD.ORG

CLOTHING PANTRY

The Clothing Pantry served about 50 families. This ministry grows larger each time we have a pantry. Special thanks to Ruth Ann Pearson and Beverly Convery who helped all day on Saturday with me after a night of setting up on Friday. Also, to the teens: Matt and Melanie Fenn, Ivy Smith, and Steve and Bailey Lee. I hope you know how appreciative the people we serve with this pantry are. Those who brought friends and family to help, please thank them for me: Bev's son, Tom, Ruth Ann's sister, Margie and Matt's girl, Annie. Lastly, I thank my family.

This all started when I read a book, and sadly realized there are many out there who do without clothing. This means so much to me as a ministry, but without the help and support of my family I couldn't do it. Michael, Matt, Mel, Molly and Mike thank you for all the storing, sorting, lugging, and transporting you do all year to make this happen. I love you all!

Submitted by Maria Fenn

CHURCH FAIR

Starting early...

Donations of jewelry needed for the Fall Church Fair. Please give jewelry to Stephanie Duato or Beverly Convery at your earliest convenience.

Thank you,
Stephanie Duato

A PRAYER REQUEST

Please keep in your prayers, my great-nephew Rob McCarthy. He is being deployed to active duty in Iraq. Thank you. Jude Walsh

AT A GLANCE

July 1, 2007

Summer service schedule begins. One service only on Sundays at 9:00 AM

July 12, 2007

Women's Book Club

July 14, 2007

Peace Walk

NOTES FROM FRIENDS

I'm home! YAHOO !

Thank you to all who sent cards, made phone calls and are saying prayers for my speedy recovery. It warms my heart and is greatly appreciated to know that my Grace Church Family is thinking of me and cheering me on to good health. I am at home and will be there for a while. Phone calls are always welcome and I look forward to the Sunday when I'm back worshipping with all of you.

Carol Thompson

Dear Church Family,

I will be moving to Nashua, New Hampshire on June 4th. You have all been very kind to me. Thank you for your love and support. May God bless you and keep you. I will miss you so much.

My new address will be: 26 Monroe St., Apt 2, Nashua, NH 03060

Cell: 781-738-4348, E-mail: darford@alum.mit.edu

Sincerely, Darlene Ford

GODLY PLAY

The final night of this season's Wednesday Night Children's Bible Study was ushered in with a party! Families brought potluck and it was wonderful! What a spread!). The children enjoyed an evening of games, prizes, music, and fun. Maria Fenn and Deb Smith offer their gratitude for the parents who came out Wednesday evenings week after week, helping to make this program a thriving and growing Christian Education experience for all of us. Many thanks to Carolyn Rogers and Allison Andrews, who managed the "front of the house", otherwise known as the parish hall dinner set-up and preparation, making the evening move along in a timely fashion. We really couldn't have been on time and organized without them. We also want to thank Catherine Smith and Sarah Cluggish, who were guest teachers, and did a great job. Father Tom added music to the children's evening, something they always look for, both before and after dinner, and began our community meals with a prayer. Thank you so much, all of you, for helping us make Wednesday Nights happen.

Families took turns providing wonderful dinners for all of us - sometimes over 40 people! We saw so much effort and creativity in what was served - thank you all so much. We know that providing dinner for a crowd on a weeknight is no easy task. You all did a great job!

We also need to thank the children of Grace Church, who brought their amazing light and enthusiasm to our classes. They have been a pleasure to teach. We hope to see them all, and more, next September 12th, when we begin our Fall Season of classes.

This past Spring Season Maria, Deborah, and Catherine Smith taught several parables, along with a lesson on Baptism, and one on Pentecost. The children love the Baptism lesson, and we will continue to teach it at least once each year. Pentecost is one of the lessons we will repeat each year as well. Having several parables taught in one season has been a very nice experience. Just like fairy tales are started with the words "Once upon a time",.. The parables all begin with the words "Once there was a man who did such amazing things, and said such wonderful things, that people just had to follow Him." These words signal to the children that something out of the ordinary is going to be told. The parables take off from there. There are a few ways they can continue: One group of parables

continues with the words: "They wanted to know who He was. One time when they asked Him, He said, "I am the Good Shepherd. Several of the parables continue with the words: "As they followed Him, they heard Him talk about a kingdom. But it was not like the kingdom they lived in, or like any kingdom anyone had ever visited, or even like any kingdom anyone had ever heard of. So they had to ask Him, "What is the kingdom of Heaven like?" He answered, "The kingdom of Heaven is like when a person who buys and sells fine pearls, a merchant, goes to search for the great pearl." A third way the parable continues is with the words: "As they followed Him, they heard Him speak of many things. Sometimes people asked questions. One day a person asked Him what the most important thing in life is. He answered, "You already know". (It is to love God and to love people just like they are your neighbors). The children guess very quickly who the amazing person is. But parables are sometimes hard to understand, even for grownups. The introduction to all the parables focuses on four important things for the children to remember:

- 1) A gold box holds the parables, because they as valuable, even more valuable, than gold.
- 2) The box looks like a present, because parables are presents to us, to the children, given even before we were born. Even if we don't understand what a parable is, it still belongs to us. We don't have to earn them, go find them, steal them, buy them.....parables already belong to us.
- 3) The box has a lid, and lids sometimes stop us. Parables can be hard to open. But don't get discouraged; keep coming back again and again, and one day they will open for you.
- 4) The box looks old. Parables are very old...2000 years old.

The children received the parables from wherever they were able to receive them, in terms of their development, and their lives. When they hear them again in church or next spring, they will be a year older, and will hear them in a whole new way. It's pretty exciting. Exciting to teach, exciting to watch and listen to their responses to these ancient lessons.

After the parable a series of "I wonder" questions are asked of the children. They answer from wherever they are - there is no right or wrong answer. They meet these stories with what they have at that moment in time. It's been a fine year. We look forward to September 12th, and continuing this journey with the children and with the whole Wednesday Night community. Thank you everyone who attended and helped us thrive and grow!

Contributed by Deb Smith

TWEEN TEEN GROUP

We began a Tween Teen Group this year for our young people, ages 6th grade and up. We met once a month and usually had 10 -12 attendees. We have been watching and then discussing the NOOMA series of tapes. These short films discuss Christianity and how it relates to today's world. These young people are very impressive with their ideas about how they can lead better Christian lives. Besides our serious discussions we also had fun. We will resume on September 16th and I hope to see all return. Remember...all are welcome. So bring your friends! Besides our serious discussions, we also had fun. I hope that when we resume in September that they will come back and that they will be joined by more of their friends and peers.

Submitted by Maria Fenn

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Just to remind you all, at the next book club, Thursday, July 12, 2007 at 7:00pm we will be discussing Barbara Kingsolver's *The Bean Trees*. We will meet at my house, 9 Orchard Street, Medford, MA. Tel: 781-391-3919. I have also found a great website: Barbara Kingsolver's official website, <http://www.kingsolver.com/home/index.asp>

Enjoy and pass on any info to our non-email friends like Beverly! If you'd like anyone else from Church on the list can you please pass their name to me? Also, young adult women are absolutely invited. I'm sure most high school aged readers would be able to read the books we choose and, if for some reason, who ever chose the book doesn't think it is age appropriate they can just make that recommendation. Most likely, *The Bean Trees* fits the bill for all good readers! Best to all and happy reading, Julia Lisella



GARRISON KEILLOR ON EPISCOPALIANS

We make fun of Episcopalians for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese. But nobody sings like them. If you were to ask an audience in Des Moines, a relatively Episcopalianless place, to sing along on the chorus of "Michael Row The Boat Ashore," they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Episcopalians, they'd smile and row that boat ashore and up on the beach!And down the road!

Many Episcopalians are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony, a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass and hearing the harmonic intervals by putting your little head against that person's rib cage. It's natural for Episcopalians to sing in harmony. We are too modest to be soloists, too worldly to sing in unison.

When you're singing in the key of C and you slide into the A7th and D7th chords, all two hundred of you, it's an emotionally fulfilling moment. By our joining in harmony, we somehow promise that we will not forsake each other.

I do believe this, people: Episcopalians, who love to sing in four-part harmony, are the sort of people you could call up when you're in deep distress. If you are dying, they will comfort you. If you are lonely, they'll talk to you. And if you are hungry, they'll give you tuna salad!

Episcopalians believe in prayer, but would practically die if asked to pray out loud. Episcopalians like to sing, except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn with more than four stanzas.

Episcopalians believe their rectors will visit them in the hospital, even if they don't notify them that they are there. Episcopalians usually follow the official liturgy and will feel it is their way of suffering for their sins.

Episcopalians believe in miracles and even expect miracles, especially during their stewardship visitation programs or when passing the plate.

Episcopalians feel that applauding for their children's choirs will not make the kids too proud and conceited.

Episcopalians think that the Bible forbids them from crossing the aisle while passing the peace.

Episcopalians drink coffee as if it were the Third Sacrament.

Episcopalians feel guilty for not staying to clean up after their own wedding reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Episcopalians are willing to pay up to one dollar for a meal at church.

Episcopalians still serve Jell-O in the proper liturgical color of the season and Episcopalians believe

that it is OK to poke fun at themselves and never take themselves too seriously.
And finally, you know you are an Episcopalian when its 100 degrees, with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service. You hear something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can.

Donuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee.

When you watch a Star Wars movie and they say, "May the Force be with you, "and you respond, "and also with you."

And lastly, it takes ten minutes to say good-bye.

Contributed by Margaret Smist

JULY 2007 BIRTHDAYS

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

<i>Judith Karpowich</i>	<i>7/2</i>	<i>Caroline Daly</i>	<i>7/18</i>
<i>Samuel Cluggish</i>	<i>7/4</i>	<i>Lucy Hale</i>	<i>7/18</i>
<i>John Schlesinger</i>	<i>7/4</i>	<i>Verna Skeete</i>	<i>7/19</i>
<i>Daniel Egger</i>	<i>7/5</i>	<i>Patrick DuRoss</i>	<i>7/19</i>
<i>James Pearson, Sr.</i>	<i>7/6</i>	<i>Bill Williams</i>	<i>7/22</i>
<i>Eric Auner</i>	<i>7/7</i>	<i>Stephen Duggan</i>	<i>7/26</i>
<i>Ruthanne Pearson</i>	<i>7/7</i>	<i>Eva Jackson</i>	<i>7/26</i>
<i>Ruth Hall</i>	<i>7/9</i>	<i>Ethel Silva</i>	<i>7/26</i>
<i>William Cook</i>	<i>7/10</i>	<i>Phyllis Allaire</i>	<i>7/27</i>
<i>Suzanne Henson</i>	<i>7/10</i>	<i>Steve Viggiani</i>	<i>7/31</i>
<i>Jason Cluggish</i>	<i>7/11</i>		

GRACE CHURCH PARISH LEADERSHIP

Clergy & Staff:

THE REV. THOMAS R. COOK, Rector
THE REV. DR. TED J. GAISER, Deacon
ANNA AGUAYO, Sexton
COREEN GAUVIN, Director, GraceWorks
DONNA GARGIULO, Office Administrator
RUTH ROPER, Director of Music

Officers:

MARGARET SMIST, Senior Warden
STEPHEN DUGGAN, Junior Warden
NAIDA GAVRELIS, Treasurer
JANE SCHERBAN, Parish Clerk



Vestry:

MICHAEL FENN, WES FOOTE, JR., BRANWEN SMITH-KING, DAVID LEE, RAY PARDY,
JIM PEARSON, JR., WARREN RAMIREZ AND JEAN SPIERS

Ministries:

Acolytes & Ushers: LINDA FOOTE, JILL CAPUCCIO

Altar Guild: CAROLYN ROGERS, DIRECTOR, RUBY GREENE, DIRECTOR EMERIT A

Annual Church Fair: RUTHANNE PEARSON, DOTTIE PALLADINO

Annual Pledging & Stewardship: JANE SCHERBAN

Bell Tower Restoration Committee: ALLISON ANDREWS, SARAH CLUGGISH, REV. TOM COOK, WES FOOTE, JR.,
JIM PEARSON, JR., WARREN RAMIREZ

Children's Formation (Sunday School): STEVE DUGGAN, CATHERINE SMITH

Clothing Pantry: MARIA FENN

Communications: MARGARET SMIST

Deanery: JANE SCHERBAN

Delegate to Convention: SARAH CLUGGISH, MARIA FENN

Episcopal City Mission: MARIA FENN

Facilities Care: JIM PEARSON JR.

Executive Committee: REV. TOM COOK, STEVE DUGGAN, NAIDA GAVRELIS, MARGARET SMIST, JANE SHERBAN

Food Donation Ministry: BEVERLY CONVERY CAROL THOMPSON

GraceWorks Oversight Committee: ANNE DEVENEY, LAURA DUGGAN, MIKE FENN, BRANWEN SMITH-KING, JANE
SCHERBAN

Hospitality: BEVERLY CONVERY

Medford Council of Churches: HALLIE LEE

Newcomers: DAVID LEE

Newsletter: JUDITH WALSH, EDITOR, DONNA GARGIULO, STEPHANIE DUATO AND VOLUNTEERS

Scholarship Committee: BRANWEN SMITH-KING

Tween/Teen Group: MARIA FENN

Web: JASON CLUGGISH

Wednesday Night Children's Bible Study: THE VESTRY, REV TOM COOK, MARIA FENN AND DEB SMITH

Women's Book Club: JULIA LISELLA

Newsletter Editor

Thanks to the many parishioners who emailed and spoke to me with praise for the newsletter. Again, I ask your patience while we work out the kinks. Please do send any articles you think may be of interest to your fellow parishioners. Articles may be birth announcements, prayer requests, cute stories, recipes, etc. They will be used as fillers when I have a short month.

I hope with your help to be able to make our newsletter interesting and informative for all. My email address is delphine3738@yahoo.com; address is 541 Fulton Street, Medford, MA 02155; telephone 781-391-4825. You may also give me or Maria and Mike Fenn any articles after the 10:00 service on Sunday.

Attention E-mail persons: If you do not receive the newsletter by email, please contact me.

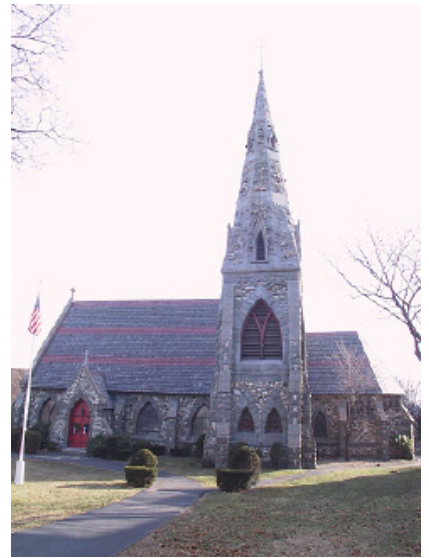
Respectfully yours,

Judith A. Walsh

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

GRACE CHURCH - MEDFORD, MA
NEWSLETTER – JULY 2007



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