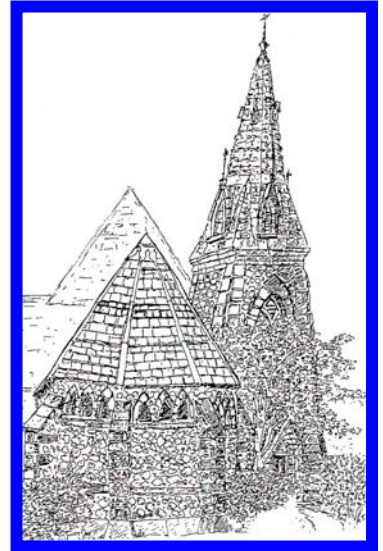


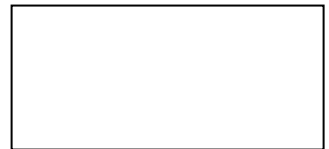
Grace Episcopal Church

NEWSLETTER MAY 2007



And when the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent, rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. Acts 2:1-4

Grace Episcopal Church
160 High Street
Medford, MA, 02155



If you do not want to receive the newsletter any longer, please let us know at 781-396-7215.



Grace Episcopal Church

NEWSLETTER May 2007

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

Dates at a Glance

Tuesday, May 1

Balancing the State Budget meeting, details on page 4

Wednesday, May 2

Grace Going Forward meeting, 7:15pm, see page 2 for details

Thursday, May 3

Friday, May 4

Saturday, May 5: Cinco de Mayo!

Sunday May 6:

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Eucharist 10am

Walk for Hunger: Grace Church Team meets at 7:15am, details on page 3

Monday, May 7

Tuesday, May 8

Wednesday, May 9

Children's Bible Study : 5:30 class for preschool through grade 1. Dinner 6:30. Second class: 7:00-8:00pm for grades two through five. Older children welcome in 7-8pm class

Thursday, May 10

Women's Book Club meeting: 7pm details on page 5-6

Friday, May 11

Saturday, May 12

Peace Walk, meet at Bestseller's Café at 9:30am

Sunday May 13:

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Eucharist 8 and 10

Prayer Group: Common Room, 9:15-9:45am

Monday, May 14

Tuesday, May 15

Wednesday, May 16

Children's Bible Study : 5:30 class for preschool through grade 1. Dinner 6:30.

Second class: 7:00-8:00pm

for grades two through five. Older children welcome in 7- 8pm class

Thursday, May 17: Ascension Day

Friday, May 18

Saturday, May 19



Sunday May 20:

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Eucharist 8 and 10

Sunday School after the 10am service

Tween/Teen Group meets 6:30-8:00pm

Monday, May 21

Tuesday, May 22

Wednesday, May 23

Children's Bible Study : 5:30 class for preschool through grade 1. Dinner 6:30.

Second class: 7:00-8:00pm for grades two through five. Older children welcome in 7-8pm class

Thursday, May 24

Friday, May 25

Saturday, May 26

Sunday, May 27: Pentecost

Eucharist 8 and 10

Sunday School after the 10am service

Prayer Group: Common Room, 9:15-9:45am

Monday, May 28

Tuesday, May 29

Wednesday, May 30



Children's Bible Study : 5:30 class for preschool through grade 1. Dinner 6:30. Second class: 7:00-8:00pm for grades two through five. Older children welcome in 7-8pm class

Thursday May 31

BRANTWOOD CAMP



As the ice finally starts to melt and the calendar nears Spring, it is time to once again remind young people and their parents about the opportunity to attend Brantwood Camp, a Summer camp with a one hundred year tradition of serving boys and girls in the New England area.

Any young person, age 11 to 15, who would like to attend or even to have more information about a two week stay at Brantwood, in Peterborough, New Hampshire in the shadow of Mount Monadnock, please ask Wes Foote (781) 396-5487 for that information.



WALK FOR HUNGER MAY 6 2007!



Image taken from website: <http://www.projectbread.org>

Project Bread is hosting its 39th Annual Walk for Hunger on Sunday, May 6 2007. And Grace Church is sending its very own Walk Team for the 5th year in a row! Every year the congregation forms a team to do the walk, and every year



the non-walkers help support that team. The Grace Church walk team will meet at 7:15am in the Parish Hall for the traditional "blessing of the sneakers", and celebrate the Holy Eucharist, finishing up with a light breakfast before going into Boston. Sign up sheets for both walkers and supporters can be found in the Parish Hall. You can also contact Donna Gargiulo in the Church Office to sign up or pledge.

OUR UNSUNG HEROES

Who are they
?

They are the women and men who do a work of love at Grace Church.

No one realizes how much their job entails or the amount of time they spend behind the scenes.

They receive no applause or accolades. They receive a far better reward; the joy of knowing they are using the gift God has given them.

Thank you – members of the Altar Guild
Submitted by Beverly Convery



GRACE GOING FORWARD MEETING, WEDNESDAY MAY 2

Grace Going Forward (GGF) continues to meet the first Wednesday of each month from 7:15 - 9 pm. In April, the group discussed communications within Grace Church. A decision was made to have our May session a 'working session.'

The group specifically pinpointed two areas they wished to concentrate: the Ministries Booklet and the monthly newsletter. The focus on the ministries



booklet is to revise and update the current booklet and

make it more 'user-friendly' for newcomers at Grace Church. The information in this booklet will also be used when the Grace Church website is updated later this year. Members of the group would like to see some regular 'columns' in our monthly newsletter, and the group is looking for ways to assist editor, Deborah Smith, with her work. Please join GGF as we continue our work!!

Submitted by Margaret Smist

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

The stewardship committee would like to report the results to date of the 2007 Stewardship Campaign.

As of April, 2007 the total pledged amount is \$152,431.00 (110 pledges, includes 15 new pledges).

Average Pledge is \$1,385.00

Over \$3000.00 – 13 pledges totaling \$48,568.00
 \$2500.00 - \$2999.00 – 7 pledges totaling \$18,620.00
 \$2000.00 - \$2499.00 – 11 pledges totaling \$24,760.00
 \$1500.00 - \$1999.00 – 10 pledges totaling \$16,760.00
 \$1000.00 - \$1499.00– 21 pledges totaling \$23,828.00
 \$500.00- \$999.00 – 21 pledges totaling \$13,498.00
 \$1.00 - \$499.00 – 29 pledges totaling \$6,497.00

Submitted By Jane Scherban



PARISHIONER NOTES

Congratulations to **Adele Travisano** for the wonderful photo and article in the March 29th Medford Transcript! Adele has been awarded the very first "Doc" Kountze Arts Award, by the Medford Arts Council, Inc. The award has been given to Adele in recognition of her contributions to the Medford arts community. This year is the 10th anniversary of the Mabray "Doc" Kountze Arts Festival, which Adele started to create in 1998. She and Doc were close friends, and she started the festival in his memory and honor.

This year's festival has the theme of "**Families**", and is important to Adele in another way.

Each member of her family (husband Dennis Hale, son Tony and daughter Lucy, as well as Adele) has work entered into the festival!

Grace Church is proud of you all!

Speaking of the Travisano/Hale family, son **Tony Hale** was also recently written up in the Medford Transcript (March 15). Tony edited the film entitled "Homeboy" (directed by Jim McSherry). "Homeboy" is one of the entries in this year's "Doc" Kountze Arts Festival. Tony is currently at work editing his Spanish-language documentary, and is also at work editing his first feature-length documentary, filmed in Nepal.

Matt Anderson, son of Peter and Wendy Anderson and nephew of Naida Gavrelis, has also been written up recently in the Medford Transcript (March 29, 2007). He was named the "Medford Transcript Athlete of the Week" because of his "**...six runs scored, three doubles, two home runs and six RBI, during a three game stretch the week of March 5.**" (taken from page 15 of the Medford Transcript)

The Franklin-Pierce catcher has also established a new record with "103 consecutive games played". Anderson plays with the Franklin-Pierce Ravens. Congratulations Matt!

Congratulations to **Elise Daly**, who earned and advanced rating in Mathematics during the Scholastic Awards Ceremony at Medford High!

Dottie Palladino was pictured with several Columbus School children in the April 12 Medford Transcript. Dottie is a Friends of the Medford Public Library volunteer. The Friends have been working with the Medford Public Schools to promote reading and assist kindergartners in obtaining their first library card.

Kudos to **Stephanie Duato**, who has been volunteering in the church office each Thursday. Stephanie is helping Donna, our parish administrator, with the preparation of Sunday bulletins, the newsletter, and other administrative tasks. Many thanks Stephanie!

Oscar H. Greene's son, Dr. Oscar H. Greene Jr., is a dentist in Londonderry, NH. A wonderful article about Dr. Greene's skills was written by one of his patients, John Edmondson, and printed in the Derry News on 2/7/2007. The Title is "Visiting"

the Dentist a Pleasure, Not a Pain". I think all of us can agree that for a dentist this is high praise indeed! A copy of this article is on the bulletin board in Grace Church. Due to copyright issues it is very regretfully not reprinted here in the newsletter.

BALANCING THE STATE BUDGET

A town meeting briefing is going to be held on May 1, 7-9pm at the Century Bank on 400 Mystic Ave. in Medford. It will focus on what is being done to balance the FY 2008 Mass. State Budget, and how budget decisions will affect **you and your town**. The meeting is sponsored by Senator Patricia D. Jehlen, and features the following panelists:



David Sullivan, Legal Counsel, Governor's Office of Administration and Finance
Noah Berger, Executive Director of the Mass. Budget and Policy Center

Carl Nilsson & Rebecca Gewirtz, Campaign to Close Corporate Tax Loopholes

Members of the audience will have the opportunity to contribute ideas and ask questions. Refreshments will be served. For more information please contact Senator Jehlen's office at 617-722-1578

PALM SUNDAY REPORT

Please go to the final page of the newsletter to see some wonderful photos of the day

Under the direction of playwright Laura Duggan, the **Grace Church Parable Players** presented a heart-felt vision of Christ's Passion. On Palm Sunday the group presented the story of Jesus' last week in Jerusalem during the 10am service. The inter-generational cast worked beautifully together, and the costumes were wonderful. Their work helped bring the message of Palm Sunday to all of us. Thank you Laura, and Players!

The St. Joseph's congregation joined us on Palm Sunday on the front lawn of Grace Church to bless the palms. This is now a Palm Sunday tradition for both the Grace Church and



the St. Joseph's parishes. A beautifully sunny day worked with us all to make Palm Sunday glow with joy and meaning.

OLD FASHIONED "HYMN SING!"

Once upon a time area churches in Medford routinely held a 'Hymn Sing 'on Sunday evenings. Parishioners would return to their church for an hour so to join in fellowship and for the joy of singing favorite hymns. The gatherings were popular and fairly well attended.

Recently the Medford Council of Churches decided that it would be fun to take a step back in time and have an old fashioned 'Hymn Sing and has invited every church in the City to participate. The hope is that several people from different churches will choose hymns ahead of time and speak about the background of the hymns and/or their writers. The event takes place on Sunday, May 20th at the Community Baptist Church, 470 Fulton Street at 3:00p.m. Light refreshments will be served. If you have any questions or need a ride, please call Dottie Palladino, 781-391-2096



Submitted by Dottie Palladino

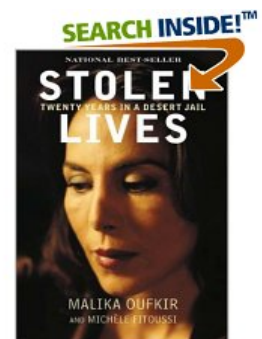
WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB INFORMATION!

Women's Book Club Upcoming Readings & Meetings:

Thursday May 10, 7pm
At the home of Beverly Convery

Stolen Lives:
20 Years in a Desert Jail (available at Amazon.com in paperback for about \$10!) by Malika Oufkir :

description from Amazon.com: *At the age of 5, Malika Oufkir, eldest daughter of General*



Oufkir, was adopted by King Muhammad V of Morocco and sent to live in the palace as part of the royal court. There she led a life of unimaginable privilege and luxury alongside the king's own daughter. King Hassan II ascended the throne following Muhammad V's death, and in 1972 General Oufkir was found guilty of treason after staging a coup against the new regime, and was summarily executed. Immediately afterward, Malika, her mother, and her five siblings were arrested and imprisoned, despite having no prior knowledge of the coup attempt.

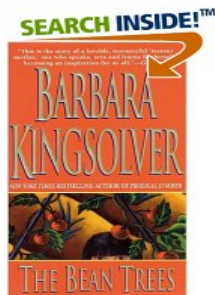
They were first held in an abandoned fort, where they ate moderately well and were allowed to keep some of their fine clothing and books. Conditions steadily deteriorated, and the family was eventually transferred to a remote desert prison, where they suffered a decade of solitary confinement, torture, starvation, and the complete absence of sunlight. Oufkir's horrifying descriptions of the conditions are mesmerizing, particularly when contrasted with her earlier life in the royal court, and many graphic images will long haunt readers. Finally, teetering on the edge of madness and aware that they had been left to die, Oufkir and her siblings managed to tunnel out using their bare hands and teaspoons, only to be caught days later. Her account of their final flight to freedom makes for breathtaking reading. Stolen Lives is a remarkable book of unfathomable deprivation and the power of the human will to survive.

Thursday, July 12th, 7pm
[place to be decided]

The Bean Trees, by Barbara Kingsolver.

From Publishers Weekly

Feisty Marietta Greer changes her name to "Taylor" when her car runs out of gas in Taylorville, Ill. By the time she reaches Oklahoma, this strong-willed young Kentucky native with a quick tongue and an open mind is catapulted into a surprising new life.



Thursday, September 13th, 7pm
[place to be decided]:

a novel by Pearl S. Buck--title still to be decided by the group.

Submitted by Julia Lisella



"SPONSOR A LESSON" FUNDRAISER



For several weeks now the "Sponsor a Lesson" fundraiser for the Wednesday Night Children's Bible Study has been going strong. The generosity of the Grace Church parishioners has been absolutely bountiful. We have been able to purchase ?????? lessons, including the following:

The Parable of the Good Samaritan
The Parable of the Great Pearl
The Parable of the Sower
The Parable of the Leaven
Parable of the Great Banquet
The Parable of the Deep Well (rabbinical tradition, helping to answer the question "what is a parable?")
The Parable of Parables (a story written by Jerome Berryman, who created Godly Play, to help children understand what a parable is)

We already own the Parable of the Good Shepherd and the Parable of the Mustard Seed.

During the Spring Session (April 25 through June 20, 2007) the children will be focusing on the Parables, with a couple of weeks used to teach the children about Pentecost. Deb's younger group will also repeat the lesson about Baptism because a couple of our Wednesday Night students have recently been baptized. Abby and Emily Brady were baptized on Easter Day!

We also have been able to purchase the following stories, which will be used in the 2007/2008 season:

The Story of Samuel
The Story of Jacob
The Story of Ruth
The Epiphany
Paul's Discovery
The Prophets
Jonah the Backward Prophet

There are still many lessons to be purchased. Maria would like to do a whole session focusing on the prophets. With the funds already raised we have been able to purchase the two basic Godly Play prophet lessons, "The Prophets", and "Jonah the Backwards Prophet". Getting all of the prophet stories will be our next goal! Consider sponsoring one if you have a favorite prophet. The lessons we will need for 2007/2008 are:

The Story of the Prophet Elijah
 The Story of the Prophet Jeremiah
 The Story of the Prophet Ezekiel

Maria Fenn and I knew Grace Church would help out with the fundraiser, but we both feel blessed by the strong support. Please know that all of our teachers will be thinking of all of you, every time we take out one of these beautiful stories, so loved by our children. Your gift is a gift to the children. Thank you all so much.



TWEEN/TEEN GROUP UPDATE

Grace Church's Tween/Teen Group will meet twice in May! On May 6th they will join the Walk for Hunger (see page 3 for details on the Grace Church walk team). The teens and tweens in our parish are a strong force, and are doing some good work!

On May 20th the group will have its monthly meeting, with NOOMA video : "**Sunday**" , snacks and beverages. The meeting begins at 6:30pm, and ends at 8:00pm. Group members should feel free to bring a friend along.

If anyone needs a ride, please let Maria Fenn know before the 20th, at fennways@verizon.net, or 781-

Parents: please pick up the kids at 8:00pm sharp!



CLOTHING PANTRY COMING UP IN JUNE!

Maria Fenn is running her very successful (and needed) clothing pantry on Saturday, June 9 from 8am-4pm. The Tween/Teen Group is going to be helping Maria out with some of the set-up, distribution, and break-down, but she needs more volunteers on both Friday, June 8 (set up begins at 4pm) and June 9 to make this event run smoothly.

Please sort through your clothing and shoes, and consider donating whatever is in good condition to this ministry. Spring and summer clothes are especially needed for this particular pantry, but clothing for any season will be gratefully accepted.

Let Maria know if you can volunteer a couple of hours to help her out on June 8 and 9.



GRACEWORKS WISH LIST: CAN YOU HELP?

GraceWorks is thriving and looking great! Coreen Gauvin, the Director of the program, invites anyone who wishes, to drop by and visit anytime. She would love to give you a tour.

GraceWorks is always looking for fun and stimulating activities for the children. Right now the program is hoping to get some plants started. They could use donations of the following:

Potting soil and flower seeds

For drawing activities they need:

Dry erase markers and erasers

And finally, for homework hour they can use:

pencils

Please come by and visit, and thanks for your support!

LETTERS

By Oscar H. Greene

The heart, when it speaks, often speaks more beautifully than the mind. – Irving Stone



Pierre Bonnard (1867-1947)
Girl Writing

In early March, I received an unexpected thank you from Julianne, a twelve-year old miss, living in Burlington. Her note was so gracious and so sincere it will serve as a bookmark to be read again and again.

Recently I stumbled upon a mint-condition copy of HOW TO WRITE LETTERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS, by Mary S. Allen. This book, published in 1942, had been hurled into the trash. Perhaps the reduction in telephone costs and the ease of e-mail have made letter writing a thing of the past. It seems that way. Or as Dorothy Gracey of Delhi, New York says, "People who enjoy writing, rarely understand what a chore writing is for those who don't." Dorothy, now 81, is a news reporter and a *Daily Guideposts* reader.



Letters continue to touch our lives. Many Sundays, we listen to the letters of St. Paul that were written to the Christian churches he founded. These letters may be found in First and Second Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, First and Second Thessalonians, First and Second Timothy, Titus, and Philemon. First Corinthians, Chapter 13, remains a fixture at many weddings. The twelve Letters of Paul, written between A.D. 40 and A.D. 67, are filled with wisdom, love, guidance, and direction. They are sometimes scolding, yet they are timeless, and they remain untarnished despite their age.

None of us possesses the intensity and zeal of St. Paul. Yet the opportunity to reach out and to touch the lives and hearts of others remains unchanged.

Speaking of letters, during August 1987, I received a hand-written note from Betty Rodgers living in Pasadena, California. Betty was a *Daily Guideposts* reader, who was touched by a devotional I had written. We exchanged letters until her death in 2001.

Time passed before I learned Betty wrote her sister, who lived in Southern California, a two-page single-spaced typed letter each day until the sister



died. Betty also saved on file 100,000 letters. Among them was one from Bing Crosby, who dictated 70 letters each day.

Betty began her letter writing in Parksville, Mississippi, when she was eight years old. She discovered a pen pal column in Wee Wisdom

magazine, and she wrote children in Africa, Australia, Idaho, New Hampshire, and Ohio. Seventy years later, Betty was still corresponding with three of the original pen pals.

Famous authors, entertainers, and ministers have written to Betty. She treasured a letter she received from Buckingham Palace dated October 30, 1937.

Each year Betty sent Christmas cards with messages enclosed to 600 pen pals. She began writing on January 1st, and by mid-December the cards were ready. In a letter received from Betty, she spoke of graduating from college in the morning, then rushing to church to be married that afternoon. This is the Betty, who wrote letters each day and sponsored tea gatherings at two in the morning.



People say, a letter never loses its warmth or its joy no matter how many years have passed. There is magic in showing you care.

To whom have you written today?

THE END



May 2007 Birthdays

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



- 05/04 Laura Owen
- 05/05 June Pietrantonio
- 05/06 Myra Skeete, Anthony Rizzo
- 05/16 Chioma Opara
- 05/17 Ann Bogrette
- 05/20 Flora Lohnes, Carol Williams
- 05/21 Elianna Viggiani
- 05/24 Hailey Welch
- 05/26 Jane Scherban, Daniel Nwachukwu, Dagny Crowley
- 05/28 Oscar Greene
- 05/29 Frank Burger, Sharyn Perrotti
- 05/31 Janna Davis

GRACE CHURCH PARISH LEADERSHIP

Clergy & Staff:

THE REV. THOMAS R. COOK, Rector
 THE REV. 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, JEAN SPIERS

Ministries:

Acolytes & Ushers: LINDA FOOTE, JILL CAPUCCIO

Altar Guild: CAROLYN ROGERS, DIRECTOR, RUBY GREENE, DIRECTOR EMERITA

Annual Church Fair: RUTHANNE PEARSON AND DOTTIE PALLADINO

Annual Pledging & Stewardship: JANE SCHERBAN

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

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, MARGARET SMIST, JANE SCHERBAN, NAIDA GAVRELIS,
 STEVE DUGGAN

Food Donation Ministry: CAROL THOMPSON, BEVERLY CONVERY

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

Hospitality: BEVERLY CONVERY

Medford Council of Churches: HALLIE LEE

Newcomers: DAVID LEE

Newsletter: DEBORAH SMITH, STEPHANIE DUATO, DONNA GARGIULO, & VOLUNTEERS

Scholarship Committee: BRANWEN SMITH KING

Tween/Teen Group: MARIA FENN

Web: JASON CLUGGISH

Wednesday Night Children's Bible Study: THE VESTRY, FATHER TOM COOK, MARIA FENN AND DEB SMITH
Women's Book Club: JULIA LISELLA

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