



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

WWW.GRACEMEDFORD.ORG



AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

Sunday School Easter Celebration
at Colleen's

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

Teen Group meets – 6:30

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

Ladies' Book Club Meeting

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

Deacon Ted Gaiser will hold a forum immediately following the 10 AM Eucharist. He will discuss his recent diocesan mission trip to Tanzania.

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

Food Pantry Children's Field Trip

SUNDAY, MAY 4

Walk For Hunger

SUNDAY, MAY 11

Pentecost Celebration

Please see inside for detailed information regarding listed events

FROM THE PRIEST IN CHARGE:

It has been so wonderful to be here over the last few weeks. The warm reception for both me and my family on my first Sunday, celebrating Palm Sunday and Holy Week with you all - it really has been a blessing.

There is such great energy at Grace Church; the spirit is certainly alive here. I love the children all around, and people of all generations, backgrounds and walks of life praying and worshipping together and living life in Christian community. The life of the Church gives us a glimpse of the Kingdom of God, a promise Grace is certainly living into.

Over the next few weeks, I hope to hear from you. I would love to have a chance to sit down and get to know each of you and your families.

Please email me or give me a call so that we can find time, you can come see me in my office or I am happy to come to your home. I plan to be in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Most Wednesdays I will be at Church for the Godly Play classes and dinner, so that is the time I will regularly be available during evening hours.

Over the next few weeks and months I hope to spend a lot of time learning about Grace Church and listening to each of you.

Grace has an important story to tell to the greater church and the world, a story of faith, hope and diversity. I want to hear this story and be part of it so that I can tell it, too.

God has given this parish many gifts. I am glad to be here with you.

Peace,

The Reverend Noah H. Evans

Phone: 781-396-7215

Email: graceclergy@verizon.net

PENTECOST CELEBRATION!

Do you speak another language? Pentecost, May 11, is the birthday of the Church and the festival where we celebrate the disciples speaking in all of the languages of the world. We will be reading one of the lessons that day in many different languages. If you speak another language and are willing to participate, please let Noah know (Graceclergy@verizon.net or 781-396-7215). You will only have to read two lines, so amateur linguists are welcome.

WALK FOR HUNGER: SERVICE TIME CHANGE MAY 4

On Sunday, May 4 Grace Church will be doing the Walk For Hunger. We will gather at 7:30 AM in the Church for a pre-walk service. There will not be an 8:00 AM service that day, however, a 10:00 AM celebration of Morning Prayer will be led by Deacon Ted.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

Sunday School Easter Celebration at Colleen's!! The children of Grace Church will celebrate Easter by gathering at Colleen's for grilled cheese sandwiches and ice cream immediately after the 10 am service. Many thanks to Warren Ramirez for suggesting and generously funding this event.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

Deacon Ted Gaiser will hold a forum immediately following the 10 AM Eucharist. He will discuss his recent diocesan mission trip to Tanzania.

SUNDAY, MAY 4

Walk For Hunger - please plan to walk with the Grace Church team. More details to follow.

BRANTWOOD CAMP

Although the snow is still piled up outside, it's not too late to start thinking about Summer Camp for your son or daughter. Grace Church still participates in the Brantwood Camp program, which it has done for the last 80 years or so. There are three 2 week terms available. Brantwood is located in Peterborough, NH with access to the mountains, Silver Lake, pool and athletic fields. Boys and girls between the ages of 11 and 15 are eligible. This is a wonderful opportunity and at a cost of \$ 250 per two week period. It is a bargain. If you would like more information about the camp, please contact Wes Foote in Church or at 781-396-5487.

GO TO CAMP!

The Diocese of Massachusetts' Barbara C. Harris Camp is one of the finest Christian camps in the country. It is open to all kids, grades 3-10. Pastor Noah is on the Board of the Camp, and has served as a camp chaplain for a week during the summer the last few years, and will be a Camp Chaplain during the week of July 13-19 this summer. Please look in the parish entryway for brochures, or visit www.bchcenter.org for more information. Generous camp scholarships are available, please see Noah if for more information.

THIS SUMMER, LET'S HAVE JULY 13-19 BE GRACE CHURCH WEEK AT CAMP!!!

WHY I WALK

by Julia Lisella

Quietly, steadily, a small group of Grace Church parishioners, and sometimes other fellow Medford citizens, has taken to the streets the second Saturday morning of each month to affirm our faith in peace. We've been walking for more than a year now, some of us more than others, through summer sun and winter winds. You may have seen us once or twice. We walk the same path, beginning in Medford Square, heading down High Street, rounding the corner across from City Hall, heading along Riverside Avenue and down straight along High Street to West Medford Square. We carry one large banner that says WALK FOR PEACE. You're not likely to hear anti-war slogans or any other political jargon from us, though. If you beep and smile (because mainly, at 9:30 on a Saturday morning we pass more motorists than pedestrians), one or two of us might wave or hold our fingers up in that slightly anachronistic '60s style peace sign. If you sneer or yell at us or scream an obscenity we may still smile, or just look straight ahead and walk.

Lately, I've been trying to articulate the reasons why I walk. Some days, there are so few of us. Sometimes there are five walkers, sometimes ten, sometimes just three or four. Still, this group walks. Many times, my own life fills up with that crazy empty busyness of children's appointments and lessons, cars taken to the garage, grocery shopping, and then it is 10 or 10:30 and I realize I've forgotten my call to witness that day and it makes me feel awful. But I push aside these rather self-centered feelings of guilt, mainly because I know this faithful act gets enacted with or without me. The walking is happening on the streets of my town in that moment, and I can join them again the following month. I can even "join" them in that moment of regaining my consciousness of what matters, in prayer.

Walking seems like such a simple gesture, but walking behind a banner marked with a large peace symbol changes the nature of that walk, makes that act public and political. That can really feel scary. It can also feel somewhat outmoded and ineffectual. Around the world, human beings are caught in the crossfire of policies based on terror, fear, death, and power. In the face of that noise, advocating peace by walking through our neighborhood streets may seem vaguely small and mild. It may also seem like too little too late. It might even seem too easy. Yet for all its limitations, this form of protest, walking in a group with a sign, is my definitive act—my way of acknowledging that what happens thousands of miles away or just down the road matters equally here in my town where my children will continue to grow up and to learn what it means to be a citizen of the world. The brochure we hand out to curious by-passers says "all of us desire a way of life that is more encouraging of peace and less dependent upon militarism as a means of national achievement and as a basis for human relationship." Our act of walking is a kind of prayer, but for me, it is also an act of political resistance; I'm beginning to understand that I don't want to separate those two acts very much. Some of the most powerful, dramatic, culture-changing shifts of reform in this country have taken place through patience and prayer. So, I walk because of my faith that there is power in bearing witness; there is power in showing up to hold up a mirror to the culture—by carrying a banner that says WALK FOR PEACE I can help remind others that there isn't any peace right now and that there needs to be.

Does Washington hear us? Maybe not. But, if each step is a prayer and we believe in the power of prayer, how can our footsteps not be heard?

For more information about the peace walk, contact Jane Scherban, our fellow parishioner who organizes the walk, or email medfordwalkforpeace@yahoo.com or simply meet us on the second Saturday of the month in front of Colleen's Ice Cream and Sandwich Shop at 9:30, or meet up with us anywhere along our route. Our route is wheelchair maneuverable; kids and dogs are welcome, too.

DEACON TED TO SPEAK AT 4/13 ADULT FORUM

Our Deacon, Ted Gaiser, will hold an adult forum immediately following the 10 AM Eucharist on Sunday, April 13. He will discuss his recent Diocesan mission trip to Tanzania, Africa. Ted was 'on the road' for two weeks and visited a home for the elderly, a Deanery supported HIV program and an orphanage.

LET LOVE BE WITHOUT DISSIMULATION. ROMANS 12:9

The hand-written invitation from a couple living in California read, "With laughter, tears, understanding, friendship and love, we have come together and grown. We hope you will be with us in Lexington, Massachusetts, to share our special happiness."

We sat in the chapel on Sunday afternoon, awaiting the couple, who traveled 3,000 miles to become man and wife. Yet the chapel setting was plain – too plain. There was no wedding gown or tuxedo, and the pastor was without clerical robe. A tiny organ, an antique chair, and an unadorned altar served as background.

But when the couple entered and the ceremony began, a warmth, nurtured over the months, and from across the miles, filled the chapel. The glow centered upon an exchange of bracelets rather than rings, with each saying, "This bracelet is endless, and so is my love."

The power of their love had reached across the miles and brought us together. Their love had chosen a plain setting, much like the stable where our Savior was born. It showed in our faces and reflected from our hearts. We were sharing a special happiness, and in what better place than His house of worship.

Submitted by Oscar H. Greene

MESSAGE RECEIVED

I just sent you an e-mail a few minutes ago but forgot to tell you that we live in Vancouver, Washington. Perhaps in God's good providence we will meet in the future. I was in Boston one time before we got to know Oscar. I have been a reader of his excellent writings, book and devotions.

In God's Service, Ray and Carol Gilbert

FOOD PANTRY

The children of Grace Church Sunday School will be taking a field trip to the Food Pantry at the Unitarian Church, 147 High Street, Medford on April 27 2008 at 10:00 am. This lesson pertains to the hunger curriculum the children will be learning. The following Sunday, May 4, 2008 will be the Walk for Hunger. We will be asking families to donate a bag of groceries that the children will bring to the food pantry. More information to follow in the coming weeks leading up to the field trip.

Thank you. Linda Rogers

THEY'RE BACK! THOSE WONDERFUL CHURCH BULLETINS!

*Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences appeared in church bulletins or were announced during church services (Summer, 2007 Release). They are all **actual faux pas!***

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.

Don't let worry kill you offlet the Church help.

KOKA SCHOLARSHIP

KOKA is intending to award a Scholarship this year. Eligibility is open to any Parish member going on to College this Fall. Those interested should contact John Schlesinger for more details.

BOOK CLUB

Our next book club meeting is Thursday April 10th at 7pm. Adele Travisano has graciously offered us her home for the meeting, 145 Winthrop Street, Medford. Call 395-7542 for directions. The title of the book is At Play in the Fields of the Lord by Peter Matthiessen. Feel free to bring a friend and come even if you haven't finished the whole book. We're a very forgiving book club!!

Submitted by Julia Lisella

CLOTHING PANTRY

Our semi-annual clothing pantry will be held in June. The Teen Group will be setting up for the pantry on Friday, June 6th at 4:00 pm. I will need help from any available parishioners in sorting clothing for the pantry. Sorting will be done on Sunday, April 20th and on Sunday May 18th, after the 10:00 am services. Please let us know if you available to help with sorting on either of these dates. I can be reached at 781-391-4825. Leave a message with Mike, my mother, Jude, myself or on the answering machine. There is a lot to be sorted and I really would appreciate any help. Thanks.

Submitted by Maria Fenn

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

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

Arthur Miles Jr.	04/04	James Williams	04/18
Michael Fenn	04/04	Michael Gaughan	04/20
Emily Capuccio	04/09	Tony Hale	04/22
James Deveney	04/09	Genita Johnson	04/22
Carol Thompson	04/10	Joseph Auner	04/24
Francesca Viggiani	04/11	Jill Capuccio	04/25
John Rogers Sr.	04/12	Carolyn Rogers	04/27
Danalee Williams	04/14	Elaine Young	04/29
Christopher Walker	04/14	Gary Williams	04/29
Emily Brady	04/17	Jennifer Anderson	04/30
		John Rogers Jr.	04/30

GRACE CHURCH PARISH LEADERSHIP

Clergy & Staff:

THE REV. NOAH EVANS, Priest in Charge
THE REV. DR. TED J. GAISER, Deacon
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, DAVID LEE, KATHY MUMMA, RAY PARDY, JUNE PIETRANTONI, JIM PEARSON, JR., WARREN RAMIREZ, LARRY ROGERS, BRANWEN SMITH-KING & JEAN SPIERS

Ministries:

Acolytes & Ushers: LINDA FOOTE, JILL CAPUCCIO
Altar Guild: CAROLYN ROGERS, DIRECTOR, RUBY GREENE, DIRECTOR EMERIT A
Annual Church Fair: LAURA & STEVE DUGGAN
Annual Pledging & Stewardship: JANE SCHERBAN
Bell Tower Restoration Committee: ALLISON ANDREWS, SARAH CLUGGISH, 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 Representatives: ALLISON ANDREWS, BRUCE CLOMPUS, DOTTIE PALADINO, JANE SCHERBAN
Diocesan Delegates: JAMES KLASSEN, MARIA FENN
Alternate Delegate: HALLIE LEE
Episcopal City Mission: SUE MALTZ
Facilities Care: JIM PEARSON JR.
Executive Committee: STEVE DUGGAN, NAIDA GAVRELIS, MARGARET SMIST & JANE SCHERBAN
Food Donation Ministry: BEVERLY CONVERY & CAROL THOMPSON
GraceWorks Oversight Committee: STEPHANIE BRADY, LAURA DUGGAN, MIKE FENN, LISA MCCARTHY, BRENDA PEARSON, BRANWEN SMITH-KING & JANE SCHERBAN
Hospitality: NANCY & LARRY ROGERS
Medford Council of Churches Representative: CATHERINESMITH
Newcomers: DAVID LEE
Newsletter: JUDITH WALSH, EDITOR, DONNA GARGIULO & VOLUNTEERS
Scholarship Committee: BRANWEN SMITH-KING
Tween/Teen Group: MARIA FENN
Web: JASON CLUGGISH
Wednesday Night Children's Bible Study: MARIA FENN & 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

GRACE CHURCH - MEDFORD, MA
NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2008



Grace Episcopal Church
160 High Street
Medford, MA 02155