

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

WWW.GRACEMEDFORD.ORG

FROM THE PRIEST IN CHARGE

"The Millennium Development Goals give us an image, an icon or a lens, if you will, for how we can build the reign of God in our own day. They're achievable. They're achievable in less than 10 years if we can commit as nations and communities and individuals across the world to do it. That is remarkable! It's the first time in history when we have been able to say that it's possible to make poverty history. I think that's a great and glorious and incredibly engaging model for what it means to be church!"

The Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church

In the Sunday Summer Book Group, we have been reading *A Wing and a Prayer* by Katharine Jefferts Schori, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. It is a collection of essays and sermons that she wrote while she was serving as the Bishop of Nevada before her election as Presiding Bishop in 2006. In her book she writes with passion about the Millennium Development Goals as a means for Christian mission.

The United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are a method and a movement to completely eliminate global poverty within the next ten years. We have arrived at a unique point in history in which we possess the knowledge, skills and resources to meet the challenge to *make poverty history*. The Millennium Development Goals state that if all industrialized nations gave 0.7% of their GNP to the alleviation of extreme poverty, poverty will be eliminated on this planet within this generation. This means that to achieve these goals every individual, organization, church and government needs to join together in making the commitment to contribute 0.07% of their budget or income to the elimination of extreme poverty.

The ONE Campaign, led by U2's Bono and other celebrities, Episcopalians for Global Reconciliation and many other groups are all part of this movement. At the 2007 General Convention of the Episcopal Church the Millennium Development Goals were named the number one mission priority of the National Church over the next three-years. All of the Anglican Bishops who met in Lambeth, England last month marched in London to express their support for the Millennium Development Goals. Our presiding Bishop-elect, Katharine Jefferts Schori says these goals will be a major priority of her ministry as Presiding Bishop. The Diocese of Massachusetts along with over 50 other Episcopal Dioceses, hundreds of parishes and the National Episcopal Church, and many, many individuals have also joined in making the 0.7% commitment.

The MDGs are not just about charitable giving. Giving 0.7% of our incomes doesn't seem that much, and it isn't. Think about just skipping a few cups of coffee a week. The MDG commitment is also a movement, a community that is seeking to end extreme poverty worldwide.

In my own faith journey, I have struggled with what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. I have often wondered about what the point of our funny rituals and worship, our strange ecclesiastical outfits and titles and sometimes obscure and mysterious doctrine. But, it has always been clear to me that Jesus calls us to be with, and work on behalf of the poor. Therefore, the Church at its best is a community that is always seeking to serve and bring justice to the poor and the oppressed. As Bishop Katherine has said, the MDGs give us a model of what it means to be a church - joining together with those outside and inside our denomination to *make poverty history*.

This month, Deacon Ted and Matt Fenn are traveling to Ecuador. Their work there is about being a church that serves and works on behalf of the poor. As they go, we all travel with them in their work. This is one way we are helping to *make poverty history*. What else are we, or are you, being called to do right now? This is the time, and we are the people who can make poverty history. If we don't do it, who will?

Peace,
The Reverend Noah H. Evans
graceclergy@verizon.net
781-396-7215

AUGUST AT A GLANCE

2008 SUMMER SUNDAY SCHEDULE

It has been decided to again hold one 9 am Eucharist from Sunday, July 6 through Sunday, August 31 (11 weeks). This gives our 8 am parishioners the opportunity to meet our 10 am parishioners, and it also allows us all to enjoy a bit more of those long, lazy days of summer. If you have any questions regarding the summer schedule change, please feel free to speak to Father Noah or any member of your Vestry.

Nursery care will not be provided during the summer months.

Submitted by Margaret Smist

Please see inside for detailed information regarding listed events



FALL 2008 CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAM SCHEDULE AND NEEDS

After meeting with parents and hearing a lot of feedback, it has been decided to make some change to our Sunday School and Godly Play schedules starting in the Fall. In addition, in order to comply with Diocesan Safe Church standards we need to have at least two adults in every classroom. If you have questions or comments, or are ready to learn more about teaching and leading our children and youth, please contact any member of the ad hoc children and youth committee (Noah Evans, Maria Fenn, John Rogers, Catherine Smith, Deb Smith and Ivy Smith)

YOUTH EDUCATION – TEACHERS, ASSISTANTS & ACTIVITY COORDINATORS NEEDED

Preschool – 4th grade Sunday School class during the 10:00 o'clock service until the Peace when they come back to church. 5th-7th grade Sunday School class who will be in church and leave after receiving communion for their class. Each class must have a teacher and an assistant, the assistant helps with the class. If you feel you can't teach, you can volunteer to coordinate a preplanned activity often w/ the older children assisting, e.g. making valentine cards for Grace Church seniors and shut ins. If interested please speak to Catherine Smith or Fr. Noah.

MINISTRIES FAIR

Do you want to use the gifts that God gave you to carry on Christ's work taking your place in the life of Grace church, worship and governance?

Save the Date

On Sunday September 14th, after the 10 am Eucharist service, Grace church will host our Annual Ministries Fair. This is the opportunity to learn about the many ministries in our church and sign up to actively participate. We look forward to seeing you on that day.

WEDNESDAY GODLY PLAY

Wednesday Night Godly Play dinner will be moved to 6:00-6:45, and then Godly Play Class I (preschool-3rd grade) & Class II (4th-7th grade) will meet from 6:45-7:45. There will also be occasional adult education at 6:45 on Wednesdays throughout the year.

NEEDS:

- At least two new trained Godly Play teachers. (There is a two-day training offered in September; if two people agree to go, Noah will also join them for the training.)
- Several adults to regularly serve as classroom "greeters" to assist with classes

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Preschool – 4th grade Sunday School class will continue to meet during the 10:00 service, with the kids entering church at the Peace. The 5th-7th grade class will be in church, and leave immediately after receiving communion for class during the last few minutes of the service and coffee hour. We decided to move this class time because of the ability for the older kids to sit through and fully participate in church and the increased involvement of these kids as acolytes and readers.

NEEDS:

- At least two, preferably four, new teachers to join in teaching Sunday school for either class.
- Classroom Assistants to help with the class and serve as the second adult in the classroom

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation Class Begins in September

Beginning in September, youth in grade eight and up will begin to prepare for Confirmation in May 2009. The Confirmation classes will be on Wednesdays, September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 22 & 29 at 6:45PM. We will then meet again for several weeks in January, and again for a service project in the spring. There is also a required Diocesan Confirmation retreat with Bishop Shaw at the Diocesan Camp and Conference Center March 20-21. Grace Church will also be hosting the Mystic Valley Deanery Confirmation service on May 30, 2009 (mark your calendars!). For more information, please speak to Noah Evans.



A PRAYER BY ARCHBISHOP OSCAR ROMERO, **(B. 1917- D.1980)**

A number of people have asked for the Poem that I read in my sermon in mid-July by Oscar Romero. Please find it below. Peace, Noah

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.
The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.
We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.
Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.
No statement says all that could be said.
No prayer fully expresses our faith.
No confession brings perfection.
No pastoral visit brings wholeness.
No program accomplishes the church's mission.
No set of goals and objectives includes everything.
This is what we are about.
We plant the seeds that one day will grow.
We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promises.
We lay foundations that will need further development.
We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.
We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation, in realizing that.
This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.
It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.
We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.
We are workers, not master builders; ministers not messiahs.
We are prophets of a future not our own.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING FAIRE AND LOBSTER LUNCH COMETH IN NOVEMBER

Two major fund raisers at Grace Church will make their return before Thanksgiving: the Lobster Lunch on Friday, November 14th, from noon to 1:30 and the Thanksgiving Faire on Saturday, November 22nd, from 9:00 to 5:00. Jean Spiers has graciously agreed to again chair the Lobster Lunch, and Laura and Steve Duggan will return as the co-chairs of the Faire. Allison Andrews will woman the famous Grace Church Silver Tea scheduled from 1:00 to 3:00. Linda Foote and Company will be fired up for Grilled Fare from 11:00 to 2:00. Ruth Roper will make a return performance as Trash and Treasure Diva. Gift Baskets by Margaret Smist will be ready for purchase, too. Look for the return of baked goods, jewelry, scarves, handcrafts, Christmas wreaths, toys, and a silent raffle!

What can you do to help make our fund raisers a success? Contact Steve and Laura at 781-395-4397 or Irduggan@aol.com and volunteer to help. We need people for Faire set-up and clean-up, and to man or woman tables. You can save all of your trash and treasure over the summer for Diva Ruth. Say, Yes, when asked to bake for The Silver Tea or bake table. You can call Jean at 781-396-2128 and agree to get take out orders and / or prepare the rolls of lobster or chicken and serve the walk-in luncheon costumers. If you have a great new Idea for the Faire, don't hesitate to tell either Laura or Steve in church! There will be a Faire meeting early in September.

We all have talents that can be used at the Faire. The Lord wants us to use them! Harken...come all ye to the Lobster Luncheon and Thanksgiving Faire!

Submitted by Laura Duggan



SUMMER BOOK GROUP

During July and August join with Noah after the 9:00AM Service for a discussion of Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori's book, *A Wing and a Prayer: A Message of Faith and Hope (Morehouse, 2007)*. This book is a collection of sermons and essays written by Bishop Katharine. She brings an interesting perspective on life and faith, with a background as a scientist, mother and the first female Presiding Bishop. Come to one session, or the whole series – even if you haven't had a chance to read the book! Books are available from most online booksellers, or will be for sale in the Parish Office in mid-June. For more information, please contact Noah Evans at 781-396-7215 or graceclergy@verizon.net.

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Naida Gavrelis reported on the projects of the newly formed Finance Committee. Recommendations were made to Vestry on the refinance of the Rectory and the financial management of unrestricted bequests. Vestry voted to approve both of the Finance Committee's recommendations. Naida gave a special thank you to Bill Honeycutt for all his work to help determine our best mortgage options. (For more detail see Vestry Minutes posted in the Parish Hall.)

Margaret Smist distributed to Vestry a working draft of Grace Church Goals put together by Naida Gavrelis as result of the Vestry Retreat discussion in May. Vestry will review, discuss, and organize the implementation of the proposed goals in the coming months. It was noted that some of the goals have already been checked off as completed.

Noah discussed three budget items he would like to see in the 2009 budget. They are: a cost of living raise for all staff members, a budget line for outreach, and a maintenance budget, which reflects the needs of the church. Noah commented that he would like to see a solid draft budget in place prior to the start of the Stewardship Campaign. He noted that the 2009 Stewardship Committee is in the process of being formed. Members thus far agreeing to serve on the committee are: Noah Evans, Margaret Smist, Jane Scherban, Wes Foote, Jr., and Steve Viggiani. Noah is looking for one more person to serve on the committee.

Submitted by Jane Scherban, Clerk

BELL TOWER COMMITTEE NEWS

The Bell Tower Restoration Committee continues to meet and plan. Recently, an update presentation was made to the Parish after Sunday services. A small crowd was present to hear the latest.

As previously mentioned, a matching grant has been submitted and we expect to hear the outcome by the end of the year. Funds will need to be raised to match the grant and reach the total cost of restoration. Several parishioners have made contributions to the effort and we thank them for their gifts.

A note of historical interest... the Brooks Estate in West Medford recently held an open house and tour. Grace Church has a special connection to the Brooks family, as it was Mrs. Ellen Brooks who paid for the building in 1868. The Brooks Estate, as it is now known, was the summer home of her son, Shepherd Brooks. His brother, Peter Chardon Brooks, summered in his own home nearby (no longer standing). The two sons donated the Rebecca at the Well window in memory of their mother, in 1884.

Submitted by: Allison Andrews

HELP WANTED

The bookshelves in the Church hall are overflowing. I'm looking for some help to sort used books, find a good home for books that aren't moving, and make room for new contributions. Ideally, I'd like to find someone who would like to take over this ministry by the fall. If you are interested in coordinating the Used Books for Fairly Traded Coffee, or just want to help now and then, please email Julia Lisella at julisella@comcast.net or call at 781-391-3919.

Submitted by Julia Lisella

ATTITUDE

Author Unknown

There once was a woman who woke up one morning, looked in the mirror, and noticed she had only three hairs on her head.

'Well,' she said, 'I think I'll braid my hair today.'

So she did and she had a wonderful day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and saw that she had only two hairs on her head. 'H-M-M,' she said, 'Think I'll part my hair down the middle today.'

So she did and she had a grand day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and noticed that she had only one hair on her head. 'Well,' she said, 'today I'm going to wear my hair in a pony tail.'

So she did and she had a fun, fun day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and noticed that there wasn't a single hair on her head.

'YAY!' she exclaimed. 'I don't have to fix my hair today!'

Attitude is everything.

Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.

Live simply,
Love generously,
Care deeply,
Speak kindly.....

Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass...It's about learning to dance in the rain.

Contributed by Donna Gargiulo, Ray and Carol Gilbert

MILDRED'S POETRY CORNER

Happiness is many things...
Perhaps another dawn,
A big full moon that's shining down,
A star to wish upon;
It's what we feel within our hearts
That brings a restful peace,
It's home and friends and loved ones dear...
Happiness is these.

*From a poem by Garnett Ann Schultz
Submitted by Mildred Spencer*

Mildred Spencer, is now back at her home. Mildred is doing quite well and is very happy to be back in her home of many years. Arrangements have been made to assure that Mildred will be picked up and brought to her usual Sunday service.

Submitted by Jude Walsh and Maria Fenn

MADELINE BLODGETT HAS MOVED

Please put an announcement in the next church bulletin that my mother, Madeline Blodgett moved in mid-July to Greenbriar Terrace Healthcare, Alcott Suite, 55 Harris Road, Nashua, NH 03062.

Thank you, Elaine Durkee

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Hello All,

Originally we were going to meet in August, but I've received lots of emails suggesting that putting off the meeting might be a good idea! So we'll meet in September if that works for all. Usually we'll be meeting the 2nd Thursday, but that date's complicated for some so we're aiming for the following:

Women's Book Club

Thursday, September 18, 7pm

At the home of Beverly Convery

(if you need her phone or address email me at jlisella@comcast.net)

Reading The Shack (available on amazon.com)

P.S. And finally, if you know of women who might be interested in joining us, can you forward this email or send me their addresses? Thanks much!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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

Adam Chiodi	08/04	Lori Schlesinger	08/23
Mary Thompson	08/05	Gordon Candow	08/24
Samantha Candow	08/05	Linda Foote	08/25
Elaine Gaughan	08/17	Adam Pearson	08/26
Joan Pappalardo	08/18	Jeana Zafiris	08/26
Nanci Palladino	08/19	Fr. Noah Evans	08/27
John Hourihan	08/19	Taylor Beebee	08/29
Keith Corcoran	08/22	Elizabeth Beatrice	08/30
Tara Hourihan	08/22		

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, Minister 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, JUNE PIETRANTONI,
WARREN RAMIREZ , LARRY ROGERS, BRANWEN SMITH-KING, JEAN SPIERS

Ministries:

Acolytes & Ushers: LINDA FOOTE, JILL CAPUCCIO
Altar Guild: CAROLYN ROGERS, DIRECTRESS, RUBY GREENE, DIRECTRESS 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): CATHERINE SMITH
Clothing Pantry: MARIA FENN
Communications: MARGARET SMIST
Deanery Representatives: ALLISON ANDREWS, BRAD CLOMPUS, DOTTIE PALLADINO,
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 SHERBAN
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,
ABBY WILLIAMSON
Hospitality: NANCY & LARRY ROGERS
Medford Council of Churches Representative: CATHERINE SMITH
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

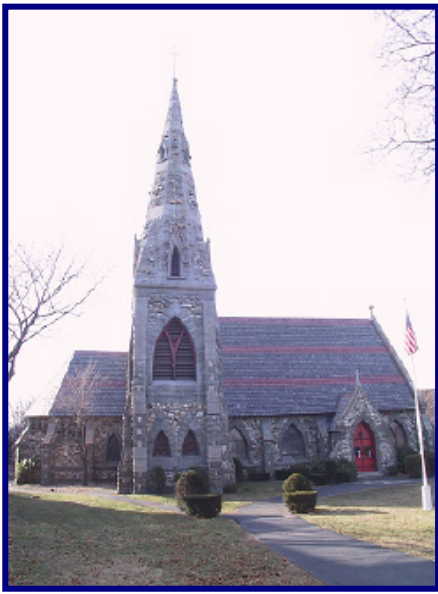
AUGUST 2008



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 8:30 AM Prayer Group 9:00 AM H E Rite II & BAPTISM 10:30 AM Summer Book Group	28 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	29 10:00 AM Noah/Donna Meeting 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	30 12:30 PM Al-anon	31 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM Choir Practice	1 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:00 PM AA Meeting	2 9:00 AM Al-anon
3 9:00 AM H E Rite II 10:30 AM Summer Book Group	4 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	5 9:00 AM ADT Service call 10:00 AM Noah/Donna Meeting 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	6 12:30 PM Al-anon	7 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM Choir Practice 8:30 PM Safe Place	8 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:00 PM AA Meeting	9 9:00 AM Al-anon 9:30 AM Peace Walk
10 No Kenyan Fellowship Meeting Today 8:30 AM Prayer Group 9:00 AM H E Rite II 10:30 AM Summer Book Group 1:00 PM Mumma Baby Shower	11 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	12 10:00 AM Noah/Donna Meeting 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	13 12:30 PM Al-anon	14 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM Choir Practice	15 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:00 PM AA Meeting	16 9:00 AM Al-anon
17 9:00 AM H E Rite II 10:30 AM Summer Book Group 12:00 PM Grace Church Day at Wright's Pond	18 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	19 10:00 AM Noah/Donna Meeting 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	20 12:30 PM Al-anon	21 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM Choir Practice 8:30 PM Safe Place	22 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:00 PM AA Meeting	23 9:00 AM Al-anon
24 8:30 AM Prayer Group 9:00 AM H E Rite II 10:30 AM Summer Book Group	25 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	26 10:00 AM Noah/Donna Meeting 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	27 12:30 PM Al-anon	28 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM Choir Practice	29 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:00 PM AA Meeting	30 9:00 AM Al-anon
31 9:00 AM H E Rite II 10:30 AM Summer Book Group	1 Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	2 10:00 AM Noah/Donna Meeting 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	3 12:30 PM Al-anon	4 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM Choir Practice 8:30 PM Safe Place	5 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:00 PM AA Meeting	6 9:00 AM Al-anon

SEE CALENDAR ONLINE AT WWW.GRACEMEDFORD.ORG

GRACE CHURCH - MEDFORD, MA NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2008



MISSION STATEMENT:

*Grace Episcopal Church is a multigenerational,
diverse and welcoming Christian community which
values shared leadership,
service to those in need
and nurturing all in the love of God.*

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