



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
160 High Street  
Medford, MA 02155  
781-396-7215  
[WWW.GRACEMEDFORD.ORG](http://WWW.GRACEMEDFORD.ORG)



**DECEMBER 2009**

December is always a busy and hectic month where our culture and society focuses on spending and consumption. It tends to be a month where emotions can run high and the stresses of our lives come to a head.

In the midst of this frenetic time of year, the church enters Advent. Advent is a season of preparation and a season of waiting. It is the season where we wait and prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas, as we prepare for Christ coming again into our world.

Advent at times seems in polar opposition to our secular December – it is a time when we are called to listen, to wait and reflect. Our worship reflects this change – it is not somber, but sober – a time for quiet seriousness as we prepare for Christmas. A friend of mine refers to Advent as a season of “narrowing down, focusing in...” Take time in the midst of this busy December to celebrate and mark Advent. Try coming to Church every Sunday, or attending our Advent study on Wednesday nights, or finding time each day, or each week just to sit and pray.

On Wednesday nights we will be doing a series entitled “Advent through the Eyes of Those Who Wait” In this series we will be introduced, or re-introduced, to some of the biblical characters in the scripture lessons for Advent. First, the prophets in the book of Isaiah present us with the idea of waiting and preparing for the Messiah—our work for Advent. Next we meet John the Baptist who announces the coming of the Messiah. Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Elizabeth, her sister, are the main subjects of the last session. Come join us for one evening, or all three.

On Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00, we will have A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols that is based on the service introduced in 1918 at King's College Chapel, in England. This candlelit service brings classic hymns and carols from medieval times to the 20th century together for a rejoicing and meditative service. Jenn Woodward, daughter of parishioner Kate Woodward and members of the Opera and Voice Departments of the Longy School of music will be sharing their love of the season and gifts for this special service. An offering will be taken to support the Outreach ministries of Grace Church.

As Advent moves into Christmas, I always want to invite you to join us for the events of the Christmas Season. On Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, we will gather at 5:00PM for the Grace Church Christmas Pageant with a potluck dinner following....a great event to invite your family and friends to. On Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup>, we will gather for a Carol Sing with trimming of the Christmas Tree and setting of the Crèche at 5:00, and the Candle Light Christmas Eve service at 5:30PM. On Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, Grace Church continues the celebration of the 12 days of Christmas with Christmas Lessons and Carols at 10:00AM.

Take time out of the frenetic pace of this month to mark and celebrate the season of Advent.

Peace,

The Rev. Noah H. Evans

## **Other News from the Priest in Charge**

### **Advent Liturgy**

During the four Sundays of Advent we will be using a worship booklet with prayers from the Episcopal Church's Enriching Our Worship, a supplement to the Book of Common Prayer. The General Convention of the Episcopal Church approved these texts for use by parishes in 1997. These texts seek to use more expansive language, metaphors and images in describing God and the story of our faith. These texts seek to bear witness to a God who transcends all categories of knowing, including those of masculine and feminine.

### **Christmas Eve Service**

Grace Church will gather for our celebration of the birth of Jesus on Christmas Eve, December 24th. Carol sing with procession to the manger and trimming of the Christmas Tree begins at 5:00; the service begins at 5:30PM. Children: Please bring an ornament from home for the Church Christmas Tree. All attendees are invited to bring a non-perishable food donation for Medford's Food Pantry. "Come Let Us Adore Him."

### **Father Noah on Paternity Leave**

Father Noah will be on Paternity Leave December 28 - February 8. During that time the Parish Wardens, Margaret Smist and Linda Rogers will be in charge, and the Reverend Catherine Venkatesh will be at Grace 10 hours a week for pastoral support. Rev. Cathy will be at Grace on Sunday mornings, teach on four Wednesday nights and be available for pastoral support and emergencies. Please let Noah, Margaret or Linda know if you have any questions.

### **Wednesdays at Grace Adult Education**

Wednesdays 6:45-8:00PM

December 2, 9 & 16

### **Advent Through the Eyes Who Wait**

In this series will be introduced, and re-introduced to some of the biblical characters in the lessons for Advent. First, the prophets in the book of Isaiah present us with the idea of waiting and preparing for the Messiah—our work for Advent. Next we meet John the Baptist who announces the coming of the Messiah. Mary, the mother of Jesus, is the main subject of sessions three and four. Protestants, until recently, have not given her much consideration, but we have much to learn about patience and courage from the mother of Jesus. Finally, we learn from Elizabeth about how to accept a blessing so long in coming that it is no longer expected. The Reverend Noah H. Evans will lead these sessions.

### **THE RESTORATION PROJECT**

December is the month when we hear back from Save America's Treasures on our restoration grant request. The grant will form a strong foundation for funding the Restoration Project, so we are hopeful!

This grant applies to the original church building only, and the Restoration Project refers to just this structure as well. As a site on the National Register of Historic Places, we are obligated use methods and materials that preserve the historical integrity of the exterior. With these limits on how the restoration can be done, it is practical to approach the planning and grant searches for this structure separately from the rest of the building. There will, however, always be overlap in repairs and maintenance throughout the entire building.

As many know, this effort was once called the Bell Tower project, before we understood the extent of the work needed on the church. In addition, it now includes water deflection repairs to halt decay to the interior, as well as attention to the structural beam that spans the length of the nave.

And so, the planning continues. The Architectural Team has graciously drawn up plans for us (on paper AND on disc – rolls of blueprints no longer necessary!). They have been very generous with their time, and they are pleased for the unique opportunity to work on our building. We will be pleased to have it structurally shored up with bells ringing!

There will be more news on the Restoration in the New Year.

*Submitted by Allison Andrews*

## OUTREACH AT GRACE

I'd like to start this section by telling a story about a transforming experience that I had fairly recently. It all started with a very practical problem. Emma had moved on to a "big girl" (aka "princess") bed, and I needed to get rid of her crib/toddler bed. So I joined Medford Freecycle and posted it, hoping it would go to a good home but mostly thinking about getting it out of mine. I was unprepared for the responses – an outpouring of need. "I'm having a baby in a few months and can't afford a crib..." "I'm taking care of a 5-month-old whose mother is not well and am in desperate need of a crib..." I got several messages like this in response to my post. It broke my heart! I arranged for the crib to go to one such family, and felt good about that, but felt a nagging need to do more. So, after talking it over with Vin and praying about it, we decided to make an anonymous donation to one of the respondents. We arranged to have her receive a gift certificate to Babies-R-Us, enough to pay for a crib or other things she might need. Although we try to be generous to charitable organizations that we believe in, Vin and I have never done that kind of direct giving before. I am trusting that it is what God needed us to do.

Because we did it anonymously, we will never know how that story is turning out, or if we made any kind of difference to them. But it made a huge difference to me. I walked around with a smile on my face for weeks. I felt *good*. I try my best to be a good Christian, but I really *felt* like one in a new way.

It is partly because of this experience that I am so excited to be involved with Outreach at Grace Church. It doesn't take much to make a huge difference in people's lives. This is an important way we can live out our Christian values and help our neighbors who are in need. There are many ways to give during this holiday season!

### **Giving Tree Gift Cards**

This is a way that you can get involved with direct giving during the holiday season. We are partnering with the Medford Family Network (MFN) to provide Christmas presents (warm winter clothes, toys and games) for families in need. Marie Cassidy, who runs the MFN, told a story about a mother who came in and said she was in need for a coat for her daughter. It was a cold day, and Marie asked her, "Where's *your* coat?" The mother did not have one, but it didn't occur to her to ask for herself – she was focused on caring for her child. There are many good people like this mother right here in Medford who are struggling in this economy. And, you have a great opportunity to help them out! Here's how it works:

- Soon after Thanksgiving, the Giving Tree will be up in the parish hall
- There will be stars on the tree, each representing an item that Marie Cassidy from the Medford Family Network has on her "wish list" for Medford families during this holiday season (for example, the star will say "doll for a 2-year-old")

- You can take a star, purchase the item on the star, and wrap it up, with the star on the wrapping
- Bring it back to church, and the Outreach Committee will get it to the MFN one week to 10 days before Christmas

Contact for this project: Linda Rogers ([lindamrogers@netzero.net](mailto:lindamrogers@netzero.net), or 781-396-2930).

### **Warm Hands Warm Heart**

As winter descends upon us, it is important for us to remember those who are less fortunate. The Bread of Life is an organization that helps those of us that are in need. Last year the Bread of Life served about 350 Christmas dinners. They decorated a table with many winter gloves and helped everyone find a pair that fit them. Again this year there is a great need for new men and woman's large and extra large winter gloves. If you can help, please place your new items in the plastic box labeled "Bread of Life" under the table in the vestibule between the parish hall and the back of the church. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Rogers at 781-396-2930. For more information on The Bread of Life, see their website at [www.thebreadoflifeonline.org](http://www.thebreadoflifeonline.org).

### **St Luke's Soup Kitchen**

Grace Church was responsible for the soup kitchen again on Saturday, Halloween Day – a gorgeous fall day. Thirty-five people ate a nice breakfast that included pancakes with syrup, sausage patties, cereal, yogurt, and peaches. There were 65 for lunch, which included fish sticks, tuna salad, chicken noodle soup, and desserts. Twelve adults and 4 youth from Grace Church helped out. Thanks to everyone who did! Grace church also provided the desserts and table cloths.

The next St. Luke's opportunity is Saturday, 19 December. Sign up sheets are on the Outreach bulletin board, located by the books in the parish hall. Contact: Brenda Pearson, [brendapearson@comcast.net](mailto:brendapearson@comcast.net).

### **Ongoing Opportunities**

And don't forget the food donations for the food pantry and the Food Giving Cards that can be given each week. Needs are higher during the holiday season. Thanks for all your generosity!

If anyone has any questions or ideas about other outreach activities, please let the Outreach Committee know. We are: Jane Scherban (Chair), Maria Fenn, Sara Folta, Dottie Palladino, Brenda Pearson, and Linda Rogers.

*Submitted by Sara Folta*

### **Nominating Committee News**

The committee's task is to put together a slate of names to fill Vestry and Officer positions, that are up for reelection, delegates to Convention, Deanery, Medford Council of Churches and the Episcopal City Mission. This could involve finding as many as fifteen people to fill the open posts.

Although your committee will work hard, I know they will...we would like to encourage all parish members, who have any recommendations for these offices, to forward their names to any committee member. Even though the Annual Meeting is not until February, we want to complete the task as soon as possible, so please contact us as soon as possible.

*For the Committee, Wes Foote*

## Thank You's!

### MODERN DAY SLAVERY TALK

Thanks to everyone who attended the talk. If you could not attend, but are interested, you can go to the website of the American Anti-Slavery group: [iabolish.org](http://iabolish.org).

If you'd like to hear a sample of one of the speakers speaking, you can Google Francis Bok to find some videos. These were taken when he was a bit younger and did not have as good a command of English as he has now.

If you are interested in Francis's unforgettable and uplifting book, *Escape From Slavery*, you can order it from Medford's bookseller, Rob Dilman by emailing him at [info@bestsellers-cafe.com](mailto:info@bestsellers-cafe.com) or go to the website, [www.bestsellers-cafe.org](http://www.bestsellers-cafe.org) and click on "contact us".

A big thank you to Jean Spiers (always a great role model), who has purchased copies of Francis's book for our Grace Church library.

*Submitted by Adele Trivisano*



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

Jim Pearson Jr	12/02	Emily Pardy	12/17
Helen Sweeney	12/04	Ryan Lamb	12/17
Laura Duggan	12/05	Santino Borelli II	12/17
Clarence Ligon III	12/06	Maria Fenn	12/19
Tracy Gravallese	12/07	Adele Hale	12/20
Hannah Rogers	12/08	Benjamin Wirz	12/21
Sarah Masciave	12/08	Victoria Spence	12/23
Alexander Stinson	12/09	Rebecca Spence	12/23
Thomas Dow Jr.	12/10	Jone Marceau	12/25
Sharen Brown	12/13	Elizabeth Pardy	12/26
Jennifer DeMone	12/14	James Kossuth	12/29
Charles DePalma	12/16	Jonathan Hunt	12/31

If we do not have your birthday, please contact the church office at 781-396-7215 or [office@gracemedford.org](mailto:office@gracemedford.org)

### **Grace Recycles!**

This year Medford has started collecting paper recycling from business districts, including from Grace Church. However, they have not yet started collecting other recyclables (plastic, aluminum, glass) therefore we are asking members to volunteer to take the recyclables produced at church home with them and put them in their own recycle bins. If you're willing to take home recyclables produced at church, and put them in your own curbside recycling, please contact Alicia Hunt, [iggy@mit.edu](mailto:iggy@mit.edu) or 781-874-0493.



## Notes from the Minister of Music

'Tis the season for some of the most beautiful music of the church year ~ come sing with the choir this Advent and Christmas! As usual, we rehearse Thursdays at 7:30 pm and then again on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am to prepare for that morning's service. ALL adult singers, and children and teens with the willingness and stamina to attend rehearsals alongside the adult singers are welcome. (And in particular, any young singers who would like to prepare special music for Christmas Eve are urged to speak with me so I can begin to outline the order of music.) Here's what we are working on:

♪ ADVENT I - November 29 - the familiar, stirring, unison version of Bach's "Wachet Auf" ("Wake Awake!") chorale setting. No rehearsal the Thursday previous (Thanksgiving) so just come Sunday morning at 9 am.

♪ ADVENT II - December 6 - a three-part arrangement of "If with all your hearts ye truly seek me" by Felix Mendelssohn. The choir has been working on this for some time -- it is a challenging classical piece, but any good music readers who would like to join us and can attend rehearsal on Thursday December 3 are invited to sing with us.

♪ ADVENT III - December 13 - our "Everyone Sing!" Second Sunday. Each Second Sunday of the month, those whose schedules don't allow singing with us regularly, or who are new to singing, are specially invited to join the regular choir to sing an easily-learned anthem for that morning's service. Children and teens welcome too! This Sunday features a simple, fun Advent anthem: "A Voice Cries Out!"

♪ LESSONS AND CAROLS EVENSONG ~ On the afternoon of December 13 at 4:00 there will be a special Service of Lessons and Carols offered by a quartet of gifted singers led by Jenn Woodward, daughter of choir member Kate Woodward. This candlelit service of carols sung by all, beautiful solos and anthems from our guest singers, and Christmas readings, is the perfect way to enter into the mystical spirit of the Christmas season. Come sing, rejoice, pray, and together prepare our hearts for the birth of the Christ.

♪ ADVENT IV - December 20 - this is "Magnificat" Sunday, when we hear of Mary's rejoicing. Our music will focus on Mary, and the coming mystery of Christmas.

♪ The CHRISTMAS PAGEANT on the evening of December 20 will include some wonderful seasonal music under the direction of Laura Duggan. You won't want to miss this!

♪ CHRISTMAS EVE - December 24 - gorgeous carols, hymns, solos, anthems - the very heart of the musical year, and we would welcome you into our choir to sing with us. Run-through rehearsal for the choir at 4:00 pm. At 5:00 all will gather in the sanctuary for caroling, a chance for our young people to sing together, and prepare for the Christmas Eve liturgy which begins at 5:30.

♪ Sunday, December 27 ~ our annual service of LESSONS AND CAROLS ~ to reflect on the season as we move to the turn of the New Year.

Ruth Roper, Minister of Music

***Looking Ahead.....***  
**DECEMBER AT GRACE CHURCH**

Saturday, December 5

Young at Heart Potluck

Sean, Julia, Jackson and Peggy Kerans are happy to host the next "Young & Young at Heart" potluck on Saturday, December 5th, starting at 4 p.m. With the holidays approaching, feel free to try out a new recipe you plan to serve at the holidays, or share one that is a part of your family tradition. This will take place at their home at 22 Westwood Rd. in Medford. If you are interested in attending please contact Peggy and Sean at [pegw22@comcast.net](mailto:pegw22@comcast.net) or (781) 393-0129.

Sunday, December 6

Newcomer's WELCOME! Luncheon

Please join us for a light lunch in the Commons' Room on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> so that we can personally welcome you to Grace Church, It is a great time to get to know some of your new parish family! Invitations will be sent for this event in late November. Please be sure to RSVP if you can attend the event to: [seniorwarden@gracemedford.org](mailto:seniorwarden@gracemedford.org) or 781-639-7822.

Sunday, December 6

Mission Trip Summer 2010 Meeting

There will be a meeting on Sunday December 6<sup>th</sup> at 5pm in the Commons Room regarding our summer 2010 mission trip for our post-confirmation high school students. Dinner will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Rachael Pettengill at [rachael@diomassintern.org](mailto:rachael@diomassintern.org) or 781-396-7215.

Sunday, December 13

Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors:

On Sunday December 13<sup>th</sup> following the 10:00 am service we will be having a meeting for all current LEMs and Lectors and all those who are interested in serving as a LEM or Lector. This will be a time to welcome and train new people, discuss why we serve, review our current practice as leaders in the Sunday morning liturgy, and other logistics. Please contact Brenda Pearson or Rachael Pettengill, if you are able and would like to attend at: [brendapearson@comcast.net](mailto:brendapearson@comcast.net) or 781-391-0928 and [rachael@diomassintern.org](mailto:rachael@diomassintern.org) or 781-396-7215.

Sunday, December 13

Christmas Cookie - Swap

Our 2nd Annual Cookie Swap will return to Grace on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> following the 10:00 am service. Please plan to bring a plate of your favorite Christmas cookies (along with copies of the recipe) to church. It will be a delicious coffee hour and everyone can take home a new holiday recipe.

Sunday, December 13

Advent Lessons and Carols

On Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm we will have A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols based on the service introduced in 1918 at King's College Chapel, in England. This candlelit service brings classic hymns and carols from medieval times to the 20th century together for a rejoicing and meditative service. Jenn Woodward, daughter of parishioner Kate Woodward and members of the Opera and Voice Departments of the Longy School of music will be sharing their love of the season and gifts for this special service. An offering will be taken to support the Outreach ministries of Grace Church.

Sunday, December 20

ALL COME ALL YE FAITHFUL TO THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT!

The Parable Players of Grace Church return with their annual Christmas production on Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 pm in the church sanctuary. A cast of all ages will dramatize the story of the birth of our Savior. Look for charming angels in halos and wings led by an impressive Gabriel. See the return of the Prophets! Once again listen to complaints said by shepherds that nothing ever happens in Bethlehem as Mary and Joseph are once again told that the inn is fully booked! Our audience will be invited to sing seasonal songs and also be treated to some pageant musical offerings. In conclusion, Wise Ones will deliver gifts to the Holy Child played by the newest addition to the Nwachukwu family. Don't miss this pageant which promises to once again regale all in the telling of the coming of the Lord!

All the Best!

Laura Duggan ([lrduggan@aol.com](mailto:lrduggan@aol.com) or 781-395-4397)

Sunday, December 20

Potluck Dinner to follow Pageant on December 20

Following the Pageant there will be a Pot-Luck dinner in the Parish Hall. If you plan to attend the dinner:

If your last name begins with:

A-F Bring a salad

G-H Bring rolls

I-N Bring side dish (pasta, starch etc)

O-R Bring a dessert

S-Z Bring a main dish

If you have any questions, please speak to June Pietrantonni , Carrie Cross or Margaret Smist  
[seniorwarden@gracemedford.org](mailto:seniorwarden@gracemedford.org) or 781-639-7822.

**JANUARY AT GRACE CHURCH**

Thursday, January 21

Grace Readers Club

Dear Readers,

The book for the January meeting is Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout. The meeting will be held on Thursday, January 21, 7:00 pm, at Adele Travisano's house: 145 Winthrop St, 781-395-7542.

Hope to see you all there.

Saturday, January 23

Dining with Grace

Save the date -- Our 2nd Dining with Grace will be held Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5-8 pm. Childcare will be provided at the church with a suggested donation of \$10 per child. More details to follow

***A note from the editor:***

*In an effort to grow as a family community, I am asking for articles from our parishioners. These articles may be about trips taken, special family celebrations and news, recipes, poetry, etc. Please read Oscar Greene's poignant Christmas story, which he mailed to me. Thank you, Oscar!*

*Your editor, Judith Walsh.*

## NEWS ABOUT MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

### One Christmas Eve *By Oscar H. Greene*

It was 4:00 p.m., on December 24<sup>th</sup>, and my wife Ruby's words rang in my ears. "Birthdays are wonderful, but Christmas is that special time to remember each other." My heart ached because she always did. On this festive eve, I was worried.

Christmas Eve at the industrial plant where I worked was a special time. Coworkers glowed. There were handshakes and hugs as "MERRY CHRISTMAS" rang up and down the aisles. Joy filled the air.

It was an especially jubilant time for us working the 3 until 11 shift. We were permitted to leave work at 7:00 p.m. – four hours earlier. Precious hours to spend with family and loved ones. An eagerly anticipated evening off, other than Sundays, some holidays, and those too brief summer vacations.

Yet, this Christmas Eve I was troubled. Even though work conditions had slumped since September, as contracts terminated and layoffs began, I was caught napping. Overnight I was demoted from highly-skilled machine operator to floor sweeper. Suddenly, financial obligations soared as income dwindled. Now, it was Christmas Eve and I didn't have money to buy Ruby a Christmas gift. We were married thirteen years, and I had always managed a gift, even during my wartime duty overseas with the Army of the United States. This year was different, and I was desolate.

This was the time before easy credit and the avalanche of credit cards. I scolded myself for poor planning. I chided myself for being unfair and short-sighted. I should have sacrificed and saved through a Christmas Club or a Thrift Club at the local bank.

To ease my tensions, I swept the floor vigorously. I dug into corners, into nooks and crannies. I felt a warm pride about my area. I always felt good about a job well-done. No matter how menial. One-by-one, coworkers complimented me about the area. "It sparkles, Oscar," they yelled.

As I pushed the broom I prayed. I asked God to forgive me and to help Ruby understand. I asked Him to ease her disappointment and to show me a way to make it up to her. Even if she understood and forgave, would that erase the fact I had failed? I knew she had scrimped and saved. She would remember. I was ashamed.

The evening passed quickly and my thoughts remained troubled. It was 7:00 p.m., and time to go home.

I was placing my broom in the closet when I felt a hand on my shoulder. I turned and faced Al, a small dark-haired coworker, from the machine area where I formerly worked. He was a highly skilled mechanic whose years of company service prevented a layoff or downgrade.

"Oscar," he said, "your area always looks nice, but tonight it's tops! We miss you being on the machine, and we want you to have a Merry Christmas!"

He reached and pressed something in my hand. I looked and saw two new, crisp, ten dollar bills, more than enough for Ruby's gift. It was from coworkers who were not required to be so thoughtful. My eyes glistened as Al thoughtfully looked away. I swallowed hard and thanked him.

I left work and boarded a bus, my mind racing with thoughts concerning a gift for Ruby. Then, on that noisy, crowded bus, I closed my eyes and thanked God for touching the hearts of my coworkers. Ruby would receive her gift just as I received the thoughtfulness and appreciation of coworkers. It would be a Merry Christmas. I was certain of that!

## News in our Wider Community

Thursday, December 3

### **The Social Responsibility of the Scientist, Featuring Presiding Bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori at MIT**

Thursday, December 3, 7-9PM The Episcopal Ministry at MIT will be celebrating the 45th anniversary of our Technology and Culture Forum program with a special panel on "The Social Responsibility of the Scientist." It will be held at MIT, Building 10, Room 250. Dr. George Daley, Director of Stem Cell Transplantation Program, Children's Hospital Boston; Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute; and Associate Professor of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, Harvard Medical School The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church (United States and 15 other nations) and Ph.D. in Oceanography, Dr. David Urion, Associate Professor of Neurology and Director of the Division of Service Learning, Harvard Medical School.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information on Technology and Culture Forum, and a map to room 10-250, see <http://web.mit.edu/tac>.

*Submitted by The Reverend Noah H. Evans, Priest in Charge*

### **Presentation at Temple Shalom**

On November 8, our neighbors up Winthrop St. at Temple Shalom gave an enlightening and moving introduction to their congregation and its history.

Temple Shalom warmly welcomed a large crowd that included many from Grace Church. A tour and viewing of archives was followed by an array of speakers, both members and friends of the temple.

Rabbi Braham David and cantor Howard Stern introduced the event with an overview of liturgical practice, traditions, and the symbolism of imagery in the sanctuary.

Clearly the afternoon's speakers were delighted to share their stories. They spoke often of the importance of community within the congregation and within Medford. School superintendent Roy Belson offered stories of growing up in Temple Shalom. Both Mayor Michael McGlynn and his father, former mayor John McGlynn, spoke of lifelong friendship with the temple, a compliment returned by other speakers. Some of the speakers' memories went back as far as the temple's beginnings in the 1930s.

Historically, Temple Shalom began as a Jewish community club in 1939 and outgrew several homes before constructing their current building on Winthrop Street. (The temple also houses Six Acres Nursery School, run by Grace's Ann Deveney until her recent retirement.)

The event was organized by Dorothy and Stanley Eckstein, and cosponsored with the Medford Historical Society and the Council of Churches. It was a pilot presentation for a series where each year one of Medford's religious institutions will host.

*Submitted by Allison Andrews*

## DECEMBER 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> <b>First Sunday of Advent</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> H E Rite I <b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00 AM</b> H E Rite II <b>11:30 AM</b> An Open Conversation with the Priest in Charge <b>11:30 AM</b> Pageant Rehearsal	<b>30</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting	<b>1</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:00 PM</b> The Knitting Connection Set-up <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>6:00 PM</b> The Knitting Connection Set up <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting	<b>2</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> The Knitting Connection: Distribution <b>12:30 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>5:30 PM</b> Wednesdays at Grace till 8:00 pm <b>6:45 PM</b> Adult Education: Advent through the Eyes of those who wait	<b>3</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>7:30 PM</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal <b>8:30 PM</b> Safe Place	<b>4</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00	<b>5</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Al-anon <b>1:00 PM</b> private event <b>5:00 PM</b> Young at Heart Potluck-Kerans Home
<b>6</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> H E Rite I <b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00 AM</b> H E Rite II <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11:30 AM</b> Newcomers Reception <b>11:30 AM</b> Pageant Rehearsal	<b>7</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting	<b>8</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>6:00 PM</b> The Knitting Connection: Luncheon Set up <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting	<b>9</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> The Knitting Connection: Party set up <b>11:15 AM</b> The Knitting Connection: Party <b>12:30 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>5:30 PM</b> Wednesdays at Grace till 8:00 pm <b>6:45 PM</b> Adult Education: Advent through the eyes of those who wait	<b>10</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>7:30 PM</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal	<b>11</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00	<b>12</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Al-anon
<b>13</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> H E Rite I <b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00 AM</b> Everyone Sings Sunday!! <b>10:00 AM</b> H E Rite II <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11:30 AM</b> Cookie Swap <b>11:30 AM</b> Pageant Rehearsal <b>3:00 PM</b> Kenyan Fellowship <b>4:00 PM</b> Lessons and Carols	<b>14</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting	<b>15</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Medford Women's Club <b>11:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting	<b>16</b> <b>12:30 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>5:30 PM</b> Wednesdays at Grace till 8:00 pm <b>6:45 PM</b> Adult Education: Advent through the eyes of those who wait	<b>17</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>7:30 PM</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal <b>8:30 PM</b> Safe Place	<b>18</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00	<b>19</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>10:00 AM</b> Pageant Rehearsal
<b>20</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> H E Rite I <b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00 AM</b> H E Rite II <b>5:00 PM</b> Christmas Pageant and Dinner	<b>21</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>6:30 PM</b> GW oversight committee <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting	<b>22</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting	<b>23</b> <b>12:30 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM	<b>24</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in CR till 5:30PM <b>4:00 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall till 5PM <b>5:00 PM</b> Christmas Eve Service	<b>25</b> <b>Christmas Day</b> <b>GRACEWORKS CLOSED</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon	<b>26</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Al-anon
<b>27</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> H E Rite I <b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00 AM</b> Christmas Lessons & Carols	<b>28</b> <b>GRACEWORKS CLOSED</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting	<b>29</b> <b>GRACEWORKS CLOSED</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting	<b>30</b> <b>GRACEWORKS CLOSED</b> <b>12:30 PM</b> Al-anon	<b>31</b> <b>GRACEWORKS CLOSED</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon	<b>1</b> <b>GRACEWORKS CLOSED</b> <b>New Year's Day</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon	<b>2</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Al-anon



**GRACE CHURCH - MEDFORD, MA  
NEWSLETTER  
DECEMBER 2009**

**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.*

**Grace Episcopal Church  
160 High Street  
Medford, MA 02155**