

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**160 High Street
Medford, MA 02155**

781-396-7215

WWW.GRACEMEDFORD.ORG

From the Priest In Charge

I want to talk about a dirty word.

Evangelism.

I think the word evangelism provokes in us images of preachers on TV, Mega Churches and missionaries to foreign lands. I know that many of us don't see ourselves as "being that kind of Christian" or belonging to a church like that.

Evangelism actually is one of the central practices of our faith. From its original Greek, evangelism means bringing good news. I see evangelism not as forcing your faith down someone's throat or converting others to some correct way of believing, but instead as sharing what we have received and are fed by with those we know and love. Evangelism is sharing our own good news with others.

If Grace Church is something that is life giving for you, why not share it with others? If your faith brings you peace in the midst of the turmoil of the world or your life, why not share that gift with those you know? If your children have fun and grow through Godly Play, Sunday School or Children's Choir, why not invite others to share the experience? If you enjoy being part of a community of faith that supports and challenges you, why not invite others to join?

Evangelism is about sharing all that that God has given us through the life of the Church with others. It's not about duty or conversion or doctrine – it is about sharing love.

When was the last time you invited a friend to church? Have you ever? I recently read a study that said that on average an Episcopalian invites a friend to church once every 17 years. This statistic astonishes me, but I also don't doubt that it is true. Living in a New England community in a world of religious pluralism, we tend to see that religion is a very private enterprise. But maybe you are being called to share your community of faith – ask a friend or ask a neighbor to join you at church on Sunday.

This New Year make a resolution to share all that God has given you; share your time, share your talent, share your treasure, and share your church. Invite a friend to church!

Peace,

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

JANUARY AT A GLANCE

**Sunday, 1/4,
Christmas Pageant
(rescheduled from 12/21)**

**Sunday, 1/11
Informational Meeting-
Amended By-Laws**

**Sunday, 1/18 Manna of
Medford, Grace Church**

**Saturday, 1/24
Prayer for Christian Unity**

**Sunday, 1/25
Annual Parish Meeting**

*Please see inside for detailed
information regarding listed
events*

Blessing

A number of people have asked me for the text of the blessing I frequently use on Sunday mornings. It is a saying by Swiss philosopher Henri-Frederic Amiel:

"Life is short and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us, so be swift to love and make haste to be kind."

The Reverend Noah H. Evans

Confirmation Class

The Confirmation Class will meet on Sundays from January 11 – February 22 from 11:45AM-1:00PM. On Sunday, January 25th the class will attend the Grace Church annual meeting. Also, one Sunday (TBD) the class will attend St. Peter's Ugandan Anglican Church in Waltham which meets at 12:30PM at Christ Episcopal Church in Waltham. The Class will also attend the Diocesan Pre-Confirmation Retreat at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center with Bishop Shaw, March 20-21st. We will be using the book *My Faith, My Life: A Teen's Guide to the Episcopal Church*, by Jenifer Gamber. There is a website that accompanies the book: <http://www.myfaithmylife.org/>. For more information and questions, please contact the Reverend Noah H. Evans. The Confirmation will be Saturday, May 30 at 10:00AM at Grace Church.

Amended By-Laws

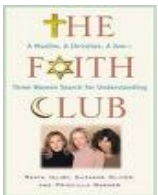
Let's find out about the amended By-Laws proposal. Come and learn about the amended By-Laws Proposal. **Information Meeting will be on Sunday, January 11th** in the Commons Room following the 10 A.M. Service. The committee has been working to bring our Constitution and By-Laws Current/Up-to-date. The proposed amended By-Laws will be presented for a vote at our Parish Meeting on January 25th. The informational meeting will give the Parish a preview and information about what is being proposed. A question and answer period will be provided.

This is a good time to find out what's happening with amending the By-Laws. We hope you will come and meet with us.

By-Laws Committee: June Pietrantoni, Branwen Smith-King, James Kossuth

Wednesdays at Grace resumes on Wednesday, January 14, 2009

with Godly Play and an Adult Education series on Wellness taught by David Lee and Branwen Smith-King.



Women's Book Club

January 15th at 7pm at the home of Adele Travisano

145 Winthrop Street

781-395-7542

Reading: *The Faith Club* (go to <http://www.thefaitclub.com/> for more info on the book)

Attention Grace Church Parents!!!!

Need Some Time? (RESCHEDULED FROM DECEMBER)-Maria Fenn will sit with your child/children on **Friday evening, January 16th**. You will need to sign up as there will be a limit of 25 children.

Time: 6:00 – 10:00 PM, Location: Parish Hall, Cost: \$20 per child (family cap will be \$35 per family)

All proceeds will be allocated to the Parish Mission.

Manna for Medford

The healing power of a gift, given out of love, can not be understated because it carries with it a rich blessing. A blessing of charity, compassion, and thanksgiving in one swift gesture for everyone involved. The Manna for Medford group invites you to join in our thanksgiving as we prepare bread for our Church and community on **Sunday January 18th from 1:00-4:00pm**. A signup sheet will be placed in the main hall, which also lists the ingredients and items we would like everyone to bring. If you have never baked before, we can set you up with a baking buddy to learn the ropes. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Jim Norton at 734-604-4652 or gallienk@hotmail.com.

Mass for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Saturday, January 24th at 4:00PM

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 114 High Street, Medford
Fr. Noah will be the preacher and our choir will sing.

Annual Meeting just around the corner!!

The annual meeting of the parish will be held on **Sunday, January 25, 2009**. At this time, we approve the 2009 budget, elect our Vestry, Officers and other delegates and handle other church business. We will also have a special presentation on our buildings at this years meeting. Soon after Christmas, all Chairpersons of church committees will receive a notice requesting submission of their annual reports. All chairpersons for committees are also listed each month in this newsletter, if you'd like to get a start on your report. The reports are due in the office by **Friday, January 16th**.

Thank you for your cooperation!! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Senior Warden, Margaret Smist.

Guest Preacher on February 1

Ruth Roper, our Minister of Music, will be our guest preacher on Sunday, February 1

CONSTANTINE'S SWORD viewing and discussion in February

As part of our Wednesday Night Adult Education, the documentary **CONSTANTINE'S SWORD** will be shown on **Wednesday, February 11 and February 18th**. The film is 90 minutes long -- the first half will be viewed on February 11 which will give us 15-20 minutes for discussion, and we will complete the movie and discussion on February 18th.

CONSTANTINE'S SWORD explores the dark side of Christianity as it follows former priest and practicing Catholic, James Carroll, whose search for the truth leads him to confront persecution and violence in the name of God -- today and in the Church's past. The documentary explores the cross as a sword and symbol of power, the rise of genocidal anti-Semitism and modern day wars sparked by religious extremism. The film also explores the consequences of religious influence on American foreign policy. This is a film not to be missed!!

Submitted by Margaret Smist

Bishop Barbara C. Harris Celebration

Cathedral to host presiding bishop for 20th anniversary celebration of Barbara C. Harris's consecration. Join the Episcopal Church's presiding bishop, the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston on *Saturday, Feb. 28, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.*, to **commemorate and celebrate the 20th anniversary of the consecration of the Rt. Rev. Barbara C. Harris as the first female bishop in the Anglican Communion.** The celebration will include a program focusing on what this momentous change meant 20 years ago and how the church is changing now. A celebratory Eucharist will follow, with Presiding Bishop Jefferts Schori preaching and celebrating. More details will be posted in the new year at www.diomass.org

Conservation underway at Grace

With the high cost of heating fuel, gas, water and electricity this coming winter, our Grace Church family will need to make a 'team' effort to conserve. Some tips for us all this winter:

- Please be sure heat is lowered to 60 degrees in all rooms, which you vacate. NOTE: The church is on a timer and the thermostat does not need to be touched on Sunday morning!
- Please make every effort to maintain heat at no higher than 68 degrees in the Parish Hall, common's room and basement rooms.
- Please keep windows and doors closed whenever possible.
- Please turn off lights in rooms which you are vacating.
- If you are the last person to leave the building, conduct a walk-through to insure that the heat is down and the electricity if off.
- If you enter the building in the morning and lights or heat have been left on, please notify the church office so we can address the situation.

THANK YOU for your cooperation!

A Reminder.....

Our Stewardship campaign is still in full swing! If you have not returned your 2009 pledge card, please do so as soon as possible. Also, if you think you may have an outstanding balance on your 2008 pledge, be sure to contact the church office for information (781.396.7215). Pledge envelopes will be available outside the parish office this Sunday. **THANK YOU!**

Your Stewardship Committee, Jane Scherban, Margaret Smist, Sean Kerans, Wes Foote, Steve Viggiani and Father Noah

Many thanks for successful Fair, Lobster Lunch and Wreath sale

Grace Church had another very successful Fair with lots of energy and spirit!

Our thanks go out to Laura and Steve Duggan who chaired the event, organized tables, managed set up and kept our spirits high. We added a new table with tie-dyed t-shirts and we look forward to more new ideas coming forth next year!

Thanks to Jean Spiers and her crew for all of her hard work on the Lobster Lunch -- it was combined again this year with a mini-craft Fair organized by Laura Duggan. It was a great day to meet with friends for lunch and view all the work of our local Medford artists.

Wes Foote and crew, again had a very successful KOKA wreath sale. We are now all enjoying the fruits of their labor this Christmas season.

THANK YOU ALL!

Please note that Administrative office hours have changed:

Monday thru Thursday 9:00am - 2:00pm - 3:00pm - 5:30pm

Please note our newly redesigned website and new email addresses:

Website:.....www.gracemedford.org
Noah Evans:.....noah@gracemedford.org
Administrative Office/Donna Gargiulo:..... office@gracemedford.org
Ruth Roper:.....ruth@gracemedford.org
(The old email addresses will continue to work for the next few months.)

Shaw's Receipt Rewards Program

Shaw's Receipt Rewards Program is a unique fundraiser that returns 1% of purchases to a non-profit organization such as Grace Church! Shaw's has approved Grace Church for this program.

There is no limit to the amount of register receipts you can collect and submit. However, only **original register receipts** will be accepted. Register receipts will **not be returned**.

Some items are excluded from this program, including but not limited to tax, postage stamps, money

orders, lottery tickets, gift cards, phone cards, prescriptions, photo processing, milk, tobacco and other items prohibited by law. Please start collecting Shaw's register receipts from family, friends, business associates, relatives, neighbors, and anyone who shops at a Shaw's or Star Market! You will find a large manila envelope labeled Shaw's Receipt Rewards Program on the bulletin board outside Donna's office (in the hallway alongside the kitchen). Please place all of your receipts in this envelope and we will start making some free money. The money raised from this program will be used to help fund adult and youth educational programs here at Grace Church. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Linda or John Rogers at 781.396.2930

Thank you Linda Rogers

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS: Please bring the following items on the following dates:

January 11 th :	CEREAL
January 18 th :	COFFEE
January 25 th :	SOUPS
February 1 st	JELLY

Snow Policy:

10AM Services will NOT be cancelled except for extreme circumstances. If the 8AM service or the 10AM service is to be cancelled, an announcement will be recorded on the church answering machine by 7:30AM Sunday



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

Andrea Howard	01/01	Janice DeBlosi	01/13
Louis Carson	01/01	Jean Swan	01/15
Mark Gagnon	01/01	Hallie Lee	01/17
James Norton	01/02	Sarah Bouchie	01/18
Owen Bouchie	01/04	Thomas Stinson III	01/18
Branwen Smith-King	01/05	Jeffrey Corcoran	01/23
Sawyer Brown	01/06	Stephanie Duato	01/25
Inez Hazel	01/08	Molly Fenn	01/26
Nathan Grondin	01/09	William Corcoran, Jr.	01/30
Julie Quick	01/09	Brad Clompus	01/30
Gail Corcoran, Jr.	01/10		

GRACE CHURCH PARISH LEADERSHIP

Clergy & Staff:

THE REV. NOAH EVANS, Priest in Charge
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:

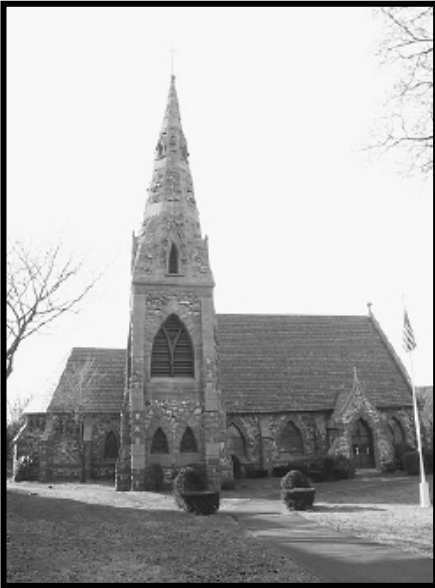
Acolytes & Ushers: WES FOOTE, JR., LINDA FOOTE, JILL CAPUCCIO
Altar Guild: CAROLYN ROGERS, DIRECTRESS, RUBY GREENE, DIRECTRESS EMERITA
Annual Church Fair: LAURA & STEVE DUGGAN
Annual Pledging & Stewardship: JANE SCHERBAN, MARGARET SMIST, NOAH EVANS, WES FOOTE, JR.,
STEVE VIGGIANI, SEAN KERANS
Book Stall: NANCI PALLADINO
Building Restoration Committee: ALLISON ANDREWS, SARAH CLUGGISH, STEVE DUGGAN
WES FOOTE, JR., BRANWEN SMITH-KING, JIM NORTON, JIM PEARSON, JR., JUNE PIETRANTONI,
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
Episcopal City Mission: SUE MALTZ
Executive Committee: STEVE DUGGAN, NAIDA GAVRELIS, MARGARET SMIST, JANE SCHERBAN
Facilities Care: JIM PEARSON, JR., STEVE DUGGAN
Finance Committee: STEVE DUGGAN, NAIDA GAVRELIS, DENNIS HALE, BILL HONEYCUTT, VINCE
MAGANZINI, KATHY MUMMA,
Food Donation Ministry: BEVERLY CONVERY, SARA FOLTA, NANCI PALLADINO
Gardens: STEVE VIGGIANI
GraceWorks Oversight Committee: STEPHANIE BRADY, MIKE FENN, VINCE MAGANZINI, LISA MCCARTHY,
BRENDA PEARSON, BRANWEN SMITH-KING, JANE SCHERBAN, ABBY WILLIAMSON
Hospitality: NANCY & LARRY ROGERS
LEMs/Lectors: BRENDA PEARSON
Medford Council of Churches Representative: CATHERINE SMITH
Newcomers: DAVID LEE
Newsletter: JUDITH WALSH, EDITOR, DONNA GARGIULO, VOLUNTEERS
Nominating Committee: STEVE DUGGAN, MIKE FENN, DENNIS HALE, BRANWEN SMITH-KING,
KRISTEN SPENCE, JEAN SPIERS
Office Volunteers: RUTH HALL
Prayer Group: MARGARET SMIST
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

JANUARY 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:00 AM Choir Practice 9:15 AM Prayer Group 10:00 AM Lessons and Carols	29 GRACEWORKS CLOSED/WINTER VACATION 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	30 GRACEWORKS CLOSED/WINTER VACATION 10:00 AM Noah/Donna Meeting 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting 8:30 PM Safe Place - Commons Room	31 GRACEWORKS CLOSED/WINTER VACATION 12:30 PM Al-anon	1 GRACEWORKS CLOSED/WINTER VACATION New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM Al-anon 8:30 PM Safe Place	2 GRACEWORKS CLOSED/WINTER VACATION 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:00 PM AA Meeting	3 9:00 AM Al-anon
4 8:00 AM H E Rite I 9:00 AM Choir Practice 10:00 AM H E Rite II	5 12:00 PM Al-anon 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 7:30 PM AA Meeting	6 Epiphany 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:30 PM GW in PH till 5PM 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 7:30 PM AA Meeting	7 8:00 AM Fawcett Oil/Burner Maintenance 12:30 PM Al-anon 2:30 PM GW in PH till 5PM 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 4:00 PM GW Yoga Class	8 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:30 PM GW in PH till 5PM 3:00 PM Teen Group; Soup Kitchen Staff, Malden 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM	9 12:00 PM Al-anon 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:00PM 7:00 PM AA Meeting	10 9:00 AM Al-anon 4:00 PM Teen Group; MOSH Service-All Saints, Stoneham
11 8:00 AM H E Rite I 9:00 AM Choir Practice 10:00 AM H E Rite II & BAPTISM-Dow 10:00 AM TODAY IS EVERYONE SINGS SUNDAY! 11:30 AM Parish By-laws Revision Presentation 11:45 AM Confirmation Class 3:00 PM Kenyan Fellowship	12 12:00 PM Al-anon 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 7:30 PM AA Meeting	13 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:30 PM GW in PH till 5PM 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 7:30 PM AA Meeting	14 12:30 PM Al-anon 2:30 PM GW in PH till 5PM 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 4:00 PM GW Yoga Class 5:15 PM GP for Pre-K 6:00 PM Community Dinner 6:45 PM Adult Education 6:45 PM Godly Play	15 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:30 PM GW in PH till 5PM 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM	16 12:00 PM Al-anon 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:00PM 7:00 PM AA Meeting	17 9:00 AM Al-anon
18 8:00 AM H E Rite I 9:00 AM Choir Practice 10:00 AM H E Rite II 11:45 AM Confirmation Class 1:00 PM Manna of Medford	19 Martin L. King, Jr. Day 12:00 PM Al- anon 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 7:30 PM AA Meeting	20 11:00 AM Medford Women's Club 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:30 PM GW in PH till 5PM 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 7:30 PM AA Meeting Vestry Meeting	21 12:30 PM Al-anon 2:30 PM GW in PH till 5PM 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 4:00 PM GW Yoga Class 5:15 PM GP for Pre-K 6:00 PM Community Dinner 6:45 PM Adult Education 6:45 PM Godly Play	22 Deanery Assembly - St. Paul's Lynnfield (storm date 1/29) 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:30 PM GW in PH till 5PM 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 8:30 PM Safe Place	23 12:00 PM Al-anon 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:00PM 7:00 PM AA Meeting	24 9:00 AM Al-anon 4:00 PM Christian Unity Mass at St. Joseph's Catholic Church
25 8:00 AM H E Rite I 9:00 AM Choir Practice 10:00 AM H E Rite II 11:15 AM ANNUAL MEETING	26 12:00 PM Al-anon 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 7:30 PM AA Meeting 7:30 PM AA GW Oversight Committee Mtg.	27 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:30 PM GW in PH till 5PM 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 7:30 PM AA Meeting	28 12:30 PM Al-anon 2:30 PM GW in PH till 5PM 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 4:00 PM GW Yoga Class 5:15 PM GP for Pre-K 6:00 PM Community Dinner 6:45 PM Adult Education 6:45 PM Godly Play	29 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:30 PM GW in PH till 5PM 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM	30 12:00 PM Al-anon 3:30 PM GW in CR till 5:00PM 7:00 PM AA Meeting	31 9:00 AM Al-anon



GRACE CHURCH - MEDFORD, MA
NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 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