



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
160 High Street
Medford, MA 02155
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WWW.GRACEMEDFORD.ORG

JULY 2009

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRIEST IN CHARGE

General Convention

The triennial General Convention of the Episcopal Church is meeting this summer in Anaheim California. From July 8-17, over 800 delegates and Bishops, and several thousand other Episcopalians from around the Episcopal Church will be gathering to discuss, debate, and vote on resolutions, budgets and proposals about the life of our Church.

Shortly after the Episcopal Church in the United States became functionally independent from the Church of England, the first General Convention met in 1785 in Philadelphia. The first General Convention formed a bicameral legislature in which elected (rather than royally appointed) bishops would make up one house, and lay and ordained deputies (equally represented) would make up the other house.

All bishops of the Episcopal Church, active and retired, are entitled to seat, voice and vote in the House of Bishops. Each of the Episcopal Church's dioceses is entitled to elect eight deputies, four lay persons and four clergy persons, to the House of Deputies. The House of Bishops and House of Deputies meet, deliberate, discuss and vote separately. To be enacted resolutions must pass both houses.

The Theme of this year's General Convention is "Ubuntu" "a Zulu word that describes humaneness encompassing a sense of caring, sharing and being in harmony with all of creation" – some translate it as "I in you and you in me."

You can follow the proceedings on the web at www.episcopalchurch.org, and news from the delegation from the Diocese of Massachusetts can be found at www.diomass.org. Please keep the delegates and Bishops at General Convention this July in your prayers.

This summer at Grace Church we will be reading Nobel Peace Prize winner and retired Archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa, Desmond Tutu's book God has a Dream during our summer book group, following the 9:00AM service. In this book he explores the idea of Ubuntu, and God's dream for our world and each one of us. I will be leading this group along with Margaret Smist, John Rogers and June Pietrantoni. Please come and join us for one week, or the whole summer!

During the month of August as a parish we will be painting and redecorating our parish hall. This project is being led by Jim Norton, Jim Pearson, Jr. and Adele Travisano. If you are interested and able to help, please contact one of those team leaders.

Peace,

The Reverend Noah H. Evans
noah@gracemedford.org-781-396-7215

Sunday, July 5 -- Worship on the Front Lawn

Weather permitting, on Sunday, July 5th at 9:00AM, Grace Church will be holding church on the front lawn. Bring blankets to sit on, and chairs will be provided for all who need them. If the weather is not good, we will worship as usual inside and try this again later in the summer.

Summer Service Schedule

During the months of July and August (July 5-August 30) we will have one service at 9:00AM. This summer, there will be nursery care during the 9:00AM service beginning at 8:45AM.

Parish Office-Summer Hours

During the months of July and August (June 29-August 30), office hours will be Monday through Thursday 9:00am – 4:30pm.

Women's Book Club

Next Women's Book Club to meet Thursday, July 9 at 7 PM at the home of Olivia Bracken (20 Ship Ave. #24, Medford parking is restricted; consider carpooling!). We'll be reading *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows, an epistolary novel about a group of villagers in Guernsey under its brief German occupation during World War II. The Women's Book Club is open to all women of Grace Church and their friends. Teens are encouraged to join us for our summer reading! More information about the book, to the Guernsey site: <http://www.randomhouse.com/rhpg/guernsey/book/>

Submitted by Julia Lisella

Summer Book Group

This summer, Sundays July 12 - August 30th, following the 9:00 service, the summer book group will be gathering to discuss *God Has a Dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Time* by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. We will be reading about a chapter for each week. Books will be available for sale for \$10 later this month. Please come and join us for one week, or the entire series, even if you have not read the chapter. Discussions will be led by a team of Grace Church parishioners. For more information, please contact Noah Evans.

Grace Church Day at Wright's Pond

All are invited to join fellow parishioners at our 2nd annual day at Wright's Pond. We will meet at the Pond around noon on **Sunday, July 19th** for a few hours of fun and fellowship. Don't forget to bring your lunch and your bathing suits! If you do not have a Medford sticker which allows you access to the Pond, be sure to ask around and see who can offer you a ride.

Outreach with St Luke's Community Kitchen:

Grace church has entered into a partnership with St. Luke's Church in Chelsea, Trinity, Melrose, and St. Paul's, Lynnfield to cook and serve breakfast and lunch for a group of 50-60 people every Saturday.

The soup kitchen was started by an organization called Chelsea Community Kitchen. CCK organizes the kitchen so it is running smoothly, and then hands the reins over to partnerships such as ours to carry on.

Grace Church assisted St. Luke's on Saturday, May 30th. Ruthanne Pearson and James Pearson volunteered to help that day. (Please ask them to share their experience with you.)

Grace church has committed to cooking and serving every fifth Saturday beginning August 29th. We have also committed to serving and cooking next month, July 18th.

As I write this, Matthew 25:35 comes to mind: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in." We read this in our bulletin every Sunday when it reminds us what foods we can bring in for the food pantry. St. Luke's has taken this scripture literally. They have opened their doors and are offering food and something to drink every Saturday. I feel honored and privileged that I am part of this group, and I am excited that we at Grace have committed to helping this kitchen continue to feed those in need. Please spend a few moments to reflect on the above scripture and ask yourself, how does this affect me? What is my responsibility?

Grace would like to commit to one Saturday a month. We cannot do that without your help! We need a commitment to be available on our scheduled Saturdays. We also need people to sign-up to be a back-up when needed.

The hours on Saturday are 9:00-1:00 pm. Those who can do meal prep would need to be there earlier. Below are positions that you can volunteer for:

Coffee, water/ juice Station

Servers

Greeters

Clean-up

Meal-prep

Back-up Coffee, water/ juice station

Back-up Servers

Back-up Greeters

Back-up-clean-up

Back-up Meal Prep

If you want to be a part of this Group, please let myself, Maria Fenn or Fr Noah know.

*Yours in Christ,
Brenda Pearson*

Have you heard about our Constitution and Bylaws approval??

We are pleased to report that the Grace Church Constitution and Bylaws which were amended at our Special Parish meeting on March 29 have been approved by the Diocesan Standing Committee with three minor cosmetic changes, which were approved by the Vestry. If you want an updated copy, please call Donna in the Church office. Our thanks to everyone who participated in the process.

Submitted by the Constitution & Bylaws Committee: Branwen Smith-King, James Kossuth, June Pietrantonio and Fr. Noah Evans

Earhart Lecture Held

The Earhart women of Medford were introduced to us by local historian Dee Morris on June 11 in a lecture at Grace Church, presented in collaboration with the Friends of the Medford Public Library. The talk was warmly received by an enthusiastic audience of church and community members.

The three Earharts came to Medford (and to Grace Church) in the 1920s: Amelia was the famous aviatrix, her sister Muriel an active Grace parishioner and Medford citizen, and Amy was their steadfast mother. The talk explored the little-known early life of this extraordinary family.

Complementing the lecture was an exhibit of pictures and regalia from the Knights of King Arthur, a boys' group brought to Grace by Muriel Earhart Morrissey's husband, Albert ("Chief"), in 1923, and run by him for more than 50 years. The exhibit will remain on (and around) the Archives bulletin board.

Thanks to Wes Foote for saving these items and bringing them out again. Many of our church members still remember the Morrisseys fondly.

In the fall, Dee will present a follow-up lecture to chronicle the lives of the Earharts as they survived and thrived through the Depression years.

Submitted by Allison Andrews

Important Parking Reminder

There are emergency fire lanes in the driveway. These are there for our protection and are required by law. This means that we are **not allowed to park in the driveway** with the exception of three handicap-parking spaces reserved at the top of the driveway adjacent to the front lawn. Please park in the back parking lot or on the street.

Submitted by John Rogers

New Shaw's Reward Program

The "Shaw's Receipt Program" has changed; it is now called "Shaw's Neighborhood Rewards". No more register receipts to collect. Just use your "Shaw's Rewards" card on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays and your purchases are automatically calculated toward Grace Church's account. All you have to do is register for the program by linking your "Shaw's Rewards" card number to Grace Church's "Shaw's Neighborhood Rewards" account number, 49001019510, by visiting www.shaws.com/neighborhoodrewards. Once a year you will need to renew your link to the Grace Church account. Four times a year Shaw's will send Grace Church a check for 1% of your eligible "Shaw's Rewards" card purchases.

Submitted by Linda Rogers

\$10 Supermarket Gift Cards Still Needed

Matthew 25:35-36

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

As you may recall we gave a portion of the Giving Tree \$10 gift cards to Father Noah to give to people in need. Due to the present economic climate more people need help. Approximately one to two people arrive at our doors needing help each week. Supermarket gift cards would be greatly appreciated by these people. Please give as you can and give the \$10 gift cards from local supermarkets to Father Noah.

Matthew 25:40 - The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Submitted by Linda & John Rogers

Looking Ahead.....

Painting the Parish Hall

As faithful stewards, we have a responsibility to maintain the many gifts we have been given. The Parish Hall is a prime example within our church of a space that has not received the maintenance it has needed over the years, and we would like to change that. Beginning on Saturday August 22 and Sunday the 23rd, we are inviting everyone who would like to help us restore the Parish Hall to sign up or show up on those days to work. Jobs range from general cleanup, to painting, to taping, to providing refreshments or even lunch; if you want to help, an opportunity will be provided. Children are welcome and encouraged to assist on this project, but will require supervision from their parents. More details will be laid out as we enter August, and if you have any questions feel free to contact Jim Norton at 734-604-4652 or gallienk@hotmail.com.

Mark Your Calendars for Congregational Resource Day

Don't miss this annual Diocesan event which has many workshops which will help develop skills and give you spiritual and practical help for joining God's mission in the world. This year's event will be held at Bentley University in Waltham on **Saturday, September 26 from 9 am -2:30 pm**. Workshops include How to run a Meeting, Putting a Lesson Together, The Spirituality of New Member Ministry, Parish Property and much more. See the poster advertising the day on our bulletin board outside the kitchen. Cost is \$15 which includes lunch. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to speak to Father Noah or one of the Wardens.

10/8 Fundraiser features 'Friends of Grace'-----the Heaton's!

Grace Church welcomes back Matt and Shannon Heaton on **Thursday, October 8 at 7 pm**. Matt and Shannon are Irish singers who have sung in our choir in the past. They are regulars at Club Passim in Cambridge and have following countrywide, Check out their website at www.mattandshannonheaton.com/bio.html. This concert will be a fundraiser for Grace Church.....so come on

JULY BIRTHDAYS

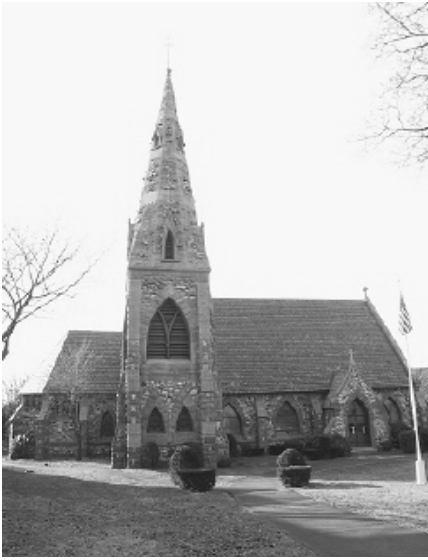
Remembering we are all children of God, let us pray for those having birthdays during the month of June.



Judith Karpowich	07/02	Tristan Cross-Choi	07/14
Julia Kerans	07/03	Sara Folta	07/15
Samuel Cluggish	07/04	Carolina Daly	07/18
John Schlesinger	07/04	Lucy Hale	07/18
Daniel Egger	07/05	Verna Skeete	07/19
James Pearson Sr.	07/06	Liam Deane	07/20
Peggy Kerans	07/06	Bill Williams	07/22
Ruthanne Pearson	07/07	John Dow	07/23
Eric Auner	07/07	Benjamin Kulubya, Jr.	07/25
Lisa Politano	07/08	Ethel Silva	07/26
Ruth Hall	07/09	Stephen Duggan	07/26
Fernando Novaes	07/09	Phyllis Allaire	07/27
Suzanne Henson	07/10	Jackson Kerans	07/27
Jason Cluggish	07/11	Maraland New	07/28
Marie Glynn	07/12	Katherine Anderson-Wirz	07/30
Erica Deane	07/12	Steve Viggiani	07/31

JULY 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 8:00 AM H E Rite I 9:00 AM Choir Practice 10:00 AM H E Rite II 11:30 AM Parish Picnic	29 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	30 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	1 12:30 PM Al-anon	2 12:00 PM Al-anon 8:30 PM Safe Place	3 INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY-GRACEWORKS CLOSED 12:00 PM Al-anon	4 Independence Day 9:00 AM Al-anon
5 9:00 AM H E Rite II	6 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	7 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	8 12:30 PM Al-anon	9 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:00 PM Women's Book Club-Not at Grace Church	10 12:00 PM Al-anon	11 9:00 AM Al-anon
12 9:00 AM H E Rite II with Baptism/Daly 10:00 AM Book Group-God Has a Dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Time 2:00 PM BOWERS WEDDING 3:00 PM Kenyan Fellowship	13 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	14 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting 7:30 PM Vestry Meeting in CR	15 12:30 PM Al-anon	16 12:00 PM Al-anon 8:30 PM Safe Place	17 12:00 PM Al-anon	18 9:00 AM Al-anon
19 9:00 AM H E Rite II with Baptism/Pankowski III 10:00 AM Book Group-God Has a Dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Time 11:30 AM Grace Church Day at Wright's Pond	20 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	21 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	22 12:30 PM Al-anon	23 12:00 PM Al-anon	24 12:00 PM Al-anon	25 9:00 AM Al-anon
26 9:00 AM H E Rite II 10:00 AM Book Group-God Has a Dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Time	27 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	28 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM AA Meeting	29 12:30 PM Al-anon	30 12:00 PM Al-anon	31 12:00 PM Al-anon	1 9:00 AM Al-anon



**GRACE CHURCH - MEDFORD, MA
NEWSLETTER
JULY 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.

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