



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
160 High Street  
Medford, MA 02155

781-396-7215

[WWW.GRACEMEDFORD.ORG](http://WWW.GRACEMEDFORD.ORG)



**JANUARY 2010**

Greetings! I am pleased to be returning to Grace Church to cover Noah's paternity leave during January and the first week of February. Some of you may recall that I was with you for a few weeks early in 2008 just before Noah arrived as your Priest-in-Charge. At that time, I was living in Brighton and had a 4-month-old baby. Since then, my husband and I have bought a home and moved to Arlington and the baby is now a busy 2-year-old girl. Maya and my husband Van will join us for the 10 am service most Sundays, so you will have a chance to meet them, too. We have just spent the fall at Christ Church, Waltham, where I covered Sara Irwin's maternity leave.

Some of you may recall that I am fairly new in the Diocese of Massachusetts, having moved here in late 2006 to join my husband after our wedding. Prior to that, I was Rector of St. James in Great Barrington in the Diocese of Western Massachusetts. I also served churches in Michigan after graduating from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific, the Episcopal seminary in Berkeley, California, in 1998. I was ordained out of the Diocese of Olympia in Washington State.

Noah's leave will be from December 28 through February 7. During this time, I will be with you on Sundays for the 8 and 10 am services and on Wednesdays for dinner and Adult Education, which I will lead from January 13 through February 3. I will also be on call to respond to any pastoral emergencies that may arise and to offer whatever counsel may be requested by parishioners, parish leaders, or staff.

I look forward to reacquainting myself with many of you and to meeting those of you who are new to Grace Church in the past two years. Please do (re)introduce yourselves and let me know how I may be of assistance in my weeks with you this winter.

Please do be in touch. Here's how to reach me:

Home 781-643-0393

Email [cwoods@verizon.net](mailto:cwoods@verizon.net)

Blessings,  
Cathy Venkatesh

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

Father Noah will be on Paternity Leave December 28<sup>th</sup> - February 8<sup>th</sup>. 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



5:30: Pre-K Godly Play

6:00: Community Dinner

6:45: Godly Play 1 & 2, Rite 13

Adult Education- 6:45-8:00PM

*We look forward to seeing you again in January when The Rev. Catherine Venkatesh will lead our Wednesday night Adult Education Series.*

### **Wednesday night adult education Jan 13-Feb 3: Poetry and Christian Spirituality**

Sometimes (often?) putting words to our encounters with God is most readily accomplished in the language of poetry rather than prose. Over these four weeks, we will read and share sacred poetry from authors across the ages.

Jan 13 -- Poetry in the Bible: The Psalms

Jan 20 -- Poetry in Anglican Worship: The Prayer Book and Hymnal

Jan 27 -- Poets of the Anglican Tradition: Herbert, Donne, and others

Feb 3 -- Contemporary Poets: Please bring your own favorites and/or your own work to share!

### **OUTREACH AT GRACE**

*A Successful Season of Outreach...*

#### **Giving Tree**

This year, through the Giving Tree project, Grace Church was able to make the holidays much merrier for 7 families in the Medford community. As a congregation, we provided 47 gifts, which included a sturdy stroller, sling wrap carrier for baby, 4 beautiful winter jackets, 3 winter boots, 2 pairs of shoes, 2 sets of pajamas, 6 shirts/sweaters, 1 pair of slacks, several hats and gloves, books, 25 toys including board games, stuffed animals, pokemon cards, footballs, etc. We also collected \$340 worth of gift cards that will be divided among the families. Linda Rogers, who organized the effort, says: "I was so moved to see the outpouring of generosity among our church family. I am so blessed to be part of this very loving community that we call Grace Church." A giant THANK YOU to all!

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

A big thanks from Father Edgar at **St. Luke's soup kitchen** for all of you who helped out with the Thanksgiving dinner:

"A bit late, but from the bottom of my heart: Many, many thanks for the superb job you all did. The entire event surpassed all our expectations, thanks to Nanci's excellent leadership and organizational skills, coupled with the dedication and generosity of all of you. I have heard, again and again, praises for the quality of the food AND the beautiful way in which the plates were served. It was obvious to all that the key element in this effort was LOVE: that love was evident in all your actions and the outpouring of your gifts. Que Dios se los pague - May God give you as much in return. This is just the beginning, as certainly we will be doing it again next year, with God's help.

Love, Edgar

*The Rev. Edgar A. Gutiérrez-Duarte, Vicar, Saint Luke's-San Lucas Episcopal Church.*

The Outreach Committee would also like to thank all those who volunteered their time and who donated squash.

Grace Church was also responsible for running things at St. Luke's on Saturday, 19, December. A team of 14 of us prepared and served breakfast for 41 people and lunch for 52 people.

All of the proceeds from the Lessons and Carols Evensong on 13<sup>th</sup> December went to the Outreach Committee, and we voted to use most of it to support the great work at St. Luke's. A big thanks to all involved in that lovely Advent service.

## **Donation to The Heifer Project**

The Outreach Committee, on behalf of Grace Church, made a \$150 donation to The Heifer Project ([www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org)). This was enough for a llama that will go to a family in Latin America, where it will provide fleece for clothing and be a source of income and transportation. Although we were a little sad not to have an actual llama roaming the premises, we had a lot of fun naming "our" llama. We had many suggestions and a vote, and the winning name was....GRACIE!!!

*And Many More Opportunities in the New Year...*

As always, donations for the food pantry and the Food Giving Cards can be given each week. See the weekly bulletin for details.

**Warm Hands Warm Heart** will continue throughout the winter, providing gloves to those in need through The Bread of Life ([www.thebreadoflifeonline](http://www.thebreadoflifeonline)). Please bring new men and women's large and extra large winter gloves. If you can help, please place gloves in the plastic box under the table in the vestibule between the parish hall and the back of the church, (ask an usher if you're not sure where to find the box). Any questions, please contact Linda Rogers at [lindamrogers@netzero.net](mailto:lindamrogers@netzero.net) or 781-396-2930.

The next **St. Luke's** opportunity is Saturday, 30 January 2010. Sign up sheets are on the Outreach bulletin board, located by the books in the parish hall. St. Luke's, located in Chelsea, is very easy to find, right off Route 16. If you are interested in helping, but would need a ride, let us know – there are a number of us who go and we could probably carpool. Contact: Brenda Pearson, [brendapearson@comcast.net](mailto:brendapearson@comcast.net).

“stay tuned” for a **Lenten church-wide campaign** on hunger issues, spearheaded by Rachael Pettengill, our Micah intern. There are a multitude of activities planned, including a “food drive”. More info to come soon! Some of the key dates:

**10, February: Kick-off celebration** – dinner and speakers

**24, February and 3, 10, 17 24<sup>th</sup> March:** Wednesday adult education, including someone from Project Bread, Episcopal City Mission, something on sustainable food and poverty issues, and more

**31, March:** End of food collection

**25, April:** Special coffee hour celebration

**2, May:** Walk for Hunger

If anyone wants more information they can contact Rachael in person or via email at [rachael@diomassinern.org](mailto:rachael@diomassinern.org)

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*

### **Annual Meeting 2010**

The annual meeting of the parish will be held on **Sunday, February 28, 2010 following the 10 am service.** At this time, we approve the 2010 budget, elect our Vestry, Officers and other delegates and handle other church business. In January, all Chairmen of church committees will receive a notice requesting submission of their annual reports. The reports are due in the office by Sunday, February 7th. Thank you for your cooperation! Childcare will be available during the meeting and a lunch (free will offering to cover cost) will follow the meeting. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Senior Warden, Margaret Smist. at [seniorwarden@gracemedford.org](mailto:seniorwarden@gracemedford.org).

### **Thank You!**

Dear Grace Church Community:

Thank you so much for the special coffee hour and all of the gifts in celebration of the birth of Adah. We really appreciate your outpouring of support and love at this time. Thank you for the blessing that you all are in our lives.

Thanks and peace,  
Noah, Sara, Isaiah and Adah



## 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	Julie Quick	01/09
Louis Carson	01/01	Nathan Brawley	01/09
Mark Gagnon	01/01	Gail Corcoran, Jr.	01/10
Savior Watts	01/01	Janice DeBlosi	01/13
Roman Garcia	01/01	Jean Swan	01/15
Jack Sadowski	01/01	Keira Corcoran	01/15
Michael Kenyon	01/01	Hallie Lee	01/17
Jessica Kenyon	01/01	Cesarino Borelli	01/17
Bo Andreasen	01/01	Sarah Bouchie	01/18
Jaidyn Plausky	01/01	Thomas Stinson III	01/18
James Norton	01/02	Catherine Smith	01/19
Bill Honeycutt	01/03	Jeffrey Corcoran	01/23
Owen Bouchie	01/04	Stephanie Duato	01/25
Branwen Smith-King	01/05	Molly Fenn	01/26
Samuel Brown	01/06	William Corcoran, Jr.	01/30
Inez Hazel	01/08	Brad Clompus	01/30

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

## 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. Contact Margaret Smist. at [seniorwarden@gracemedford.org](mailto:seniorwarden@gracemedford.org) if you have any questions.

## ***Looking Ahead.....***

### **Early Communion Classes**

In the Episcopal Church all children are invited to receive communion. We offer early communion classes as a chance for children to explore the meaning of the Eucharist and then celebrate their learning with a small ceremony during the 10:00 service on a Sunday. This year we will be holding our Early Communion classes as part of the Wednesdays at Grace Classes. The Reverend Noah Evans will teach these classes. Pre-K Early Communion Class: February 10 - 5:30PM, Lower Elementary Early Communion Class: April 7 & 14 - 6:45PM, Early Communion Celebration: Sunday, April 25 during the 10:00AM service.

For more information on Early Communion classes, please speak to Noah.

### **Mission Trip Summer 2010**

This summer, from **July 4-8**, some of our teens are going on a mission trip to New York City. They will be working with the Youth Service Opportunity Project ([www.ysop.org](http://www.ysop.org)). They will work in different soup kitchens and food pantries throughout the week as well as host a dinner party for homeless people. Each day there will be reflections so that the teens can process their experiences. This trip will help provide awareness of some of the issues around poverty and hunger as well as give them opportunities to serve. Stay tuned for fundraisers and other ways to support this trip!

## **NEWS ABOUT MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**

### **Bailey Lee's Girl Scout Troop hosts free community spaghetti dinners**

Medford Senior Girl Scout Troop #71187 invites you to attend a free community spaghetti dinner. The dates are January 9<sup>th</sup>, February 13<sup>th</sup> and March 13<sup>th</sup>. They will be held at the Congregational Church of West Medford at 400 High Street. Dinner will be served from 6 to 7 p.m. Minors must be accompanied by an adult. Food donations are welcome. For more information or to reserve a spot contact 781-854-6896 or email [medfordgirlscouts@gmail.com](mailto:medfordgirlscouts@gmail.com). Please pass the word on to those who would welcome a hot meal.

### **Advent Lessons and Carols Service**

On December 13, in the fading light of the late afternoon, we were treated to a candlelit program of Lessons and Carols by a quintet of singers from the Longy School of Music, Cambridge. The service drew listeners from Grace and from the general public.

The "Lessons and Carols" is a series of short readings from scripture alternating with seasonal music. Dating back to 1918 in England, it has become a well-loved Advent tradition in the U.S.

At this service, Grace parishioners presented the readings. The music was selected by Jenn Woodward, Longy student and daughter of parishioner Kate Woodward. The singers performed a variety of pieces from choral works of the Renaissance and Handel's "Messiah," to familiar carols where the congregation sang along. Our music director, Ruth Roper, played organ and piano for the accompanied pieces, and Kate joined in on flute.

In the quiet spirit of the season, the service ended with "Silent Night" and then a silent departure.

This service was a gift to Grace by Jenn Woodward and her fellow Longy students.

The Offering collected will benefit Grace's Outreach Ministries, which includes the St. Luke's-San Lucas Chelsea soup kitchen, the BSafe summer program and the Heifer Project.

*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*

### **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.

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

*I hope that everyone has had a joyous Holiday Season. I know that I certainly have with help from Grace Church and its parishioners. Please keep sending me any interesting articles, poetry, stories, recipes, hints.*

*Your editor, Judith Walsh*

# JANUARY 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<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> GRACEWORKS CLOSED <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting	<b>29</b> GRACEWORKS CLOSED <b>11:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting	<b>30</b> GRACEWORKS CLOSED <b>12:30 PM</b> Al-anon	<b>31</b> GRACEWORKS CLOSED <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon	<b>1</b> GRACEWORKS CLOSED <b>New Year's Day</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon	<b>2</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Al-anon
<b>3</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>4</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>5</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>6</b> <b>Epiphany</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>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> Adult Choir Rehearsal <b>8:30 PM</b> Safe Place	<b>8</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00	<b>9</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Al-anon
<b>10</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>3:00 PM</b> Kenyan Fellowship	<b>11</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>12</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>13</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>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> Adult Choir Rehearsal	<b>15</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00	<b>16</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Al-anon <b>7:00 PM</b> Sleepover at Grace
<b>17</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>18</b> <b>Martin L. King, Jr. Day</b> PARISH OFFICE CLOSED <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>19</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting <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>20</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>21</b> <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>22</b> <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00	<b>23</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Al-anon <b>5:30 PM</b> Dining with Grace
<b>24</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>25</b> <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>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting <b>7:30 PM</b> GW Oversight Committee Mtg.	<b>26</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting <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>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting <b>7:30 PM</b> Vestry	<b>27</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>5:30 PM</b> Wednesdays at Grace till 8:00 pm	<b>28</b> <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>6:30 PM</b> Deanery Assembly - St. Paul's, Malden <b>7:30 PM</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal	<b>29</b> <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 <b>5:00 PM</b> Leadership Development Group	<b>30</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Al-anon <b>9:00 AM</b> Leadership Development Group
<b>31</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>1</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>7:30 PM</b> AA Meeting	<b>2</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>3</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>4</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>5</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Al-anon <b>2:45 PM</b> GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00	<b>6</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Al-anon



**GRACE CHURCH - MEDFORD, MA  
NEWSLETTER  
JANUARY 2010**

**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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