



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**160 High Street
Medford, MA 02155**

781-396-7215

WWW.GRACEMEDFORD.ORG



MARCH 2010

WHERE DO I STAND AT THE BEGINNING OF ANOTHER LENT?

Each one of us has our own answer at our own certain point in our spiritual journey. Perhaps you have made progress since last year, wandered on or hung back. Maybe this is the first time you have taken this Lenten pilgrimage seriously, or at least are thinking about it. Or, maybe it has been years since it has mattered, and you feel called to see where it goes again.

Where ever you are on your spiritual path, the Church each year, again, invites you on this annual pilgrimage to the same place, a common point for starting all over again. We are invited into a Holy Lent. Lent is not a season about making yourself feel bad, not a season about our own little “self-improvement projects”, not a season about remembering that you somehow “broke the rules” or disobeyed the commandments.

Instead, Lent is a time where we return to who we truly are. We return to our true selves, the selves we know in God. It is a time to return to what our fundamental values are, where our heart truly resides, and a time to return to our relationship with Jesus. Lent is not about a struggle between virtue and vice; Lent is about knowing who we are, and more importantly, whose we are.

During this season of Lent, as a community we are exploring our deepest values around issues of justice and poverty in our community. Did you know that in the last twelve months 1 in 10 Massachusetts residents relied on a food pantry, soup kitchen, or emergency shelter? More than half a million people, disproportionately children, in our state, were not able to make ends-meet and had to rely on our emergency food systems. In this newsletter, please see ways that you can take part in this exploration and call to action – you can also learn more on our Food For Thought Blog at www.gracemedford.org/FoodForThought.

Our Greening Grace team is also hard at work at improving the environmental stewardship of our parish and each one of us as individuals. You can learn more at www.gracemedford.org/GreeningGrace.

On Wednesday in Holy Week, March 31st, we will also be joined by Bishop Tom Shaw, SSJE who will join us for dinner, Stations of the Cross, and a discussion of our annual pilgrimage in Holy Week. Please join us!

Blessing to you as we journey is this Holy Lent.

Peace,

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

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday
March 28, 2010

8:00 AM – Liturgy of Palms and Holy Eucharist
9:30 AM – Liturgy of the Palms with St. Joseph's Church
10:00 AM – Holy Eucharist, Passion Play with music and choir

Wednesday March 31st
SPECIAL VISIT FROM
BISHOP TOM SHAW, SSJE

5:30 – Stations of the Cross for Young Children
6:00 – Community Meal
6:45 PM – Stations of the Cross for Children and Adults
7:15 - *The Journey of Holy Week*,
a discussion with Bishop Shaw

Maundy Thursday

7:00 PM – Holy Eucharist with
foot washing and stripping of the altar

Good Friday

12:00 noon – Liturgy for Good Friday
7:00 PM – Liturgy for Good Friday with music and choir

Holy Saturday

7:00 PM – The Great Vigil of Easter with music and choir

Easter Sunday
April 4, 2010

8:00 AM – Holy Eucharist with Traditional Language
10:00 AM – Festival Holy Eucharist with music and choir
w/ Easter Egg Hunt following

OUTREACH AT GRACE

FOOD FOR THOUGHT LENTEN CAMPAIGN

Grace Church is uniting in community to end hunger in Medford by giving generously of our time and resources. Let's share the love and compassion of God through our service to others!

The Food for Thought Kick-Off event took place on Sunday 24 February 2010 (after being postponed due to the snowstorm that never came!) It was a wonderful event. We heard moving stories about the people who use the food pantries in our community; testimonials about why people volunteer, and impact that volunteering has made; and information about the activities that we'll be conducting as part of the campaign.

There are many ways to get involved! Check out the list below and consider where God might be calling you to use your time, talent, and treasure.

Donate a box or bag of food to the FFT Food Drive

Our goal is to fill the stage in our parish hall with 144 boxes of food. Bags are also welcome (reusable bags are best). All the food collected will go to the St Luke's, St Francis, and the Unitarian Universalist of Medford Food Pantries. Suggested foods include canned vegetables, spaghetti sauce, oatmeal, whole grain crackers, pasta, cereal, rice, canned tuna, canned chicken, canned bean soup, canned baked beans, and peanut butter. Please contact Nanci Palladino if you have any questions (nanci.palladino57@comcast.net).

Volunteer on a Saturday at St Luke's Soup Kitchen

The St Luke's Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry in Chelsea is open every Saturday from 9-12pm. Grace Church is scheduled to run the soup kitchen on Saturday, March 27th. You can come for the whole time or just for a couple hours, helping to set up, cook, serve, or clean-up. Sign-up sheets are on the Outreach Bulletin Board (in the parish hall, near the books). Any questions, contact: Brenda Pearson (brendapearson@comcast.net) or Fr. Edgar (Vicarsanlucas@aol.com or (617) 884-3300. The St Luke's food pantry is also looking for volunteers to help with the administrative side of the food pantry and volunteers with trucks to help pick up food from the Greater Boston Food Bank.

Give a financial donation to St Luke's Food Pantry (www.lukelucas.org)

St Luke's Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen needs financial support to keep running. If you would like to make a donation, please phone Fr. Edgar at (617)884-3300 or e-mail him at Vicarsanlucas@aol.com, or speak with Brenda Pearson. Checks can be made out to St. Luke's and be directed to the Soup Kitchen.

Donate Food Cards to Grace Church or St. Francis

\$10 gift cards from local grocery stores are another way to help feed the poor in our community. These are often given out to people who ask the church for money. If you would like to give food cards, please give leave them in the offertory plate on Sundays or give them to Rachael Pettengill (rachael@diomassintern.org).

Volunteer at the Greater Boston Food Bank (www.gbfb.org)

The GBFB depends on volunteers to inspect, sort, and repack "salvaged" food and grocery products which they receive. The items are then redistributed to nearly 600 hunger-relief agencies throughout Eastern MA. If you would like to volunteer, you must be at least 16. Grace Church is sending volunteers on August 14, Sept 18, Oct 16, Nov 20, and Dec 4. Please speak with Nanci Palladino if you would like to volunteer: (nanci.palladino57@comcast.net or 781-395-4108).

Give a financial donation to the Hunger Relief Youth Mission Trip

This July 2010 several of our teens are going to New York City with the Youth Service Opportunity Project (www.ysop.org) to serve in food pantries and soup kitchens throughout the city. They are currently fundraising to cover the cost of the trip. If you would like to financially support them, checks can be made out to Grace Episcopal Church and given to Rachael Pettengill (rachael@diomassintern.org or 781-396-7215).

MARCH AT GRACE CHURCH

Sunday, March 7 at noon is a mandatory meeting for teens attending the Mission Trip and their parents.

Young at Heart will be hosting a potluck on **Saturday March 13th**. Contact Ann and James Kossuth (afrenning@gmail.com) for more details.

SAVE THE DATE! CELEBRATION TO HELP OUR TEENS FIGHT HUNGER!

This July 2010, some of our teens are going on a mission trip to help fight against the injustices of hunger through service at different soup kitchens and food pantries throughout New York City. But, first they need our support! On Saturday, March 20th, they will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner and Auction to help cover the cost of the trip. Please join us for a night of good food, fun music, and an opportunity to support our teenagers! Tickets will be sold at the door and on Sundays and Wednesdays for a suggested donation of \$10 per person/\$30 per family (see Rachael Pettengill or Matt Fenn). To learn more about their trip visit the Youth Service Opportunity Project: www.ysop.org/weeklong.htm. If you have any questions, contact Rachael Pettengill at rachael@diomassintern.org or 781-396-7215.

A Christian Prepares for Death: Hospice and End of Life Decision Making Sunday, March 21, 2010, 11:30AM

Led by: Nancy Strong, Hospice Social Worker and the Reverend Noah H. Evans

During the season of Lent, we will learn about and discuss hospice and end-of-life decisions. This session will provide a time to learn and discuss hospice and the decisions that are made near the end of life, whether for ourselves or a loved one.

Please bring your questions and personal stories to share.

We will also discuss planning for your own end of life concerns and desires, preplanning your funeral service and burial arrangements and making legacy gifts to your Church. There will be a booklet and other written materials shared also. Having these conversations now often helps us bring vitality to the way we are living our lives today, and it is also a way to help us prepare for the end of life. This session is for adults of all ages, this is a topic that one is never too young to think about.

Wednesdays at Grace 5:30: Pre-K Godly Play 6:00: Community Dinner 6:45: Godly Play 1 & 2, Rite 13 Adult Education- 6:45-8:00PM

March 3: Addressing the issues of Hunger and Poverty from Charity to Justice
Ruy Costa from Episcopal City Mission will deal with two basic approaches to issues of hunger and poverty, works of charity and works of justice, from the perspective of their effectiveness, costs and long term impact. Background information will include some discussion of growing economic inequality in the United States. The spectrum of models includes charity, volunteer service, advocacy and social structural change. Some of the illustrations to be discussed include works done by the Episcopal City Mission, such as helping build affordable housing, grant making and organizing for public policy advocacy.

March 10: Alternatives to Emergency Food Programs

Justine Kahn from Project Bread will talk about alternatives to emergency food programs (food pantries and soup kitchens). Specifically, she will talk about the federal nutrition programs - WIC, food stamps (now known as SNAP), school meals, after-school snacks, and summer meals. Then she will talk about specific efforts here in Medford around the latter three programs and ways the community can support their efforts to serve hungry children.

March 17: Famine and Feast in the Bible

Esther Brown will lead the class through Biblical stories about times of hunger and times of plenty. We'll look at a food drive in the early Church, a widow sharing her last piece of bread with a stranger, an Israelite all-you-can-eat poultry buffet that ended in mass food poisoning, and more. Come prepared to think about the relationship between how we treat food and what we believe.

March 24: Sustainable Eating

Lisa Troy from Gaining Ground and Julien Goulet from The Food Project will speak about Community Supported Agriculture and how they work with the hungry by donating food and providing volunteer opportunities.

News at Grace Church

Choir Room Becomes the Music and Education Room!

During late February and early March the now Choir room is being cleaned out and renovated! This will allow us to use the room as a Godly Play Classroom on Wednesday Nights, and as the choir rehearsal room for Thursdays and Sundays. Moving the Godly Play classroom will allow GraceWorks to add a preschool classroom and up to ten children each day. This will enhance GraceWorks Program, and also bring more revenue to the Grace Church. For questions about this project, please speak to the Wardens, Noah Evans or a member of the building committee.

Prayer Group

Grace Church Prayer Group meets the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month from 9:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. in the GraceWorks kitchen downstairs. Come and join us to pray for the Grace family and your specific prayer concerns! Please contact Susan Maltz, amaltz8486@comcast.net if you have questions!

Submitted by Sue Maltz

Bowling League

How many are aware that Grace Church is part of the Medford Church/K of C Bowling League? The league this year celebrates its 100th consecutive year of operation, perhaps the longest consecutive streak in the country. Of course, this is candlepin bowling, real bowling, that is enjoyed mostly in this part of the country. Team members this season are: Jim Pearson (the younger), Don Capuccio, Marty Lord (brother of former secretary), Mike MacDougall (a friend) and Wes Foote (the younger). Former team members that might be remembered were: Cal Carpenter, Fred LeBert, Ken Blodgett, Jim Pearson, Sr., Pete Pearson, Richard Foote, Ed Sherry, John Schlesinger and Emil Schlesinger. Even heard that Don Thompson and Oscar Greene tried one year. The league started with six teams, had as many as sixteen at times and has shrunk back to six. But it continues, not as much representative of the Churches it once was, and is still a fun league. Bowling night has been Wednesday at 6:30 for years. Anyone interested in joining in the future should contact Don or Wes. We are always looking for more bowlers.

Submitted by Wes Foote

THANK YOU's

Thank You for another successful Pancake Supper

Shrove Tuesday was again celebrated at Grace with a traditional Pancake Supper. Thank you to the cooks, **Chuck Brawley and Steve Duggan**, for their delicious pancakes, sausage, bacon and the extras. Kudos go to **Adele Hale**, who could not attend the event, but still sent over the King Cakes.

Many thanks to **Carolyn Rogers** for her assistance in the kitchen and with set up / clean up. And, thank you to **Nathan Grondin, Kristine Brawley and Bill Smalley** for being all around gophers and dinner assistants. Also, much appreciation is given to servers, **Father Noah, Siobhan Glynn, Marina and Alain Novaes and Jordan Williams**.

The craft table was a huge hit with the many children who attended the evening. THANK YOU to **Deb Smith** for the best mask and hat making in Medford, and **Barbara Novaes** for organizing and leading the parade! It was terrific to see a number of GraceWorks families join in the fun with the Grace Church children. *Submitted by Margaret Smist*

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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

Paul Natale	03/01	Barry Silva	03/22
Mark McCurdy	03/05	Bailey Lee	03/23
Agnes Opara	03/06	Stephenson Lee	03/23
Olivia New	03/06	Daisy Leary	03/25
Eleanor Puryear	03/07	Margaret Smist	03/28
Anselm King	03/08	Barbara Novaes	03/28
Evelyn Natale	03/08	Linda Borelli	03/28
Mildred Burger	03/11	Barbara White	03/29
Kristine Brawley	03/11	Isaiah Irwin-Evans	03/29
Akilah King	03/14	Mathew Fenn	03/30
Michael Rogers	03/15	Jarrod Rogers	03/30
Susan Honeycutt	03/15	Beverly Convery	03/31
Eberechukwu Akiba	03/16	Linda Rogers	03/31
Hugh Skeete	03/16	Holger Wirz	03/31
Kaylie Cruz	03/18	Sandra Eriksson-Ellis	03/31
Deb Smith	03/20		

If we do not have your birthday, please contact the church office at 781-396-7215 or office@gracemedford.org

Looking Ahead.....

There will be **LEM/Lector trainings** for ALL current LEMs and Lectors and anyone interested in becoming LEMs/Lectors. We will be changing things around a bit so this will be a mandatory training. Trainings are on **Sunday April 11 at 11:30 and Sunday April 18 at 11:30am**, if you are unable to attend one of the trainings contact Rachael Pettengill (rachael@diomassintern.org 781-396-7215) to schedule a separate training.

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: March 3- 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.

Barbara C. Harris Summer Camp

Come spend a week at the Barbara C. Harris Summer Camp! For kids who are entering 4th grade in the Fall of 2009 and older. Last year more than 10 Grace Church kids attended Camp, and had an awesome time. **The Reverend Noah H. Evans will be a Camp Chaplain the week of July 11-17, 2010 – Let's make that Grace Church Week at Camp!!** Generous scholarships are available; please speak to Noah about them. For more information, and to register, visit www.bchcenter.org.

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 last date will be March 13th. It 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. Please pass the word on to those who would welcome a hot meal.

MARCH 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28 ANNUAL MEETING 8:00 AM H E Rite I 9:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM H E Rite II & Sunday School</p>	<p>1 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 5:00 4:00 PM GW in CR 7:30 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>2 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 5:00 4:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>3 12:30 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 4:00 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM Wednesdays at Grace till 8:00 pm</p>	<p>4 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:30 PM Safe Place</p>	<p>5 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00</p>	<p>6 9:00 AM Al-anon</p>
<p>7 8:00 AM H E Rite I 9:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM H E Rite II & Sunday School 11:30 AM Passion Play rehearsal in the Church 12:00 PM Mission Trip Meeting</p>	<p>8 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 5:00 4:00 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 7:30 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>9 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM Al-anon 4:00 PM GW in CR and Hall till 5:30PM 7:30 PM AA Meeting 7:30 PM Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>10 12:30 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 5:00 4:00 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 5:30 PM Wednesdays at Grace till 8:00 pm</p>	<p>11 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00</p>	<p>13 9:00 AM Al-anon</p>
<p>14 8:00 AM H E Rite I 9:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Everyone Sings Sunday!! 10:00 AM H E Rite II & Sunday School 11:30 AM Passion Play rehearsal in the Church 3:00 PM Kenyan Fellowship</p>	<p>15 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00 4:00 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 4:00 PM GW in Parish Hall till 5PM 7:30 PM AA</p>	<p>16 11:00 AM Medford Women's Club 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 5:00 7:30 PM AA</p>	<p>17 12:30 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 5:00 5:30 PM Wednesdays at Grace till 8:00 pm</p>	<p>18 12:00 PM Al-anon 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:30 PM Safe Place</p>	<p>19 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00</p>	<p>20 9:00 AM Al-anon 6:00 PM Teen Mission Spaghetti Supper</p>
<p>21 8:00 AM H E Rite I 9:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM H E Rite II & Sunday School 11:30 AM A Christian Prepares for Death 11:30 AM Passion Play rehearsal in the Church</p>	<p>22 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 5:00 4:00 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM 7:30 PM AA</p>	<p>23 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 5:00 4:00 PM GW in CR 7:30 PM AA</p>	<p>24 12:30 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 5:00 5:30 PM Wednesdays at Grace till 8:00 pm</p>	<p>25 12:00 PM Al-anon 6:00 PM Graceworks Open House 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>26 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 4:00</p>	<p>27 9:00 AM Al-anon 10:00 AM Passion Play Rehearsal</p>
<p>28 Palm Sunday Passion Play 8:00 AM H E Rite I 9:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM H E Rite II & Sunday School</p>	<p>29 12:00 PM Al-anon 4:00 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM and hall till 5:00 PM 7:30 PM AA</p>	<p>30 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM Al-anon 2:45 PM GW in Parish Hall 2:45 - 5:00 4:00 PM GW in CR 7:30 PM AA</p>	<p>31 12:30 PM Al-anon 4:00 PM GW in CR till 5:30PM and hall till 5:00 PM 5:30 PM Wednesdays at Grace till 8:00 pm</p>			

**GRACE CHURCH - MEDFORD, MA
NEWSLETTER
MARCH 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.

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

