



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

April 7, 2016

Spotlight on Grace: *An Open Door is an Invitation*

Please come right in, for an open door is an invitation. Our friendly volunteer docents here at Grace faithfully greet every visitor with a smile, each weekday from 11:00am until 2:00pm. Their significant



gifts of time and kindness make it possible for thousands of visitors each year to enter our beautiful historical church right in the heart of downtown Providence.

Folks arrive through these open doors for all kinds of reasons. Many return each week for our popular Thursday Noon concerts, or for the contemplative worship of our Wednesday Noon Holy Eucharist. Some are drawn to specific features like our gorgeous stained glass windows or the handsome organ, while

others simply seek a quiet and soothing place for prayer or reflection. Some are longtime area residents who've just never been inside, while some are visiting the city from places far and wide and appreciate the chance to explore an architectural gem of this city.

Whatever brings people through these open doors, all emerge with a lasting impression of the beauty of this space and the warmth of our people. Through this wonderful Open Doors ministry, we provide hospitality, comfort, spiritual nourishment, inspiration and enjoyment to all; helping to fulfill our mission to build, by the grace of God, a loving and joyful community which lives the Gospel through worship, proclamation and service to each other, to downtown Providence, and beyond. Please do stop by if you're in the downtown area during the week, and please make a point to encourage others to walk through our open doors; for an open door is an open invitation.

This Week at Grace

Worship services:

Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist

Sunday 10:00am Holy Eucharist w/ music

Wednesday Noon Holy Eucharist

Sunday Forum: Join us this Sunday (April 10) at 9:00am in the Chafee Room for a discussion of the Bible in the Anglican/Episcopal church. Absolutely all are welcome!

Farm Fresh RI will meet with us in the Chafee Room right after the 10:00am service this Sunday, April 10, to discuss farm to table offerings, ideas on how to incorporate fresh produce into your diet, and how to support your local farmers.

Please join us!!



Saturday, April 9, 4:00pm at Grace. Youth Choir Festival Evensong presented by the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island. Vince Edwards is this year's festival conductor; Peter Stoltzfus Berton (St. John's Newport) and Rodney Ayers (St. Luke's East Greenwich) will be the accompanists. The service includes 'Bless the Lord' by Andrew Carter, a sectional anthem of great exuberance and whimsy for the choristers. You have to hear it to believe it!

Please register in advance to walk, run or otherwise attend the **Children's Friend 5K Walk & Run**, Saturday, April 30, from 10am - 12:30pm. Grace parishioners manifested a terrific outpouring of support for Children's Friend through the recent Lenten Cross drive -- including some 30 baby blankets, 2,000 diapers, gift cards, journals, clothing & much more -- and now it's time to encourage your friends, family and co-workers to join you in support of this great cause by sponsoring your participation in this fun and family-friendly event. [Please click here](#) to register for the event, select "Join a Team", choose Grace Church as your team, and then encourage those you know to sponsor your participation by donating. Grace Church is proud to sponsor this event with a \$1,500 donation.



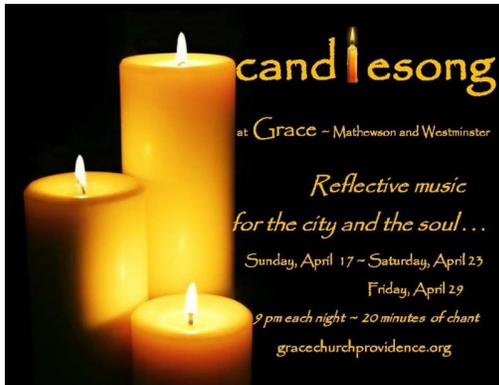
Women's Prayer and Bible Study:

2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 9:30am in the Chafee Room

Grace Church is OPEN to the Public each weekday from 11:00am until 2:00pm. Please tell your friends, co-workers, and visitors to stop by and explore this beautiful historic church. Our friendly docents will greet you with a smile.

Looking Ahead

Sunday, April 17, after the 10am service: a valuable discussion and presentation of advance directives, which are legal documents that allow you to spell out your decisions about end-of-life care ahead of time. Volunteers have assembled folders with very helpful forms and information to guide you through these important considerations.



Music at Grace

Grace Church presents ***Candlesong: Reflective music for the city and the soul.*** Discover a new evening musical service combining the immersive sensory experiences of gleaming candlelight, sublime Gregorian chant, and fragrant incense; all within the stunning surroundings of Grace Church. This inaugural series of *Candlesong* will feature three 20-minute evening services in April - each beginning at 9:00pm -

on Sunday, April 17; Saturday, April 23; and Friday, April 29. Please make a point to join us!

Music Notes for this Sunday's 10am service: The Water Music of Handel was composed by George Frederic Handel and premiered in London (on the river Thames!) in July 1717, almost 300 years ago! This joyful music is generally arranged into three "suites" each with multiple movements. While the original score called for a very large orchestra - presumably to be heard outdoors - this delightful music has been arranged quite successfully for organ solo. This morning we hear the Air and Hornpipe, quite contrasting movements showing Handel's intimate and showy sides!

The Thursday Noon concert series resumed today following a brief hiatus, and we enjoyed a great performance by Grace Church Director of Music Vince Edwards. Next week's concert, Thursday, April 14 at Noon, will feature the **Soulful Brass Quintet** from Rhode Island College.

The Grace Church Choristers is open to boys and girls in grades 2 through 12. The choir rehearses twice weekly, and sings twice per month at the Sunday Holy Eucharist at Grace. Please spread the word to families with youngsters who may have an interest in singing. Contact [Director of Music Vince Edwards](#) with questions.

Connect with Grace

[Grace Church Website](#)

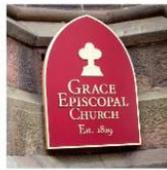
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