



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

November 10, 2016

## Spotlight on Grace: A Message on the Election from the Rector

**With Malice toward none,  
with charity for all, with  
firmness in the right, as God  
gives us to see the right, let us  
strive on to finish the work we  
are in, to bind up the nation's  
wounds.**

*– Abraham Lincoln*

This has been an unprecedented presidential election, and many of us - in our amazingly diverse parish - are anxious about what the future holds for us and for those we love. I myself was so overwhelmed while leading the noon eucharist yesterday, that I had to turn to the parishioner next to me and ask her to take over the leading of the prayers, which she graciously did.

I am committed to our church being both a sanctuary and a beacon for all: a place that rejoices in its diversity as a reflection of the Kingdom of God. That is what Grace is and what Grace will continue to be. As parishioner Rob Walsh-Simoës said in his

wonderful address to the congregation on Sunday about what he and his husband Ron found here at Grace, "You have made us feel like we belong...but more importantly, we have found our place with God because of Grace."

We all - no matter who we are, or what we look like, or what we have, or whom we love, or where we come from - have our place with God here at Grace. Let us also pray that our nation would be a place where everyone feels at home. St. Paul teaches us that, as Christians, we are to have no distinctions between us: "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:28) In Grace Church, as in the Christian Church itself, we are unified in our faith in Christ and diverse in almost every other way! Let us pray that our nation may also celebrate its diversity across countless categories while being united in our love for this land, and in our commitment to the ideals of this great republic. In this time, we ought to remember the words of Abraham Lincoln, who said to the nation in his Second Inaugural Address, "let us

strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds...to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

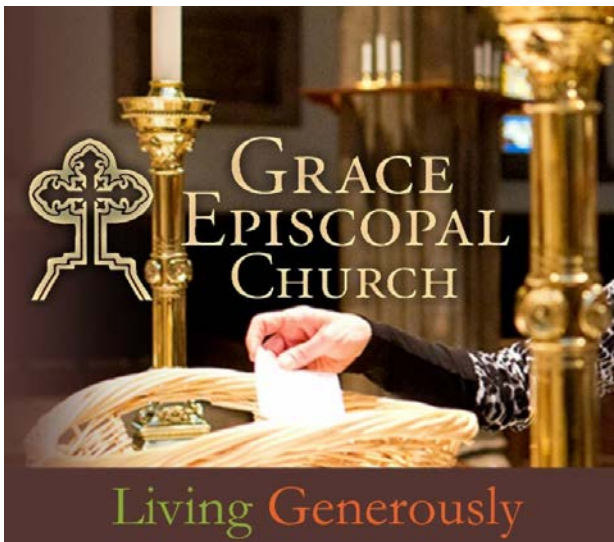
And let us, in this time of anxiety for so many, be guided by the words of the apostle Paul, who said, "Let your gentleness be known to all, the Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:5-7) May our hearts and minds be on Christ, that we may love each other and build up our community and nation.

God's Peace be with you,

Jonathan+

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## Commitment Sunday: Let us Pledge to Live Generously



The 2017 stewardship campaign for Grace Church will culminate with Commitment Sunday on November 13. Over the past several weeks, we have explored the idea of Living Generously, and [your pledge of financial commitment](#) to Grace Church will support our programs and ministries throughout the coming year. Let us all join together to give witness to God's abundance in our lives!

Please bring your completed pledge card with you this Sunday, and place your it in the basket at the altar when prompted during the service. Alternatively, please mail your card to the church before

December 1 when our budgeting process for 2017 begins. Thank you for supporting Grace Church!

*"Do good, be rich in helping others, be extravagantly generous. If you do that, you'll build a treasury that will last, gaining life that is truly life." 1 Timothy 6:17-19*

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## This Week at Grace

### Worship Services:

Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist

Sunday 10:00am Holy Eucharist with Music

Wednesday Noon Holy Eucharist

**The 1829 Society** presents an important workshop that will help you prepare a notebook of your wishes and preferences regarding issues that arise at life's end. This brief workshop -- which many Grace Church parishioners have found very helpful -- will follow the 10:00am Sunday service on November 13th in the Chafee Room. We encourage you to join us! [Please click here](#) to learn more about The 1829 Society at Grace Church.

**Thursday Noon Concerts:** Our popular free concert series will complete the fall season next Thursday, November 17, with a performance by Diana Norton Jackson, Organist. Thank you for encouraging friends, family, co-workers and/or visitors to join you.

**Collegium Ancora's Debut Concert:** Sunday, November 20, 5:00pm. Please see details [under Music at Grace below](#).

**Parking for Worship:** Parking for Sunday worship is provided in the lot diagonally across Westminster Street, on the NW corner of Westminster and Snow. A small number of spaces are available on the portion of the Grace Church lot facing Snow Street, along an inset section of the construction fence. For all other times, please [check with the parish administrator](#) for availability.

### Wheelchair Access and Accessible Parking:

Please find wheelchair access from the sidewalk on Westminster Street into the church. Handicapped parking spaces have been posted for Sundays on Mathewson Street near Westminster.



EACH ONE MUST GIVE  
AS HE OR SHE  
HAS DECIDED  
IN THEIR HEART...

— FOR —

GOD LOVES  
A CHEERFUL  
GIVER

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

## The Pavilion at Grace: Construction Update



You may have heard by now that that the naming committee appointed by the Grace Church Vestry recently discerned that our building presently under construction shall be called: *The Pavilion at Grace.*


And if you have visited the church recently, you will no doubt have noticed that work on the building's foundation has progressed quickly to completion. Viewing the aerial shot at left, one can now readily interpret the new building's dimensions.

Underground plumbing is going in as we speak, and beginning next week we will witness the exciting stage of building upward as the crew begins to erect the building's steel structure. Thank you for sharing in the excitement of this important new chapter in the life of Grace Church.

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## Music at Grace





COLLEGIUM  
ANCORA

a new professional chamber choir

 Byrd	 Handel	 Macmillan
 Thompson	 Copland	 Britten

**NOV 20** **DEBUT CONCERT:**  
In Celebration of the Human Voice  
**5 PM**

Open Admission (\$10 suggested donation)  
Grace Episcopal-175 Mathewson St. Providence

 CollegiumAncora |  @CollegiumAncora

**Collegium Ancora's Debut Concert:** Sunday, November 20, 5:00pm. *In Celebration of the Human Voice: music of Handel, Byrd, Britten, Copland and more!* Collegium Ancora is a new professional chamber choir, and Ensemble-in-Residence at Grace Church.

**Music Class / Training Choir** for children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade, Thursdays at 4:00pm at Grace Church. There is no fee for this program, and membership at Grace Church is not required. The 45 minute classes will cover basics of vocal production, sight-reading skills, and music history; and will use games and movement to ensure a fun experience! This music class / training choir will serve as a training program for the Grace Church Choristers, but participation does not obligate anyone to continue in the Chorister Program. For more information, or to register your child, email Vince Edwards or call 401-331-3225, ext 4.

**Thursday Noon Concerts:** Our popular free concert series will complete the fall season next

Thursday, November 17, with a performance by Diana Norton Jackson, Organist. Thank you for encouraging friends, family, co-workers and/or visitors to join you, and thank you for making these Thursday Noon Concerts such a resounding success this season. Please mark your calendars for the start of the Spring 2017 season on March 9, 2017.

## Let's Stock the Shelves at PICA



**GRACE  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH**

Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive  
for the PICA Food Pantry  
Sponsored by the  
Grace Church Outreach Ministry



Please help local families in need this holiday season by supporting the Grace Church Outreach Ministry's food drive to stock the shelves at the [PICA](#) Food Pantry in downtown Providence. Items of particular interest include: canned vegetables and fruit, stuffing mix, turkey gravy, rice, coffee, oatmeal, healthy breakfast cereals, and especially peanut butter.

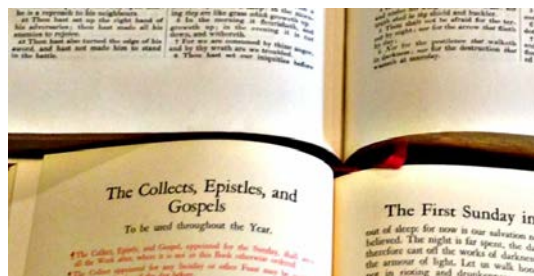
Please bring your food donations to Grace Church this week. If you have a spare cardboard box to carry them in, that is helpful, but not crucial. Let us strive to gather ample supplies for

this year's drive, as the need is truly great, and by living generously in this way we can "walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us" [Ephesians 5:2].

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## November 13, 2016 Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



For the text of this Sunday's readings, [please click here](#):

Malachi 4:1-2a Psalm 98 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19

Would you like to add someone to the prayer list? [Please click here](#) to submit a name, or call the church office at (401) 331-3225. Names are kept on the list for a month, and can be renewed at any time. Those received by Wednesday will appear in the same week's bulletin.

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## Grace Cemetery: Help Save the Trees

After 3+ years of working to secure \$100,000+ grant money to repair the fence around historic Gateway (Grace) Cemetery in south Providence that dates from 1834, we are excited that the revitalization is about to happen. Some the very old, elegant trees need attention, and a bit of additional money is needed to take proper care of them. Please consider saying "YES" to keeping green space alive by making a donation. The window of opportunity is tight, as work will be done very soon. \$6,000 is available, and contributions are sought to match that; \$1,100 has already given. If this opportunity touches you, please grab your check book right now and send a donation (marked "cemetery trees") payable to: SWAP, Inc., 439 Pine Street, Providence, RI 02907.



You will be listed on the "We Helped Save the Trees" registry in the cemetery gatekeeper's cottage. Also be sure to include your return address to receive a 501(c)3 charitable donation letter for your contribution. Securing and beautifying the cemetery grounds enhances the area for all. Be a part of this progress!

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**Connect with Grace**

[Grace Church Website](#)

[This Sunday's Readings](#)

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[amazon](#)smile

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Sincerely,



Your Grace Church Clergy & Staff  
401-331-3225

*The Mission of Grace Church is 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.*