



GRACE  
ABOUNDS



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

December 16, 2016

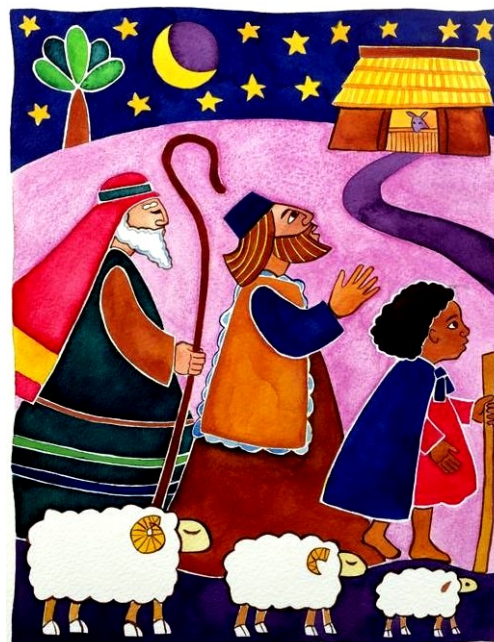
## Spotlight on Grace: Warm Your Hearts as Temperatures Climb



The forecast for Saturday afternoon shows temperatures climbing into the mid-40s, with rain tapering off during the afternoon. In other words, if you awake Saturday morning to find the ground has a touch of snow cover and the air packs a fairly frigid bite, take heart, for with our collective voices we will welcome warmer air with Caroling on the Steps (or Caroling around the Piano) Saturday at 3:30pm.

Come and warm your hearts with us as we gather here at Grace Church for [an Old-Fashioned Carol Sing](#) Saturday at 3:30pm, singing a mix of sacred and secular Christmas carols that is sure to include your favorites! If the rain ceases fully we'll fill Westminster Street with joyful sounds as we sing from the front steps of the church. If rain persists we'll gather instead around the piano to let our songs resonate through the lovely acoustics of our worship space. In either case, let your hands be warmed by a cup of hot cider, delight in the fellowship of friends new and old, and be part of an irresistible Christmas experience here at Grace. Please invite your family and friends!

And if the familiar melodies of our favorite Christmas music weren't enough to warm our hearts for the season, this Sunday at the 10:00am service



we'll feature the Christmas Pageant and Eucharist! The children of our community -- including members of the Grace Church Choristers and Sunday School attendees -- will interpret the joyful story of Christ's birth in text and song.

It's a weekend filled with friendly fellowship and songs of celebration, all leading up to next week's beloved Christmas Eve services (see schedule below) with special musical preludes in what will then be our poinsettia-filled church. Thank you for being a part of this prayerful Advent season, and our imminent celebration of Christmas.

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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

**Caroling on the Steps December 17:** Please join us Saturday, December 17 at 3:30pm on the front steps of Grace Church for [an old-fashioned Christmas Carol Sing!](#) (Event will proceed rain or shine: see details above.)

### **Christmas Pageant and Eucharist December 18:**

The children and youth of the parish will present the Christmas story with song, dance, and joyful energy during the 10:00am worship service on Dec 18. Please come!

### **Christmas Worship Schedule:**

Christmas Eve Musical Prelude at 4:30pm  
Christmas Eve Service at 5:00pm  
Christmas Eve Musical Prelude at 9:30pm  
Christmas Eve Service at 10:00pm  
Christmas Day Service at 10:00am

\* **Please note:** We will not have an 8:00am Sunday service on Christmas Day

**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.

## AA Moves Just Down the Street



Our weekday AA group will be moving to Mathewson Street Methodist Church, half a block from Grace, on January 2nd. This change came about as a result of upcoming changes to our building at Grace and the fact that Mathewson Street Methodist has been developing a recovery-themed worship meal and was hoping to have a recovery group in residence at their church to dovetail with that new ministry.

This particular AA meeting -- the "Out to Lunch Bunch" -- has been in residence here at Grace for 33 years. We're glad that they'll have such a good new home just down the street from us.

Through our Outreach ministry, we have been working on potential outreach initiatives here on-site at Grace and have been in conversation with Grace Apartments about hosting a meal for their residents on a regular basis, beginning later this coming year. So while our AA hosting ministry comes to a close, we look forward to new ministries of hospitality here at Grace Church to come very soon!

The Rev. Canon Jonathan Huyck  
Rector, Grace Church Providence

## Christmas is Coming: Please Submit your Dedications

Please be sure submit your Christmas Poinsettias and Music dedications this week or next. You'll find the dedication cards pictured here located in the pews, on the back table near the baptismal font, and in the Narthex literature rack. Thank you for printing your dedications legibly, and using the green flower envelopes. Submit

### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS AND MUSIC



\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to make a gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for Christmas flowers at Grace (minimum \$20).

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to support special Christmas music with my gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to make an additional Christmas offering of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Total gift enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_. Thank you!



Please dedicate my gift (circle one):

in honor of   in memory of   or   in thanksgiving for   (please print legibly):

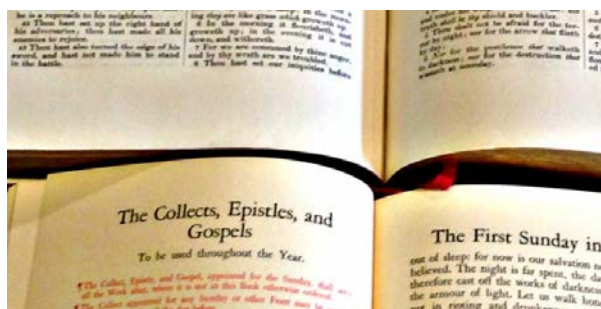
Please place card with your gift in the green flower envelopes provided, before Dec. 21.

dedications along with your gift in the collections plate, or mail to the church office by December 21.

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## December 18, 2016 - The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



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

Isaiah 7:10-16    Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18    Romans 1:1-7    Matthew 1:18-25

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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## Calling All Shutterbugs



Do you have a talent and a passion for photography that you would like to offer as an occasional ministry to Grace Church? Do you own a good digital camera? Grace is looking to assemble a short list of potential volunteers to help to highlight some of the many wonderful and memorable moments that we share here. For select special musical events, holiday

services, or other noteworthy happenings, we look forward to reaching out to members of our photography ministry to cover an event or service that they plan to attend. If you would like to be involved in this effort, please contact parish administrator Chris Barker at 401-331-3225 or [e-mail cbarker@gracepvd.org](mailto:cbarker@gracepvd.org).


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## Connect with Grace


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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.*