



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

November 22, 2018

The Year in Photos

This week's Spotlight is a brief celebration in pictures of a few of the more poignant moments in the life of Grace Church during 2018. We have so much to be thankful for as a church community, but foremost among those we are thankful for the wonderful and kind disciples



of Christ who call Grace Church their spiritual home.

Here in 2018 we continue to enjoy such fulfilling use of The Pavilion at Grace. For the first time in the nearly 190-year history of our parish, we worshipped this summer in climate-controlled comfort as The Pavilion became our *Summer Chapel at Grace*. The Pavilion is proving a great asset to the broader community, hosting performances like the one-woman play honoring [opera legend Sissieretta Jones](#) pictured above, monthly meetings of the Providence Downtown Neighborhood Association, and a great number of non-profit fundraisers and events.



The kindness and generosity of Grace Church parishioners again this year is making its impact felt within our community. The 20s/30s Group organized a clothing and goods drive for [Dorcas International](#) to support immigrants and refugees, and the Outreach Ministry led many successful campaigns including the *Sandwich Brigade* at Crossroads RI, and the *Lenten Cross Drive*, both pictured above.



The Music at Grace program continues to expand, and inspire. Pictured above are the summer camp program in Ivoryton, CT, and at right the first annual fundraiser event to benefit Collegium Ancora, the professional choral ensemble in residence at Grace Church.



True to our parish identity, Grace remains this year and every year a place of warm welcome.

We were delighted in June to welcome a group of guests who joined us in worship before holding a board meeting for the Episcopal School of Monrovia in The Pavilion. And at right, a photo from our parish BBQ and newcomers welcome event. This Thanksgiving, we are thankful for the warmth and kindness that you bring to this community every week, and we are thankful for the opportunity to join you in worship and fellowship. Happy Thanksgiving!

Lessons & Carols for Advent December 2

Join us Sunday, December 2, at 4 PM for A Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent. The Choir of Grace Church sings music of Palestrina, Praetorius, Boles, Wood, Rheinberger, Rachmaninoff, Poston, Hallock, and Thalben-Ball in procession around the candle-lit church. A reception follows in the Pavilion.



Advent Small Group Series

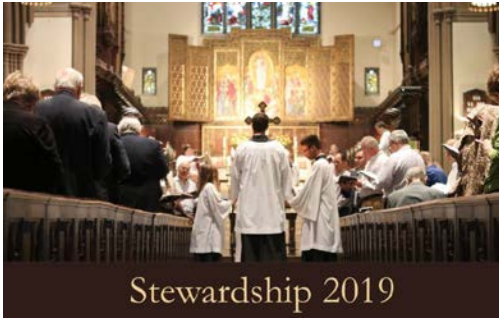
Small groups are a great opportunity to get to know some of your fellow parishioners here at Grace and to reflect together on a spiritual topic. During the four weeks of Advent this year, we'll offer a series that will use the Advent resource, "What Are You Waiting For?" by the Rev. Christine McSpadden. Please sign up for one of the three offsite small groups during coffee hour, or [e-mail the rector to sign up](#). During coffee hour for the next three weeks, you'll have the opportunity to sign up for one of four groups that will meet for four consecutive Friday evenings for a pot-luck supper and discussion starting on November 30th. We'll have small groups meeting in Providence, North Providence, and Cranston, as well as one group that will meet at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings at Grace. Please join us for whichever group works best for you!



Advent Giving Tree

Beginning Sunday, December 2, the Advent Giving Tree will be placed in the Pavilion and adorned with ornaments that represent the holiday wishes of children through [Children's Friend](#) (a local social children's service agency that Grace regularly supports). Please retrieve the ornament(s) corresponding to gifts that you wish to donate, and plan to return your unwrapped gifts to church no later than Sunday, December 16th. In the case of gift store cards, please place those into the donation box near the baptismal font. Wrapping supplies, including wrapping paper, ribbon, tape and gift tags are also welcome gifts.

Transforming Generosity - Stewardship 2019



Thank you to all who have submitted their annual pledges. If you have not yet submitted yours, please mail your pledge form at your earliest opportunity. Thank you also for ensuring completion of your 2018 pledge payments before year-end. For information on balances remaining, please contact Chris in the office (cbarker@gracepvd.org). Those who requested pledge envelopes or have traditionally received them, they will be available for

pick-up after the 8am and 10am services on December 9 and December 16. A limited number of additional sets are available by request using the sign-up sheet located near the baptismal font. Thank you all for supporting the mission and ministry of Grace Church!

Transforming Generosity with Electronic Giving

Many Grace Church households are moving their stewardship giving to one of three electronic methods this year (though of course pledge donations of cash or checks remain very welcome).

A resource page to guide your electronic giving -- whether through our website, our mobile app, or via text -- is available in the back of the church. [Please click here](#) to donate to Grace on our website -- or to establish a recurring pledge contribution for 2019 -- using our [secure donation portal](#). Please note: If you're planning to give electronically for 2019, please do still submit a pledge card to ensure we record your pledge.

GivePlus is a mobile giving app that enables you to make one-time or recurring gifts from your smartphone ([watch this video tutorial](#)). Visit the App Store or Google Play and search for "GivePlus" to download the app, search for "Grace Church Providence" in the app, choose which fund you'd like to support (Pledge, Music at Grace, etc.), and you're on your way.

 <p>Powered By Vanco Payment Solutions</p> <p>As part of our campaign of Transforming Generosity, we present GivePlus, our new mobile giving app. Now you can make weekly offerings, respond to special appeals, or set up a recurring donation... all through your smartphone!</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visit the App Store or Google Play and search for "GivePlus" to download the app. 2. Enter "Grace Church in Providence" in the app, choose which fund you'd like to support (e.g. Pledge), and you're on your way. 3. Considering sourcing your contribution from a checking or savings account to maximize your contribution, or if using a card please consider selecting the option: "Help Offset the Processing Fee". 	
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Those accustomed to texting may enjoy giving through Give+ Text. Make one-time or recurring offerings by simply sending a text to our secure account at **401-298-9775**. Simply

text the dollar amount of your desired donation, and follow the prompts for the rest. For further guidance, please [watch this brief tutorial](#).

This Week at Grace

Weekly Worship Schedule:

Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist

Sunday 10:00am Holy Eucharist
with Music

Wednesday 12:00 Noon Eucharist

Thursdays at Noon concerts Now through December 20, excluding Thanksgiving Day; and February 7 through May 23.

Open Doors: Your friendly docents are here to greet you every weekday from 11:00am to 2:00pm. Please encourage your friends or guests to come and visit Grace Church and see the new Pavilion at Grace.



Wheelchair Access and Accessible Parking: Please find convenient accessible in the Grace Church parking lot with access from Snow Street. The new wheelchair ramp connects directly from the lot, and you will enter through the new reception entrance of The Pavilion and into the church at ground level.

Parking for Worship: Free parking for Sunday worship is provided:

- 1.) in the lot diagonally across Westminster Street, on the NW corner of Westminster and Snow;
- 2.) On the **top level only** of the PPAC parking garage, for which the entrance is on Weybosset Street. A stairway from the top level leads right to Chapel Street across from the church; and
- 3.) In the Grace Church parking lot accessed via Snow Street. We ask your kind cooperation in reserving this lot, to the extent possible, for seniors and those with limited mobility.

The Grace Church Inreach Ministry

The Grace Church Inreach Ministry Are you (or someone you know) unable to make it to church, either for the short or long term, for any reason? A member of the Grace Church Inreach Ministry would be happy to visit with you, by phone or in person, to keep you connected to your parish and offer prayers



and support and, if you like, to bring you communion. Please contact Sue Hall at inreach@gracepvd.org, or call the church office. Of course, as always, if you want your rector to visit you, just give Jonathan a call at the church at 331-3225. That's why he's here!

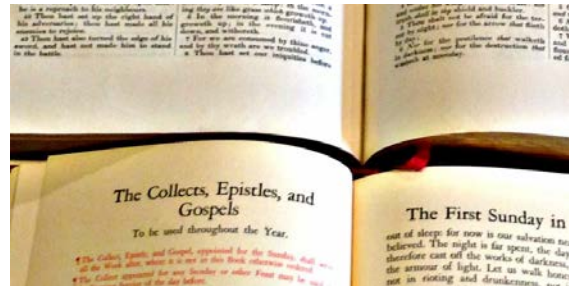
Coffee Hour Goodies... and Labels

Here at Grace, food at coffee hour is provided by parishioners as the Spirit moves them...for which we are all grateful! When you bring something to share at coffee hour, please drop it off on the table in the kitchen. And we now have three different labels (which you'll find on the table) you can place by your item: 1) "Gluten Free". You can use this label if you're sure your item does not contain gluten. 2) "Contains meat" If your dish looks to folks like it might contain meat (and does), this can be a helpful label for vegetarians. 3) "Contains nuts" This label is the most important, as nut allergies (both tree nut and peanut) are common, and we want parishioners who have such an allergy to avoid an item that's "nutty." :) Thank you for your delicious contributions to coffee hour. Without them, coffee hour would just be...coffee! :)



November 25, 2018 Last Sunday after Pentecost

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.



For the text of this Sunday's readings, [please click here](#). This week from the Episcopal Church: [What Are the 2018 AdventWords?](#). [Click here](#) for the latest from the Episcopal News Service. And for current news from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, [please click here](#).

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.