



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

October 20, 2016

Spotlight on Grace: A Season of Prayer for an Election

Forward Movement is calling Episcopalians and all others to [join with us in A Season of Prayer: For an Election](#). This is a 30-day season, in which we will pray each day with a particular intention for this time in our national life. Each day includes a suggested intention and a collect.

Join us on Forward Movement's social media channels ([Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#)) in offering or sharing each day's prayer. You also can download weekly bulletin inserts or a list of all the prayers at www.forwardmovement.org/election. The resources are available in English or Spanish. Please encourage your congregation and your friends to get involved.

At a time when nearly everyone agrees that we are being consumed by fear and division, here is a chance to change the conversation. While we will certainly differ in our politics, we can surely join together in prayer. I hope you will join in this season of prayer. God knows, our country, our leaders, those who seek public office, and those who are voting need all the help we can get. Let us pray.

OCT 21 Pray for our enemies O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth: deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OCT 22 Pray for those who serve others Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your



Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Ask Those Transforming Questions

Can you question your faith? We'll do it this year in Small Groups. "Whether we are new Christians or long-time Christians, wrestling with our faith is part of the journey," say the Rev. Scott Gunn and the Rev. Melody Wilson Shobe, authors of a study series called [*Transforming Questions*](#).



Small Groups at Grace will use Transforming Questions this year for their study and discussion. The course consists of 10 sessions - five this fall and five more in the late winter-early spring.

Come and learn more at our Small Groups Kickoff after the 10:00am service Sunday, October 23! You can enjoy coffee and refreshments in Gammell Hall while you hear a brief overview of the course. Sign-up sheets will be available that day and Sunday, October 30. Groups will begin meeting on Friday evening, November 4. (Some groups may use a different schedule if it fits their needs better - we're in favor of flexibility!)

If you have questions about your faith - and would like a chance to wrestle with them within a community of Christian friends - consider being part of Small Groups at Grace this year. Even if you're just curious, come and see what's in store for you. Your clergy are excited about this offering, and we hope you will be too!

Stewardship 2017: Living Generously

LIVING
GENEROUSLY

Grace Church in Providence
Stewardship 2017



I suspect that when people think about stewardship most think about their pledge. There is nothing wrong with that as churches certainly need money to survive and flourish - generally more than they have. But that isn't the end of it because stewardship encompasses so much more. Being a steward requires that we carefully and responsibly manage or care for something that has been placed in our care.

That could certainly be the finances. After all, the rector and staff must be paid. There are also a few other expenses, such as the gas, electricity, water, garbage collection, phones, office supplies, flowers, wine, wafers, linens, perhaps a mortgage, and - as

everyone who has ever been on a vestry knows - a thousand and one maintenance projects. These must be carefully managed. But paying the bills and keeping the campus in repair constitute only limited aspects of stewardship.

As members of a congregation we are all responsible for these things through the donation of our Time, Talent, and Treasure. Our buildings and grounds are important as places from which to reach out and do our real work. The Church is the people both inside and outside the walls.

Of what else are we stewards? We are stewards also for the poor, the hungry, the homeless, the sick, and anyone else in need - these, too, are our neighbors whom we are called to love. This is a stewardship obligation clearly set forth in the Gospels. We are called to feed the hungry, tend the sick, clothe the naked and welcome the stranger. These, too, are part of the Church.

When we are charged - by society or by God - to care for someone or something, we are stewards. How do we fulfill our obligations? We can certainly give of our income. Perhaps you can mend vestments? How are your carpentry skills? Can you collect clothes and food for the homeless? Can you knit a scarf or hat for someone who has none? How about lending a sympathetic ear to a troubled friend? It is in giving of ourselves for others that we, as Christians, should find our greatest joy, and there are countless ways to be joyful.

Reflection Questions:

What is something you can do well?

How can that be used to help the Church, either inside or outside the walls?

by The Rev. Carolyn Woodall

We continue to explore the idea of Living Generously as the focus of [our Stewardship campaign for 2017](#), which will culminate with Commitment Sunday on November 13. **Please watch for your pledge cards in the mail.** If you've had a recent change of address, or you do not receive your stewardship mailing by Wednesday, October 26, [please let us know](#).

This Week at Grace

Worship Services:

Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist
Sunday 10:00am Holy Eucharist with Music
Wednesday Noon Holy Eucharist

Thursday Noon Concerts: Our popular free concert series continues, featuring Rachel Long on Trumpet next week, October 27. Thank you for encouraging friends, family, co-workers and/or visitors to join you.

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.




Music at Grace

Service of Choral Evensong, Sunday, November 6, 5:00pm at Grace Church. On All Saints' Sunday, November 6, please join us here at Grace Church for Choral Evensong with combined choirs from Grace and from St. Luke's in East Greenwich, featuring Cathedral Greats - Music of Wood, Howells and Parry.

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 (or any church for that matter!) is not required. The 45 minute classes will be led by Grace's Director of Music Vince Edwards. The children will learn the 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.

Please join us for
CHORAL EVENSONG
Featuring Cathedral Greats!



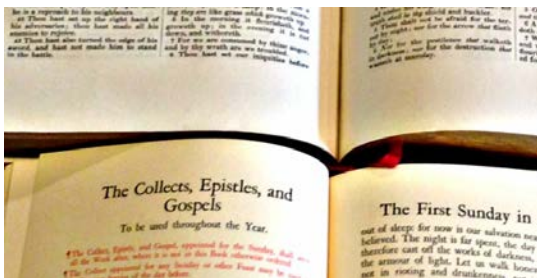
Mundy ♦ Howells ♦ Parry

*Sung by the choirs of Grace Church in Providence and
St. Luke's Church in East Greenwich*

Sunday, November 6 at 5 PM

Grace Church in Providence
Mathewson and Westminster Streets
www.gracechurchprovidence.org

October 23, 2016 - Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost



Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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:](#)

Sirach 35:12-17 Psalm 84:1-6 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18 Luke 18:9-14

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.

The 1829 Society - Special Workshop: November 13

The 1829 Society is sponsoring a 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 quite helpful -- will follow the 10:00am Sunday service on November 13th. We hope you will join us! Please call or [e-mail the church office](#) if you plan to attend.

Members of The 1829 Society have remembered Grace Church in their wills, and we hope many of you will consider supporting Grace in this way.

The 1829 Society of Grace Church was created to encourage giving to God, to invite you to give witness to God's abundance in your life, and to honor the loving faithful who assure and sustain the ministries of Grace Church. The Society's purpose is to encourage, support, and celebrate gifts made to our endowment. With a gift of any size, you may direct the income to an area of specific interest to you.



Episcopal Church Women of Rhode Island Annual Meeting & United Thank Offering



The Episcopal Church Women of Rhode Island will hold its Annual Meeting and United Thank Offering Collection on November 10, 2016 at St. Mary's Home for Children, 420 Fruit Hill Ave., North Providence, RI. The meeting will begin at 10:00am, followed by a presentation about St. Mary's Home. Noonday Eucharist with Bishop Knisely, followed by a catered luncheon. Prior to the morning meeting, coffee will be served during registration, beginning at 9:30am. This event offers a great opportunity to learn more about the work of your local ECW, and perhaps get involved! Reservations for the catered luncheon are required. The cost is \$10 per person, and the deadline for registration is November 3. Please mail your reservation, with check made payable to ECW-Diocese of RI, to: Mrs. Carol Blackinton, 20 Judy Terrace, West Warwick, RI 02893.

Please Support PICA



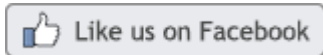
[PICA](#) (Providence In-Town Churches Association) will host a special Drink & Dabble fundraiser event Friday, November 4, 6:30pm, at B.Pinelli's, 736 N. Broadway, East Providence. Tickets are \$50, and include entertainment, art supplies, and light food buffet. Cash bar. Contact PICA at 401-454-7422 to reserve your tickets, or purchase online at drinkanddabble.com. Click here to [enlarge event flyer](#).

Connect with Grace

[Grace Church Website](#)

[This Sunday's Readings](#)

[Listen to Recent Sermons](#)



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.