



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

February 22, 2019

190th Annual Meeting of the Parish

Every Episcopal church has an Annual Meeting of the Parish. Though each parish does it in its own way, every annual meeting involves the election of new vestry members, as does ours. The Annual Meeting is also a time for the congregation to hear from the officers of the vestry, specifically the senior warden and the treasurer. The rector also addresses the congregation, either in the meeting itself or (as is the case at Grace) in the worship service before the meeting.



The annual meeting (together with the worship preceding it) is a chance for the parish to pray and take stock together about where we are as a parish, where we've been, and where God may be leading us in the future. And this will be the 190th annual meeting of the parish, so just a decade to go until the bicentennial!

This Sunday, February 24, please join us for the 190th Annual Meeting of Grace Church in Providence. The meeting will take place in The Pavilion beginning at 11:15am on February 24. All are welcome to attend. The Vestry Nominating Committee has nominated the following parishioners to stand for Vestry this year: Carissa Mills (first term), Lori Brown (first term), Doug Powell (second term), and Pam Stephanopoulos (second term). Sue Hall was nominated to serve as our parish delegate to the 2019 Diocesan Convention, with Charles Carroll nominated to serve as an alternate.

A Celebration of Life

Our community will gather this Saturday at Noon, February 23, for a Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of James Stephen Clarke, who passed away last Friday. All are invited to attend. May Jim's soul, and the souls of all the departed, rest in peace.



The doors will open at 11:30am; service begins at 12:00 Noon. Following the service, please join the family for a luncheon reception in The Pavilion at Grace. All are welcome.

First Choral Evensong of 2019

Please be sure to join us for our first Service of Choral Evensong in 2019, coming up on Sunday, March 3, at 4:00pm. Please stay tuned for details regarding the musical selections that will be featured, but in the meantime please mark your calendars, and please plan to attend if you are able.



Finance Presentation Document Available by Request

Last Sunday, the Finance & Investment Committee offered a presentation of Grace's finances to the congregation. If you were unable to attend, or if you would simply like to have the presentation document to look over, please e-mail the parish office at admin@gracepvd.org.

A New Heart for Lent and Easter

What is your hope for yourself this upcoming Lent? Can you imagine it as season of genuine repentance - a powerful change of heart that stretches you into a stronger and more whole version of your current self? Suppose taking on this challenge during Lent presented an opportunity for you to grow beyond the limits of who you are now... to grow into an even fuller embodiment of whom God has created you to be.

A New Heart

Spiritual Practice for Powerful Personal Change

Grace Church will present a special program for Lent and Easter led by Maria DeCarvalho, an Episcopal Priest who has previously served as Associate Rector here at Grace, Dean of the Cathedral of St. John, and Theologian in Residence at the American Cathedral in Paris.

Today, as co-Director of [Minds at Work](#), Maria is an executive coach working with leaders committed to their own personal development. Maria believes that this work resonates powerfully with the promises of God, vividly expressed in the words of the Prophet Ezekiel: "A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you."

The program is titled *A New Heart: Spiritual Practice for Powerful Personal Change*, and seeks to identify and remove inner obstacles that may stand between you and the realization of your dearest life goals. A New Heart will consist of three large-group sessions held in our own beautiful pavilion on the following dates and times:

Sunday, March 10; 12:00pm - 2:30pm

Saturday, March 30; 9:00am - 11:00am

Saturday, May 11; 9:00am - 11:00am

Coffee and light fare will be provided, as well as a program manual. Participants will be encouraged to gather for informal small-group off-site sessions. Tuition for this program is \$50, though **scholarships are readily available to Grace Church parishioners by contacting the rector**. And importantly, any proceeds from this program that are in excess of direct costs will support Grace to Go, the new meal-service ministry here at Grace.

To register, please [click here to reserve your spot](#) or call the parish office at 401-331-3225, and then drop-off, mail, or place in the Sunday offering plate a check made out to Grace Church in Providence with "A New Heart" indicated on the memo line. If submitting on a Sunday, please place the check in an envelope indicating "Attn: Parish Administrator".

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 will continue for the Winter/Spring 2019 season 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.



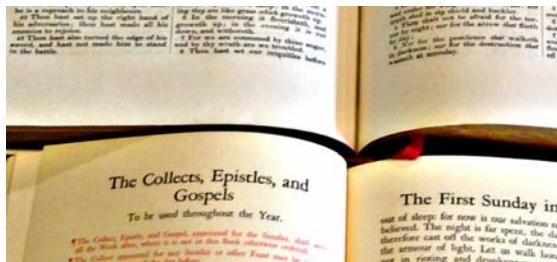
Wheelchair Access and Accessible Parking: Please find convenient accessible in the Grace Church parking lot with access from Snow Street. The new wheelchair ramp connects directly from the lot, and you will enter through the new reception entrance of The Pavilion and into the church at ground level.

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.
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February 24, 2019 Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, 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 is Lent?](#)
[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.

ECC 70th Anniversary Gala On June 1, 2019, Celebrate 70 years of joyful ministry at the Episcopal Conference Center in Pascoag, RI, and support future programming for children including inner city youth, children with special needs, the LGBTQ+ community, and individuals awaiting adoption. [Tickets are now on sale](#) for this 70th Anniversary Gala.

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