



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

May 4, 2018

Spotlight on Grace: Enjoy the Garden and Labyrinth

May is here...and so is the Pavilion garden! Well, unless it rains this Sunday... but this month, for sure, we'll be opening up the three giant glass doors that lead from the Pavilion into the garden. This will help coffee hour to flow from the Pavilion into the garden seamlessly, allowing us to spend that time outside again for the first time in two years!



In case you haven't noticed, the pavement stones in the garden are laid out in the form of a labyrinth, which you can walk while you pray/meditate, helping to focus your thoughts or prayers. We wouldn't recommend trying this during coffee hour (too many people about!), but we hope that many of you who find yourself at the church at a quieter time will make use of this ancient way of praying. We think it's safe to say that the Grace labyrinth is the only one in downtown Providence, and one of the very few in the entire city.

And since this is the first time we've had the garden in good weather (the Pavilion was dedicated in October), this is also the first time we've been able to have the garden open to the public on a daily basis. Each weekday, during our Open Doors Ministry, we will now be welcoming the public to visit the garden from 11 to 2. We hope people will visit for a moment of peace and beauty during their day in this busy neighborhood we call home. If you're downtown during the week, stop on by!

Eastertide Blessings,
Jonathan+

Getting a Handel on Britten



The Grace Church Choir and Soloists present: Getting a Handel on Britten, Sunday, May 6 at 5:00pm, at Grace Church in Providence. Selections include Britten's Rejoice in the Lamb, and Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Piano. And from Handel, selections from Messiah, Samson, Solomon, Israel in Egypt, and the Birthday Ode for Queen Ann.

2 Sundays to Give for Dorcas International

Join Dorcas International Institute of RI by supporting the Clothing Collaborative and Refugee Resource Center



You can help by providing:

- Business or casual clothing for adults or kids
- Fashion accessories
- Shoes
- Laptops & iPads/tablets
- Toiletries
- Bed & bath linens
- Dinnerware & cookware
- Cleaning products
- Gift cards

You Can Give on Sunday, April 29, Sunday, May 6 & Sunday, May 13

Meet us in the Pavilion before and after service!



DORCAS INTERNATIONAL
INSTITUTE OF RHODE ISLAND

Brought to you by the:
20s & 30s Community Group

The 150th Anniversary of Sissieretta Jones:

America's First Black Diva


Sissieretta Jones grew up in Providence, toured the world as a first rate soprano, broke racial barriers, and was the highest paid Black performer of her day.

For 85 years, she has rested in an unmarked grave in Grace Cemetery. At the conclusion of the celebration, a headstone will be dedicated at her gravesite in Grace Cemetery (at the confluence of Broad Street and Elmwood Ave.). Join others in funding the stone through a [GoFundMe page here](#).

On Thursday, June 7, please join us in The Pavilion at Grace for a presentation of "The Sun is Shining: Sissieretta Jones", a one-woman play. The performance will begin at 7:00pm.

[Please click here](#) to visit the Sissieretta Jones web page within the [Stages of Freedom website](#). Questions: (401) 421-0606

Mark your calendar for the many events listed at right, June 7-9th. All Events are Free & Open to the Public. [Please click here](#) to register for the Keynote at Providence Athenaeum on Friday, June 8.



STAGES
OF
Freedom

AMERICA'S FIRST BLACK DIVA: SISSIERETTA JONES AT 150

The following events comprise a three day national celebration

- 1) Thursday, June 7, 5pm
Exhibit Opening - Sissieretta Jones: The Greatest Singer of Her Race
Stages of Freedom Museum, 10 Westminster Street, Providence

- 2) Thursday, June 7, 7pm
"The Sun is Shining: Sissieretta Jones" A One-Woman Play
Providence Site to be Announced


- 3) Friday, June 8, 10am
Gallery Talk & Tea - Finding Sissieretta: Creating the Exhibit
Stages of Freedom Museum, 10 West Minster Street, Providence

- 4) Friday, June 8, 5pm
Keynote - Author Maureen Lee & Archivist Gino Francesconi of Carnegie Hall
Providence Athenaeum, 251 Benefit Street, Providence

- 5) Saturday, June 9, 9am
Walking Tour of Sissieretta Jones Historic Sites
Point of Origin: Stages of Freedom, 10 Westminster Street, Providence

- 6) Saturday, June 9, 2pm
Concert: Sissieretta Jones and Her Music
Congdon Street Baptist Church, 17 Congdon Street, Providence

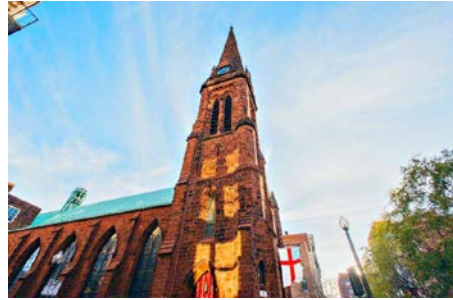
- 7) Saturday, June 9, 5pm
The Last Rose of Summer: Headstone Ceremony for Sissieretta's Unmarked Grave
Reception: Southside Cultural Center, 393 Broad Street, Providence
Procession to Grace Church Cemetery, Broad St. & Elmwood Ave., Providence



This Week at Grace

Weekly Worship Schedule:

Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist
Sunday 10:00am Holy Eucharist with Music
Wednesday 12:00 Noon Eucharist



Thursday Concerts at Noon: May 10 will feature a performance by Stephen Price, Organ. Mr. Price is a doctoral candidate at Indiana University and is Instructor of Organ at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

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.

Prayer Group: The prayer group meets the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 9:30am in the Chafee Room, which is accessed via Mathewson St.

20s/30s Group Potluck Dinner: The growing and active 20s/30s Group at Grace Church hosts a monthly potluck dinner on the first Thursday of each month in the beautiful Pavilion at Grace. Please contact Drake at 20s30s@gracepvd.org. **PLEASE NOTE:** An alternate date for the June potluck dinner will be announced, as The Pavilion will host a community event on June 7 (please above section on the Sissieretta Jones 150 Anniversary Celebration).

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.

Enroll for Summer Programs at ECC

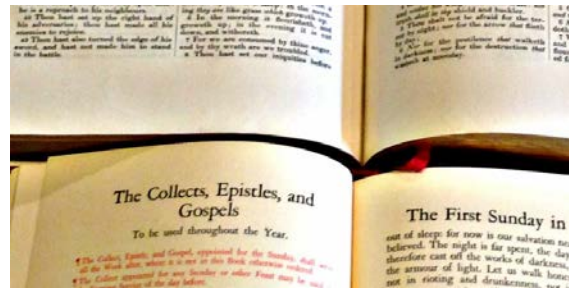
A great variety of summer camp programs for children and youths from age 4 through 12th grade are now enrolling at the Episcopal Conference Center in Pascoag, RI. Brochures are available in the narthex of the church, or [visit the ECC website for details](#) or to enroll. If you're interested in learning more, the ECC has two upcoming [Open House events scheduled](#).



May 6, 2018

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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](#):

This week from the Episcopal Church: [Ascension Day](#). [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.

Connect with Grace

[Grace Church Website](#)

[This Sunday's Readings](#)

[Listen to Recent Sermons](#)

