

Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

June 16, 2016

Spotlight on Grace: More Responses to the Tragedy in Orlando



As a faith community, we continue to process our grief and shock over the horror of yet another mass shooting - this one targeting patrons of an LGBTQ nightclub in Orlando, Florida. Let us follow the example of Jesus by welcoming each person who enters our doors, especially those who are marginalized; resisting discrimination and violence in all its forms, and recommitting ourselves to the cause of peace and justice for all God's people.

Please [click here](#) to read [Grace Church's response](#) to the tragedy in Orlando.

Please note: This Saturday, June 18, during the PrideFest event in downtown Providence, Grace Church will open its doors from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. for people to come into our sacred space for personal prayer and reflection. At 6 p.m., we will hold a brief Candlelight Service of Remembrance for victims of the tragedy. Throughout, we will fly the rainbow flag on the front of our building.

The following thoughts and prayers are excerpts from just a few of the poignant responses to this tragedy that continue to emerge [from across The Episcopal Church](#). Please click the links below for the full text of each.

From "First we Pray, Then we Move", a blog post by The Right Reverend Nicholas Knisely, Bishop of Rhode Island:

As followers of Jesus we are asked to move out toward the people who are persecuted and harmed and to take our place standing beside them. And we are asked to surround them with the kind of community that will start to slow the violence - to make these sorts of events a memory and not our future.

Please [click here](#) to read Bishop Knisely's full blog post.



Excerpt from a Litany for Gun Violence Prevention, written by the Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane, Bishop of Maine:

God of Justice, help us, your church, find our voice. Empower us to change this broken

world and to protest the needless deaths caused by gun violence. Give us power to rise above our fear that nothing can be done and grant us the conviction to advocate for change. For your dream of love and harmony, Loving God, Make us instruments of your peace. Amen.

Please [click here for more](#).

Collect from a Eucharistic Liturgy for the Tragedy in Orlando, prepared by St. Mary's Episcopal Church in St. Paul, Minnesota:

Holy God, you have made us members of one body, connected like muscle and bone. If one suffers, we all suffer. We gather tonight in common grief for the tragedy in Orlando, and for the seemingly relentless reality of gun violence. We seek to transform the world by doing what Jesus taught us: welcoming the stranger, loving our enemy, and working for justice. Tonight we pause in our confusion and grief. Through sacrament, song, and friendship, may your Spirit bind our broken hearts, and send us out with renewed dreams of a better day. This we ask in the name of the Holy Trinity, one God. Amen.

Please [click here](#) to view the full liturgy.

This Week at Grace

Worship Services:

Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist

Sunday 10:00am Holy Eucharist with music

Wednesday Noon Holy Eucharist

Street Closures this Weekend:

Please note that the short section of Snow Street between Weybosset and Chapel Streets will be closed for much of the weekend. While we're told the block will be opened up for us by Sunday morning, those who typically arrive using this portion of Snow Street from Weybosset, please have in mind to reach the Snow Street parking lots by one of two alternate routes: Mathewson Street to Chapel Street, or Empire Street to Chapel Street. Please see the graphic at right.

This Saturday, June 18, during the

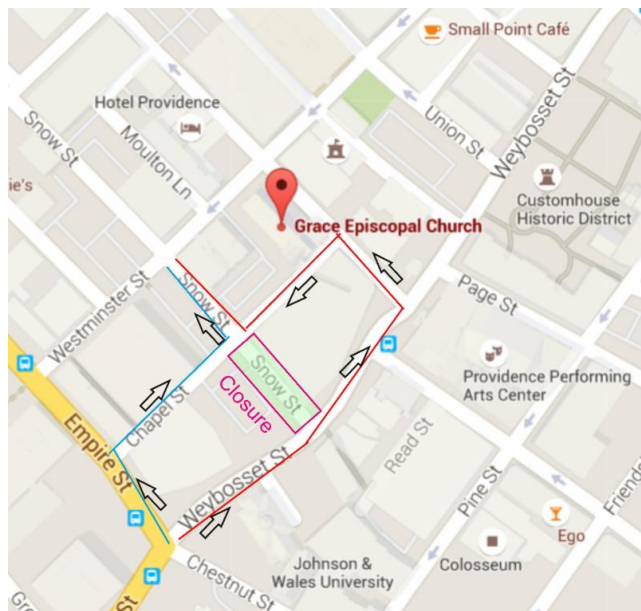
PrideFest event in downtown

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people to come into our sacred space for personal prayer and reflection. At 6 p.m., we will hold a brief Candlelight Service of Remembrance for victims of the tragedy. Throughout, we will fly the rainbow flag on the front of our building.

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- Book of Common Prayer, p. 823



Grace Church is OPEN to the Public each weekday from 11:00am until 2:00pm. Please tell your friends, co-workers, and visitors to stop by and explore this beautiful historic church. Our friendly docents will greet you with a smile.

Music at Grace

Summer Choir at Grace

During the summer months (Memorial Day to Labor Day) we will enjoy the leadership of our summer choir! Summer Choir is open to anyone who sings with the Grace Church Choir, or anyone who would like to try singing in the choir. We meet in the Choir Room at 8:45 AM on Sunday mornings, rehearse the hymns and psalm, and prepare a simple anthem or two. You don't need to give previous notice, but if you would like to try Summer Choir, please do [email Vince Edwards](mailto:vedwards@gracepvd.org), Director of Music, for more information, or if you have any questions. Feel free to sing one Sunday or every Sunday!

Exploring Music for Kids



Exploring Music for Kids!!
A one-day musical experience for kids entering grades 1 through 6 in the fall!

Saturday, June 25 – 9 to 3

Learn about singing, strings, brass, percussion, piano . . . and more!

*Cost: \$10 per child (includes snacks and lunch)
To register your child, contact Vince Edwards
vedwards@gracepvd.org or 331-3225 x4*

Sponsored by Grace Church in Providence
300 Westminster St.

The poster features a green border, musical notes, and illustrations of children playing instruments.

The Music Program at Grace Church will host an exciting one-day event called Exploring Music for Kids on Saturday, June 25 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. This is a wonderful "musical immersion" experience for kids entering grades 1 through 6 in the fall. The kids will experience group singing, piano playing, and demonstrations on many various orchestral and band instruments. We hope to gather boys and girls both from the Grace community, and also from throughout the greater Providence area, so please help us spread the word! The cost is only \$10 per child, including snacks and lunch! Please print a registration form by [downloading it from our website here](#), picking one up here at the church (located on the music program's table near the entrance to the nave), or [request a form via e-mail](#).

We also need non-musical help! We are looking for folks who are willing to help with registration on the day, and to shepherd groups of kids from place to place. We also need help with setting up and serving snacks and lunch. If you are able to help with any of these tasks, or want more information about helping, please contact Director of Music Vince Edwards: vedwards@gracepvd.org or 331-3225 x4.

Announcing an exciting new program for Fall 2016: The Grace Church Choristers

- A choir for boys and girls, grades 2 through 12
- Learn healthy vocal technique, music-reading skills, and history of music & the church!
- Sing the world's greatest sacred music, spanning 500 years!
- Perform alongside the Choir of Grace Church in our splendid landmark building!
- Attend a 5-day Choir Camp at Incarnation Center in Ivoryton, CT



- Free piano lessons offered to the first 10 choristers who join the program!

Please click here for the full Choristers program brochure. Musical interviews may be held at any time, but choristers must be registered for the program by July 1 to be able to attend the August 15-19 Choir Camp.

For more information, or to schedule a Musical Interview, please contact Vince Edwards, Director of Music at Grace Church: vedwards@gracepvd.org or 401-331-3225, ext 4

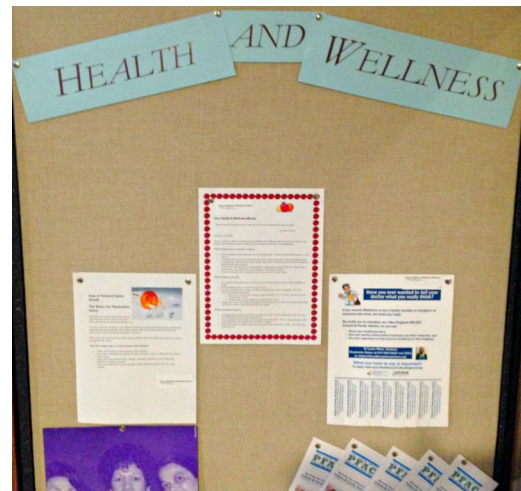
Your Health & Wellness Minute

"We are the voices and the hands that encourage people to change their lives with hope, comfort and peace."

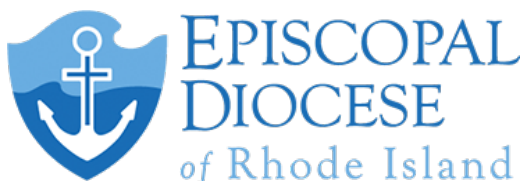
- Grace Episcopal Church Health and Wellness Ministry Mission Statement

Please note that we now have a bulletin board, posted in the Narthex for your review. We will post new items at least monthly.

For more information on our program, please contact: Pam Quinn RN CPHQ at pquinn371@gmail.com.



YES! A Workshop Series by the Episcopal Diocese of RI



The Commission on Ministry will again offer the Yes! curriculum beginning on September 21 through November 9, 2016. The 7 session course will be facilitated by our Archdeacon, The Venerable Janice Grinnell, and will be held at St. Columba's Chapel in Middletown, RI. This

program is in direct response to lay people who are seeking ways to discern and understand their God given purpose. Cost for the entire series is \$100. [Please click here](#) for a listing of all 7 session times.

[Please click here to Register Online](#)

For more information, contact Canon Betsy Fornal, 401-274-4500, ext. 225, [or by e-mail](#).

Your Priest-in-Charge: The Reverend Lavonne Seifert

During the period of Jonathan's sabbatical, through the end of August, please direct all pastoral questions, inquiries, and/or conversations to Mother Lavonne Seifert.



Lavonne will serve as Priest-in-Charge of Grace Church, and is already well known to this congregation as both a longtime parishioner and as our current Associate Rector. To speak with Lavonne, or to make an appointment to visit with her, you may reach her by telephone at 401-331-3225 (ext. 6), or via email: lseifert@gracepvd.org.

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amazonsmile

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.