

Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

July 15, 2016

Spotlight on Grace: Looking Back as we Look Ahead



The space along Westminster Street that Grace Church's new 'Great Hall' and cloister garden will soon occupy has quite a storied past. The old postcard at left shows the Nickel Theatre, which reportedly debuted as the first regular movie operation in Providence on April 18, 1906... the same day as [the San Francisco earthquake](#).

As a sidenote, Grace Church itself was constructed in 1846 on the site where the old Providence Theater once stood. In 1832, the parishioners of Grace church purchased and modified that theater, though just over a decade later that smaller structure was moved off the site to make way for our beloved present-day Richard Upjohn church.

But certainly, of the theaters that have stood on this ground, none approximated the splendor of the E.F. Albee Theatre. The Albee was completed in 1919, and began showing movies in 1925 following the installation of a Wurlitzer organ. [According to one researcher](#): "By the late 1950's, as with all other downtown palaces across the land, the Albee Theatre went into a decline. In 1965 the life of the R.K.O. Albee Theatre as a movie theatre came to an end. As one of the reasons, the management cited the competition from area drive-in theatres."

During the demolition of the Albee Theatre in June of 1970, as many of our parishioners may indeed recall, a wall collapse damaged an adjacent portion of the nave of Grace Church.

People have long gathered in this lot adjacent to Grace Church. Between 1906 and 1965, they gathered for entertainment. Even once the space was reduced to mere asphalt, Grace parishioners came together here for fellowship and ministry as our 'coffee



hour' following the principal Sunday service moved outdoors annually in season. Today, as we work to construct our new 'Great Hall' and cloister garden, the stage will soon be set for generations of joyous gatherings yet to come. If you would like to play an active role in bringing this exciting new chapter to completion, please consider contributing to the Grace Church capital campaign -- *Restore, Renew, Reach, Rejoice* -- if you haven't done so already. For more information, please [contact parish administrator Chris Barker](#), or call 401-331-3225.



This Week at Grace

Worship Services:

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

Parking for Worship: During construction on the site of the Grace Church parking lot, parking for Sunday worship is provided in the lot diagonally across Westminster Street, on the NW corner of Westminster and Snow Streets. For the Wednesday Noon Eucharist, we are unable to provide parking at this time.



Open Doors Ministry: The Open Doors Ministry will return next week, likely by midweek. Thank you for your understanding through this initial phase of construction.


Wheelchair Access and Accessible

Parking:

A temporary ramp will soon appear, providing wheelchair access from the sidewalk on Westminster Street into the church. A parking spot for people with disabilities has been posted for Sundays on Mathewson Street near Westminster.

Sunday School Summer Session: July 17, 24, and 31: focusing on stories from the Hebrew scriptures. We will spend some time on Moses, Joshua, Esther and Deborah. Please come as you can!

Please Don't Miss Candlesong: Reflective music for the city and the soul. Saturday, July 23, 8:00-8:20pm, doors open 7:30pm. Gleaming candlelight, fragrant incense and sublime Gregorian chant combine to create a restful and reflective atmosphere. A brief Compline service to end your day with peace and reverence. Let the experience of Candlesong wash over you.



July 23 at 8:00pm

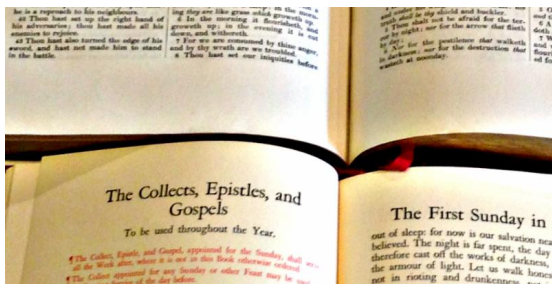
Grace Church in Providence

candlesong

Reflective music
for the city
and the soul...

20 minutes of chant by candlelight
8:00pm (doors open 7:30pm)
at Westminster and Mathewson Streets
Pair Candlesong with Waterfire for an
unforgettable Providence evening

July 17, 2016 - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, 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](#):

Genesis 18:1-10a Psalm 15 Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-42

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.

Music at Grace

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 August 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

YES! A Workshop Series by the Episcopal Diocese of RI



**EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE**
of Rhode Island

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.



Connect with Grace

[Grace Church Website](#)

[This Sunday's Readings](#)

[Listen to Recent Sermons](#)



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[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)



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.