



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

175 MATTHEWSON STREET PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903 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 and to downtown Providence.

Grace Episcopal Church E-News

Grace Abounds

March, 2015

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Deadline: March E-News

Please [forward](#) any content for April's e-news by Friday, March 20th.

Rector's Letter

Dear Friends,

This year, the month of March is entirely within the season of Lent, a time when Christians are encouraged to give renewed attention to their relationship with God and their brothers and sisters in Christ and also to practice repentance, either personally or communally. I invite you all to join me and others in following Lent with the brothers of the Society of St. John the Evangelist through short vides at <http://ssje.org/ssje/time/> that will help us think about time, and how to experience it as a gift from God. While this following Lent together with the brothers can be undertaken anytime, anywhere, we will also have the opportunity to gather together in community to reflect on a Bible passage and share a meal together in "Four Fridays in Lent" (more info below).

Lastly, Grace will host our own bishop, Nicholas Knisely, and many others on Thursday, March 19th, for an inter-faith vigil against gun violence (more info below). This will be an Lenten opportunity for communal repentance with people of faith throughout our city.

I hope you will be able to join us for regular worship as well as the Lenten events at Grace.

God's Peace,

Jonathan

Grace Church Calendar

Sundays in March

8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Eucharist

Wednesdays in March

12:00 p.m. Noonday Eucharist

12:20 p.m. Intercessory Prayer

Saturdays,

March 7th and 21st

9:30 a.m. Women's Prayer and

Bible Study: Chafee Room

Palm Sunday

March 29

8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Eucharist

On Sundays in Lent, the rector will lead a discussion on the Christian Faith in the Anglican/Episcopal tradition, including theology and the Bible, history of the Church, the Book of Common Prayer, the structure of the Church, and a look at contemporary issues. The class will meet Sunday mornings at 9 am in the Chafee Room. Adults interested in the sacraments of baptism or Confirmation (or Reception or Renewal of Baptismal Vows) should attend the classes, but anyone in the parish is welcome to come to any or all of them. If you have any questions, please contact the rector at jhuyck@gracechurchprovidence.org or at 331-3225.



Lenten Giving Cross

During the season of Lent, we will be collecting donations for foster families welcoming a baby into the home. These donations, which will go to our partner agency, Children's Friend, will greatly aid foster families with the supplies they need to foster a baby or toddler. There are donation requests written on flower bulbs on the Lenten Cross, set up at the rear of the church, so please visit the cross to take a bulb and bring in your donation anytime in Lent. Thank you!



Anti-Gun Violence Vigil



Anti-Gun Violence Vigil

On Thursday, March 19th at 7 pm

Grace will host an interfaith service in memory of Rhode Islanders who died from gun violence this past year. Bishop Knisely will be one of the clergy leading prayers at the service, and all Grace Church parishioners are invited to attend.

"Four Fridays in Lent"

Please join with fellow Grace Church parishioners for a Lenten supper in the home of parishioner Liz Wheeler (12 Benevolent Street in Providence). We'll share dinner together and then have a short discussion. 6 to 8 pm on four consecutive Fridays beginning Friday, March 6. Please RSVP to Veda in the parish office at 331-3225 or administrator@gracechurchprovidence.org. Dinner will be provided, but feel free to bring a dessert to share.



Order Your Easter Lilies!



To adorn our beautiful sanctuary at Easter.

In memory of... in honor of... in thanksgiving for.....

Please pick up a form in the church and return it with \$20.00 (by mail or in the offering plate) in the provided envelope by Wednesday, April 1st. All gifts will be designated within the service leaflets for The Easter Vigil and The Easter Day services. If you have any questions please e-mail Christine Pulciani, Grace Church Flower Guild at pulciani@aol.com

Director of Music Search Update

The search committee has begun reviewing the dozens of applications we've received from musicians across the country who have applied to be our next Director of Music. In March, we will narrow the field and begin scheduling interviews with final candidates. Please keep our committee and process in your prayers!

Spousal Loss Group at Grace Church



If your spouse/partner has passed away in recent months, or even years, please join us for a six-week support group led by the Rev. Dr. Leslie Simonson, whose ministry of 44 years has included parish pastorates, membership on the staff team at Iona Abbey, adult Christian education, and Hospice chaplaincy. Her 5 years of Hospice work has involved offering bereavement support, in small group settings, four times a year in locations around the state of Rhode Island, and she has personally benefited from support group ministry following losses in her own family. Though each group

forms as uniquely as each individual and each partnership, there are two consistent realizations which every group provides: "I am not losing my mind, I have lost a best beloved" and "Even though I feel so alone, I am not alone."

The group at Grace will meet in the Chafee Room from 2 to 4 on Wednesday afternoons, beginning on March 25th. If you'd like to participate, please call or email the church office at 331-3225 or administrator@gracechurchprovidence.org, and leave us your name and email address or phone number. If you have questions that you would like Leslie to address by phone before deciding whether to participate, please give permission by March 15th to the church office to release your number to her, and she will contact you to answer any questions you have.

Grace Church e-letter Administrators
Grace Episcopal Church

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