

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

October, 2015

In This Issue

News Flash!
Rector's Letter
From the Director of Music
Return of the Bells Cookout!
Blessing of the Animals
Open Doors Ministry is Back!
Wednesday at Noon
Parish Mini-Retreat
Small Groups at Grace
Looking ahead . . .



Like us on Facebook

Quick Links

[Grace Church Website](#)
[Directions](#)
[Visitor's Guide](#)

Deadline: November E-News

Please [forward](#) any content for November's e-news by **Friday, October 16th..**

Grace Church Calendar

Sundays in October
8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Eucharist

Wednesdays in October
12:00 p.m. Noonday Eucharist
12:20 p.m. Intercessory Prayer

Thursdays Noon
Informal Organ Concerts *gratis*

Saturdays,
October 10th & 24th
9:30 a.m. Women's Prayer and Bible Study: Chafee Room

News Flash!

The parish cookout scheduled for this Sunday has been **postponed** by a week due to weather. Please bring your side dishes/desserts to share NEXT Sunday, October 11th. The blessing of the animals will continue this Sunday as scheduled.

ALSO this Sunday (October 4th), there will be another road race in downtown Providence, which could affect your travel to church that day. Click [here](#) to see the route of the race.

Rector's Letter

Dear Friends,

While cleaning our kitchen last week, I listened to an interview with a Lutheran pastor on the National Public Radio show, Fresh Air. As I washed and dried dishes, I was captivated by this pastor's life and words, largely having to do with God's grace. And since our parish is actually named Grace (and since the Episcopal Church is in full communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), I especially thought it worth sharing with all of you. You can listen to the interview [here](#).

Pastor Bolz-Weber's church may be unique (or close to it), but hearing her speak, I felt that the openness and welcome and diversity she speaks of also fits our own parish to a tee, thanks be to God. I hope you enjoy the story as much as I did!

Blessings to you all,

Jonathan+

From the Director of Music

Thursday Noon Organ Concerts! Please join Director of Music Vince Edwards for informal half-hour organ concerts at noon on Thursdays, beginning October 8. Feel free to come for the entire concert or just a few minutes. Invite a friend to join you, and share the beauty of Grace Church and the mighty organ!

Did you know . . . that the Grace Church organ has over 6000 individual pipes arranged in the front (chancel) and back (nave/gallery) of the church? Did you know . . . that the beautiful walnut gallery organ case and stenciled pipes date to 1886? Did you know . . . that the organ console (keyboards and command center) is so large that the organist uses cameras and a video screen to see what is happening during the Sunday service?

The Choir of Grace Church is growing! We have 27 dedicated members in the choir but there's room for more! If you've considered singing in the choir or know someone who is a good candidate, please speak to Vince Edwards, Director of Music or email him at vedwards@gracechurchprovidence.org.

-Vince Edwards
Director of Music at Grace Church

Return of the Bells Cookout!



Join us for a parish cook-out after church on October 11th (in the parking lot, of course!). On that day we will give thanks for the successful restoration of the exterior of our historic church and formally ring our church bells again after months of silence during the restoration. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. If the weather is bad on the 11th, we'll proceed with our meal in Gammell Hall.

Blessing of the Animals

Grace Church will host our annual Blessing of the Animals during the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, October 4. The annual event honors St. Francis of Assisi, known as the patron saint of animals. So bring your dogs, cats, birds or other animals - or a picture if your animal doesn't travel well - to have them blessed by the rector.



Open Doors Ministry is Back!



After being closed during the exterior renovations, the front doors of Grace Church are open again during the week, thanks to our wonderful volunteer docents! Each weekday from 11 to 2, the front doors of Grace Church are open to the public for anyone who wants to visit, pray...or just get warm or dry for a few hours. This ministry makes Grace the only church in downtown Providence that is open every weekday! The church also offers two weekly events at noon - the celebration of the Holy Eucharist on Wednesdays and an informal organ concert on Thursdays. So stop by Grace during the week - we're open!

Wednesday Noon Eucharist

Is Back!

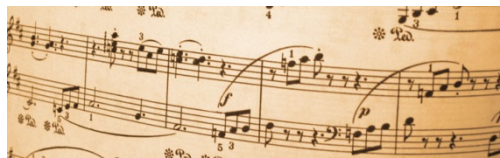
"The Desert in the Bible and in our Lives"

"The Desert in the Bible and in our Lives" with Kathleen Norris on Thursday, October 8th at 6 p.m. Kathleen Norris is a renowned spiritual writer and Episcopalian who worshipped with us here at Grace last year while teaching at Providence College. She will be visiting from her home in Hawaii next month and has kindly offered to give this mini-retreat for the parish. To sign up, call or email the parish administrator at administrator@gracechurchprovidence.org or 331-3225. Suggested donation (to cover the cost of dinner) is \$20, at Hotel Providence (across the street from the church).

Small Groups at Grace

Small Group gatherings will take place on five consecutive Fridays, beginning on October 16th, for a shared meal and Bible Study/discussion. They will all begin at 6 p.m., except for one which will meet over breakfast at 8 a.m. You can sign up at the back of the church on Sundays or simply call or email the parish administrator at 331-3225 or administrator@gracechurchprovidence.org. We've tried to locate the gatherings in different areas (Providence, East Providence, North Providence, Cranston, and Barrington), so hopefully there's one not far from you, but sign up for whichever one you like!

Looking ahead . . .



On Sunday, November 1, at 5 p.m. the Grace Church Choir will join the choir of St. Luke's, East Greenwich for a service of Choral Evensong. The service will be held at St. Luke's, 99 Peirce St. in East Greenwich. Music of Nares and Brahms will be featured in this beautiful service of music and prayer.

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to administrator@gracechurchprovidence.org by news@gracechurchprovidence.org | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [About our service provider.](#)



Grace Episcopal Church | 175 Mathewson Street | Providence | RI | 02903-3499