



GRACE
ABOUNDS



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

September 13, 2019

Spotlight on Grace: Worship Wherever You Roam

Grace Church parishioner Pam Baker recently traveled to down South, and attended worship at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Fort Mill, South Carolina.

During the sermon, the rector spoke about the ceiling of their church, and how the exposed beams were intended to evoke the structure of a seafaring ship. Visualizing the entire roof and ceiling as akin to an overturned vessel, she referenced the symbolism of the overturned boat as being one of shelter and protection. As in the case of Ernest Shackleton's epic tale of survival on a remote Antarctic isle, an overturned vessel can indeed be a protective shelter.

But the reasons why churches often incorporate elements of maritime symbolism likely relate to one or both of the key seafaring elements in the Bible: namely, Noah's Ark and Peter's fishing craft. The symbolism of the church as a ship is itself an ancient one, as even the word *Nave* derives from the Latin *Navis*, or *ship*. According to [one online source](#), "It is the Church tossed on the sea of disbelief, worldliness, and persecution but finally reaching safe harbor with its cargo of human souls." The next time you walk into Grace Church, have a look up at our own vaulted ceiling, and see if you find the structure of a ship evoked by the massive wooden trusses supporting the church roof.



Seasons of Love: Come to the Cabaret!

Back by popular demand, [Collegium Ancora's](#) Cabaret fundraiser will be held on Saturday, September 21 at 6 PM in The Pavilion at Grace. This year's show will feature numerous members of Collegium sharing their considerable and diverse talents with standards from the Broadway stage and the Cabaret room.



Favorites such as "Summertime" from Porgy and Bess will take center stage, as well as "Seasons of Love" from Rent (the inspiration for this year's theme).

In addition to a musical feast, wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served, and a Silent Auction will feature items small and large, including a three night stay at a Cape Cod condo!

Tickets are \$35 each, or reserve a table of eight for \$250 (a savings of \$30). A limited number of bench seats are available for \$25.

Please [click here](#) to reserve your tickets today while they last. to reserve your tickets today. Only 100 tickets are available so get yours now! There will be a Collegium representative at Coffee Hour the next two Sundays with a laptop - happy to help you buy your tickets on the spot! For more information or for ticketing questions please direct questions to collegiumancora@gmail.com.

Here's the site to purchase tickets:

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4322355>

The New Season of Music at Grace

If you did not receive your Music at Grace booklet for the Winter 2019 and Spring 2020 season in the mail, please be sure to pick up a copy the next time you're here. It which outlines an exciting year of concerts and music-filled worship here at Grace.

In addition to the Collegium Cabaret highlighted above, upcoming are the season openers for:

Compline - September 15 (8 PM)

Choral Evensong - September 22 (4 PM)



Grace's Perpetual Food Drive

Grace Church's support of [Better Lives RI](#) (formerly known as PICA), forms an core component of our Outreach Ministry. If you've observed parishioners dropping off food donations on Sunday mornings, that's in support of our perpetual food drive to help stock the shelves of the food pantry at Better Lives RI. You'll find a basket located behind the back row of pews in the church, and your donations of non-perishable food items are greatly appreciated. Peanut butter and canned protein are particularly well received. Leading up to Thanksgiving, you will hear more about our food drive as we make a particular effort to stock the food pantry shelves for the holiday season. In addition to this direct food support, Grace's Outreach Ministry also makes regular monetary contributions to Better Lives RI to support their operations.



This Week at Grace

Weekly Worship Schedule:

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

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.

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.



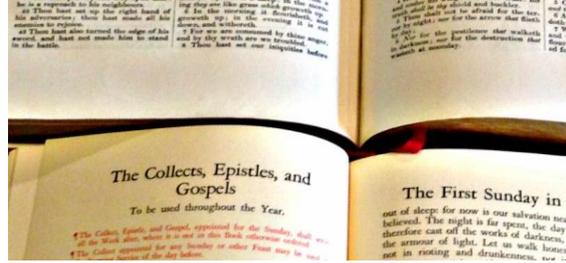
Parking for Worship: Free parking for Sunday worship is provided:

- 1.) in the lot diagonally across Westminster Street, on the NW corner of Westminster and Snow; and
 - 2.) 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.
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September 15, 2019

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through 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](#).

This week from the Episcopal Church: [Holy Cross 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.
