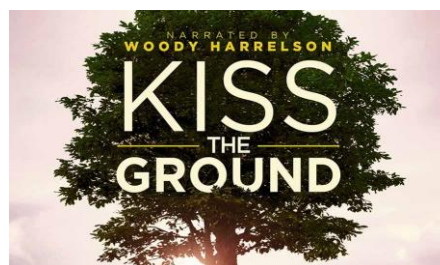




Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church _____ April 23, 2021

Spotlight: Faith Climate Action Week

Grace Church will conclude its celebration of Faith Climate Action Week this **Sunday, April 25**, with a special guest preacher for the 10 a.m. service, and an online discussion of the film "**Kiss the Ground**" Sunday evening via Zoom at 5 p.m.



[Wen Stephenson](#) will join us on Sunday morning as our guest lay preacher. He is a journalist and essayist with former stints at The Atlantic, PBS Frontline, The Boston Globe, and as senior/managing producer of NPR's On Point. Since 2010, he has devoted himself to environmental writing and climate activism, and is the author of the book **What We're Fighting for Now is Each Other: Dispatches from the Front Lines of Climate Justice**. Please join the service online or [reserve your spot](#) for limited in-person attendance.

To conclude the week on **Sunday at 5 p.m.**, you are invited to participate in a Zoom discussion of the movie "**Kiss the Ground**," which highlights how regenerating the world's soils could potentially "stabilize the Earth's climate, restore lost ecosystems, and create abundant food supplies." It is [available for free viewing](#) from now till April 25. [The film is also available on Netflix.](#)

Please [use this Zoom link](#) to participate in the online discussion hosted by our Rector, and led by volunteers from the Parish Engagement Committee.

Topic: Faith Climate Action Week Zoom Discussion

Time: Apr 25, 2021 05:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82139326852>

Meeting ID: 821 3932 6852

One tap mobile: +19292056099,,82139326852# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Finally, if you attend church in person on Sunday, the 25th, please look for handouts about climate change and a sign-up sheet to receive more information from Interfaith Power & Light about its various initiatives. If you would like a handout e-mailed or mailed to you, please contact Paula Keogh at providencekeoghs@gmail.com.

Spring Clean-up of Grace Church Cemetery This Saturday

*This Saturday April 24th, 2021
from 9am-12pm, Trinity
Gateway Historic Improvement
Association (TGHIA) will host*

its annual spring clean-up of Grace Church Cemetery. This historic location at the cross section of Elmwood Ave & Reservoir Ave is in deep need of some care. Grace Church is requesting strong participation from among our community of parishioners to help make this clean-up a success. [Please click here to sign up](#), and help us clean these 9-acres of land. Founded in 1834, our cemetery holds more than 8500 dearly departed members of our community. Sadly, the landscape is often littered, and many headstones have been toppled.

In the past, we have removed two large dumpsters of garbage (over 1200 pounds!), planted flowers, raked leaves, and cleaned the landscape for all to enjoy. ***Our goal this year: clean up the debris, remove leaves and fallen branches, discarded trash, and connect with the community – while following safe social distancing of course!***

Want to sign up? [Complete this form](#). Can't make it, but still want to help? [Make a financial donation here](#) and help spread the word – tell your friends, families, co-workers and neighbors! [Share the event on Facebook!](#)



Thursdays at Noon Concerts

On Thursday, April 22, we welcomed The Rev. Benjamin Straley to the organ console of Grace Church. Prior to his ordination to the priesthood, Benjamin was a professional organist and church musician, serving as Organist of the Washington National Cathedral. He played a program of Edward Elgar, J.S. Bach, and Healey Willan. [Click here](#) or on the image to the right to watch the recorded concert!



Next week's artist will be **Cheryl Bishkoff**, Principal Oboe of the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra. Cheryl will play works by Robert Valentine, Carl Nielsen, and Émile Paladilhle, accompanied by Vince Edwards.

If you would like to attend the Thursday Concerts in person, please email Vince Edwards at vedwards@gracepvd.org with you Name and Phone Number.

Please note, if you are not able to attend in person, or prefer not to yet, we will still be live-streaming this and all concerts going forward. The recordings of the live-streamed concerts will also be made available in the usual places ([church website](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), and [Vimeo](#)).



For a complete list of performers and videos of previous concerts, please check out the Thursdays at Noon Concerts webpage on the Grace website by [clicking here](#).

Sunday Morning Worship: In Person and Live-streamed

Every Sunday Morning, Grace Church offers a 'live-stream' broadcast of our Sunday morning eucharist service. We hope this experience allows those who are not able to join us in person on Sundays to participate in the worship life at Grace.

The service will be live-streamed to the [Grace Church Facebook Page](#) and the [Grace Church YouTube Channel](#). Please use the links provided below to watch. The services will also be archived on the [Grace Church website](#), [Vimeo](#), Facebook, and YouTube pages for 'on-demand' viewing after Sunday morning.



Sunday Morning Links

YouTube: [Click here!](#)

Facebook: [Click here!](#)

If you'd like to download or print the service leaflet for The Fourth Sunday of Easter: Good Shepherd, [please click here.](#)

If you would like to attend a Sunday morning service 'in person', pre-registration is required.

To pre-register your attendance, please [click here.](#)

In person attendees will be required to abide by social distancing norms as well as wear a mask for the entirety of the service (besides when consuming communion). We are currently limited to 40 spots, thus the sooner you pre-register the better!

**Regardless of how you choose to participate in our worship life together, we hope you join us either in person or 'virtually' online!
As always, ALL ARE WELCOME at Grace Church!**

What Became of Our Easter Lilies?

Grace Church is happy to announce our newly developed partnership with What Cheer Flower Farm, a Providence based non-profit. The Farm's mission is to grow, rescue and give flowers to those in need, lifting spirits by sharing the beauty of flowers and by providing training in growing and floristry.

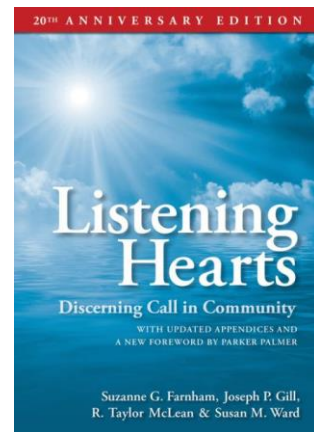


Our gently used flowers will be picked up by the Farm's Flower Rescue Program and returned to the Farm where they will be processed by volunteers who cut stems, strip leaves and rearrange them into bouquets that are then delivered to local hospitals, hospices, shelters, recovery centers, the veterans home, senior services and other nonprofits serving people who are under stress.

We are fortunate to have our altar adorned with beautiful flowers throughout the year and by donating them to What Cheer Farm, the "Flowers of Grace" will have an additional opportunity to brighten up someone's day while enabling the Farm to fulfill their mission of bringing solace and joy to people in need. If you'd like to learn more about What Cheer Farm, [please click here](#).

Listening Hearts: A Five Week Series

The pandemic has changed us in ways yet to be realized. The Rev. Jennifer West is inviting those so inclined to prayerfully dialogue about our present relationship with God through a five week discussion series based on the renowned book *Listening Hearts* by Suzanne Farnham and others.



Entering its 30th anniversary this book helps readers to “clarify and expand their understanding of call, ministry, discernment, and community as they relate to one another.”

Designed for those with an appreciation for silence and listening, each discussion session will center on an aspect of discernment: What is Call for the Christian?, What is Discernment?, What Conditions Help to Discern God's Call?, Is It God We Are Hearing?, and Why Is Christian Community Important in Hearing God's Call?

Beginning on May 22 (Memorial Day Weekend excluded) on Saturday mornings, participants are expected to read *Listening Hearts* before the first session and, to maintain the coherence of the group, to commit to faithful attendance. Interested in participating or learning more? Please [contact Grace Church](#) or [Jennifer West](#) or call Jennifer at 401

867-0474.

Wednesday Virtual Prayer Group

The Wednesday prayer group invites all parishioners to join them in prayer via Zoom every Wednesday at noon. If you can't make that time but would still like to have their prayer list for your own prayers, you can request that list instead. Either way, contact Adrienne Southgate at asouthgate1@cox.net to join in.



April 25, 2021

The Fourth Sunday of Easter: Good Shepherd

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

For the texts of the readings for The Fourth Sunday of Easter: Good Shepherd, [please click here.](#)

[Click here](#) for the latest from the Episcopal News Service. And for current news from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, [please click here.](#)

