

Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church _____ January 7, 2022

Spotlight: Warmth to Share

Grace's Prayer Shawl Ministry collected a bounty of beautiful handmade hats and scarves from its growing ranks of knitters, and these were blessed on the First Sunday after Christmas. We would like to thank all of our knitters for their kind works!

On this past Sunday, January 2nd, they were distributed among the homeless by The Rev. Hartwell Hylton following the outdoor worship of Church Beyond the Walls at Burnside Park in downtown Providence.

For the month of January, the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be making more winter items, this



time to share with Afghani refugees. Although the in-person knitting sessions on Wednesdays have been paused for the moment, If you would like to learn more or get involved, or if you know someone who may wish to knit and donate items, please contact Jane Ditmars.

Lessons & Carols for Epiphany has been cancelled.

We have decided, given the increase in local Covid cases, to cancel our service of Lessons and Carols for Epiphany, which was to have been this coming Sunday, January 9. We hope to keep the choir present and singing for Sunday morning services, but feel that it is not prudent to add other large choral services to the schedule at this time. Thanks for your understanding, and we hope to bring back this wonderful service next year.



On-Site Weekday Ministries Paused

Given the surging rate of community spread of the Omicron variant, our on-site weekday ministries have been paused through the end of January. Activities placed on this temporary pause include: Wednesday Noon Eucharist, Thursday Noon Concerts, the Open Doors Ministry, and on-site gatherings of the Quilting, Prayer Shawl, and 20s/30s ministries. We look forward to resuming those weekday activities as soon as conditions improve, so please stay tuned to the weekly ENews.



Our in-person Sunday worship will continue, but

please take care to retain your face masks in place throughout your time indoors here. For the time being, we will not gather for Coffee Hour following worship.

Helping Afghani Refugees

Grace Church will be working with the Dorcas International Resettlement Program, helping to place refugees from Afghanistan in homes in our area. There are sign up sheets located on the table in The Pavilion for two upcoming Saturdays in **January (1/8 & 1/22)** where we will need at minimum a team of 15



volunteers. There are also info packets about the volunteer work available. (please only take one if you are volunteering and please only take one per family). If you are interested in signing up to volunteer, please fill out the sign up sheet and Bill Galligan will contact

you with more info once we have enough volunteers. All ages are welcome to help out!

In addition to the volunteer work, Dorcas is ESPECIALLY desperate for furniture. Gently used coffee tables, side tables, bedside tables, dining room tables and chairs, bureaus, area rugs in good repair and condition, bunk beds, couches and stuffed chairs. All without rips and unsightly wear. These can be brought to the Furniture Bank of RI, our space is in the back.

Address: Furniture Bank of RI 70 Ernest St, Providence, RI 02905

Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM Saturday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

If you need assistance with a truck to move larger items or if you have any questions about this volunteer opportunity please email Bill Galligan at <u>wgalligan@gmail.com</u>

Also, if you are someone with a truck or van and would be willing to help out with any large items please reach out to Bill.

Sunday Morning Worship: The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord January 9, 2022

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.



~ Sunday Morning Links ~ YouTube: <u>Click here!</u> Facebook: <u>Click here!</u>

This service will be live-streamed to the <u>Grace Church Facebook Page</u> and the <u>Grace</u> <u>Church YouTube Channel</u>. Please use the links provided below to watch. The service will also be archived on the <u>Grace Church website</u>, <u>Vimeo</u>, Facebook, and YouTube pages for 'on-demand' viewing after Sunday morning. We hope this experience allows those who are not able to join us in person on Sunday to participate in the worship.

IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE POLICY: All individuals are kindly asked to wear masks indoors at Grace Church when attending worship or other events.

Regardless of how you choose to participate in our worship life together, ALL ARE WELCOME at Grace Church!

January 9, 2022 The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

For the texts of the readings for The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Jesus<u>please click here.</u>

<u>Click here</u> for the latest from the Episcopal News Service. And for current news from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, <u>please click here</u>.

