



Grace *Abounds!*



Weekly News from Grace Episcopal Church - February 6, 2026

A Joint Letter from 154 Episcopal Bishops

On January 31, the following letter was released by numerous Episcopal dioceses across the country:

A letter to our fellow Americans.

We, the undersigned bishops of The Episcopal Church, write today out of grief, righteous anger, and steadfast hope.

What happened a week ago in Minnesota and is happening in communities across the country runs counter to God's vision of justice and peace. This crisis is about more than one city or state—it's about who we are as a nation. The question before us is simple and urgent: Whose dignity matters?

In the wake of the tragic deaths of two U.S. citizens, Alex Pretti and Renee Good, we join Minnesotans and people across the nation in mourning two precious lives lost to state-sanctioned violence. We grieve with their families, their friends, and everyone harmed by the government's policies. When fear becomes policy, everyone suffers. ...

[Click here to read the full text of the letter \(English or Spanish\) and the names of all 154 signing bishops.](#) Click below to watch a video on YouTube of the letter being read by some of the bishops.



Are You Ready for Your Close-Up?

Does your family need a picture for the Grace Church Parish Directory? Are you a new member and haven't yet been added to the directory? Have your kids grown up and you need a new photo that shows what they look like now?



Grace Church member Doug Ditmars will be taking family photos during Coffee Hour **this Sunday and next Sunday, February 15** (before and after the annual meeting). We'll aim to add all photos in time to produce a new, updated parish directory for members to pick up on Sunday, February 22.

If you can't make it for any of those times, please email a photo of your family to the parish office at admin@gracepvd.org.

Many thanks to Doug for providing this convenient way to add more photos to our directory!



Grace Church Annual Meeting - February 15

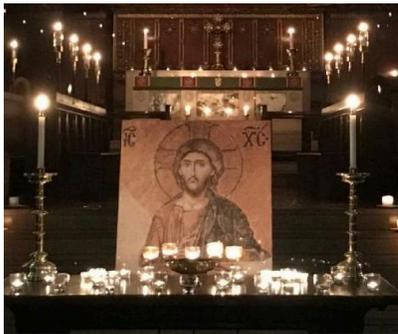
The 197th Annual Meeting of the Parish will take place in The Pavilion immediately following the 10am service on Sunday, February 15 (during Coffee Hour). We'll gather to hear reports from parish leaders and to elect vestry members.

The Vestry Nominating Committee (comprised of Pat Trosclair, Joel Goloskie, Erika Hernandez, Margrete Jean-Louis, and Adrienne Southgate) will present the following slate for the Vestry:

- For a second, three-year term – **Laurie DiBattista, Pat Trosclair.**
- To complete the remaining two years of Clinton Crocker’s first term – **Ed Morgan.**
- To complete the remaining two years of Nick Halar’s second term – **Willa Bodman.**
- For a first, three-year term – **Lee Chafee, John-Albert Moseley.**
- For Diocesan Convention Delegate and Alternate – to be appointed by the Vestry. *(Remember that any member in good standing is eligible to be a Convention Delegate, so please consider taking on this interesting and important service - with a very limited time commitment!)*

On that Sunday, visit the table in the Pavilion to pick up your printed copy of the 2025 Annual Report.

Refreshments will be provided by the church, so our bakers can take the week off!



Choral Compline - February 15

The beautiful service of Compline will be held this Sunday, February 15, at 8pm. Doors open at 7:30pm, and parking is available in our lot. This mesmerizing service lasts less than half an hour, and features Gregorian chant, hundreds of candles, and fragrant incense.

Please consider joining us, and invite a friend – it’s a great way to introduce folks to Grace Church!

Third Thursday Concert - February 19

Our dear friend Cheryl Bishkoff makes her annual return to this lunchtime concert series, playing classic works for oboe. Oboist Cheryl Priebe Bishkoff, described as “a musician of incredible artistry” (Richmond News Leader), is universally recognized for her inspiring musicality, uniquely glorious sound and charismatic performing style. She is principal oboe of the Rhode Island Philharmonic and is Adjunct Artist in Music in Brown University’s Department of Music.

Our Director of Music Vince Edwards and Associate Director of Music Noah Klein will accompany Cheryl on the piano.



We hope you can join us for this free event!

The Third Thursdays @ Twelve (Noon) Concert Series began in September 2015 and serves as a form of outreach to the greater metropolitan area of Providence by providing a free, high-quality, musical experience for the community and any visitors to the city. Over the past few years these concerts have featured a variety of musicians, not only from the local Providence and New England area, but also from around the country. We strive to provide diverse programs of music, free of charge for the enjoyment of anyone who walks through our doors.

Ash Wednesday Next Week - Lent Begins

The Lenten season starts soon with Ash Wednesday next week, on February 18. Make plans now to join us for one of our Ash Wednesday services:

- A spoken Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes at Grace's regular noontime service.
- A Choral Holy Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes at 7pm; the bishop will be here to preach and celebrate with us at this service.



Each week, beginning Friday, February 20, join us at noon for the short liturgy of The Way of the Cross (also called "Stations of the Cross"). During this lunchtime service, participants walk to 14 stations posted throughout the church commemorating Christ's journey to Mount Calvary and his death on the Cross.

To learn about the unique paintings at each of these 14 stations - made by New York City artist Gwyneth Leech - [please click here](#).



Thursday Lenten Eucharist and Supper - Starts February 26

You are invited to join us on select Thursdays in Lent - from February 26 through March 26 - for a Lenten Eucharist and Supper. The Eucharist starts at 6pm and supper will follow in the Pavilion.

Our supper on March 12 will be provided by Grace's 20s/30s+ Group (many thanks to them!); of course, feel free to bring sweets and/or salads to share that evening.

On the other Thursdays, we'll need volunteers to help provide the meal. **Please look for the sign-up sheets in the Pavilion and add your name for one or more dates!**

This year, we've received another donation of delicious soups from Blount Fine Foods, which can be used on those evenings as well, so come in and try them.

We hope you can join us!

Choir Fest Last Weekend in New York

Last weekend, 12 Choristers and some of our adult singers from Grace Church visited St. Thomas Church Fifth Avenue in New York. Joined by choirs from St. Luke's, East Greenwich and St. Paul's, Fairfield CT, and by St. Thomas'



world-renowned Choir of Men and Boys, this collective performed an extraordinary Choral Evensong for a very appreciative gathering at St. Thomas.

The group was led by Dr. Barry Rose, OBE, who has served as Organist and/or Choirmaster at Guildford Cathedral; St. Paul's Cathedral, London; and St. Alban's Abbey and Cathedral. We remain so grateful for Dr. Rose's continued commitment to our annual Choir Fest; it's a highlight of our choir's year!

Several Grace parents and friends attended the Choral Evensong at St. Thomas' in person and many others watched the livestream; we appreciate your support. If you weren't able to see the livestream, [click here to watch a recording of the service.](#)



Sharing Our Parking Lot

Our new neighbor - Jephry Floral Studio at 326 Westminster St - will be using our parking lot during the day on Saturday, February 14 (Valentine's Day) for their customers picking up flowers. If you plan to park here for any reason, please be aware that the gate will be up from 9am to 5pm and there will be more traffic than usual.



Office Closed for Holiday

The parish office will be closed on Monday, February 16, for Presidents' Day. We will re-open on Tuesday, February 17.

If you have a pastoral emergency during this time, please email our Interim Priest-in-Charge Rev. Jennifer Kezirian West (jwest@gracePVD.org) or call 401-331-3225 and press "6."



Weekly "Commuter's Bible Study" - Fridays

Have you ever noticed something in the scripture readings on Sunday morning and wished you could talk to someone about your observation? You're in luck!

Our Friday-morning Bible study does exactly that. Join us each week at 7am and delve into the readings

for the upcoming Sunday service.

No observation too weird, no question too silly. And no commitment needed; drop in as you can - bring your coffee and join us for the conversation!

Shawl Ministry at Grace

The Shawl Ministry Team invites all knitters and crocheters - those who are members of Grace Church and those who aren't - to join us each Wednesday in the Pavilion from 10am to 11am. Currently, we are making crafts for veterans. New members are always welcome!



Worship with Us!

Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany February 8, 2026

Most Sunday mornings, Grace Church offers a "live-stream" broadcast of our 10am service of Holy Eucharist. We hope this experience allows those who are not able to join us in person on Sundays to participate in our worship life at Grace.

Livestreamed Worship: Our Sunday services are live-streamed on the Grace Church YouTube Channel. If you can't join us Sunday morning, visit [our YouTube channel](#) and

watch/share at your convenience. (Note that if the recording isn't in [the "Live" listing](#), you may find it in [the "Videos" tab](#).)



Click the video box to join this live-streamed service on YouTube.

[Click Here to See the Bulletin for This Sunday's Service](#)

Collect for This Sunday: *Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

Readings: For the texts of the readings for Sunday worship, [please click here](#).

More About the Episcopal Church: [Click here](#) for the latest from the Episcopal News Service. [Click here](#) for current news from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island.

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

[Find Sunday's Readings](#)

[Find Recent Services](#)

Planning a Special Event?
Rent The Pavilion at Grace!



The Pavilion
at Grace



300 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903

(401) 331-3225 | www.gracechurchprovidence.org

info@gracepvd.org

Connect with Grace Anytime!



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, to downtown Providence, and beyond.

Grace Episcopal Church | 300 Westminster St | Providence, RI 02903-3499 US

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