

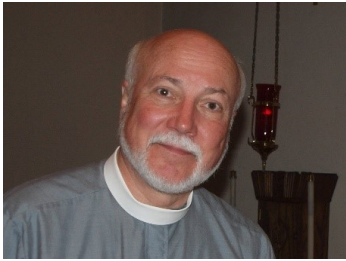
Grace Notes

the official newsletter of
Grace Episcopal Church
150 Chapel St. Norwood, MA



From the Rector's Desk

September 2022



*A Parish...grows great when old people plant
trees in whose shade they shall never sit.
(based on anonymous Greek proverb).*

Twelve years ago Grace Episcopal Church took a risk with the open ground to the west of the church that was all grass to be mown. Using gifts received on the occasion of the installation of a new rector and a Green Grant from the diocese, Grace Church purchased 18 heirloom fruit trees including some Roxbury Russets first cultivated in 1635 here in the Boston area.



Original Site with empty Westside of Parish Grounds



Proposal for Community Contemplative Orchard

Today, twelve years later, after being attacked by the caterpillars of Winter Moths that denuded most of the leaves of the trees, by very hungry deer during the deep snow of 2015 gnawing the bark on many of the trees, by the recent heat and drought, and by a fungus that killed one of the trees, 17 trees have survived and thrived.

Over the next nine monthly Grace Notes issues, I will explore the trees, aphorisms placed at their feet, the transition from an Orchard to a Food Forest, and where the Food Forest with its woodchip path, and raspberry bushes will go next.



Worship



*Our Fall Worship Schedule
begins September 11th.
Join us for services at
8:00a.m. + 10:00a.m.*

Scripture Readings

September 4

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalm 1

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-33

September 11

Exodus 32:7-14

Psalm 51:1-11

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

September 18

Amos 8:4-7

Psalm 113

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

September 25

Amos 6:1a,4-7

Psalm 146

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16:19-31

IN PRAYER



Jesus, in our hearts we carry grief, anxiety, weariness and more. Help us release those burdens to you and take on your lighter yoke: a peace the world cannot give.

Please keep in your prayers...

- In the northern hemisphere, summer is turning to fall. Creator of all good things, I thank you for your steadfastness when things around me change. *Amen.*
- For all those returning to school, grant them wisdom as they learn new things and grow more into the people you have created them to be.
- A cessation of Russia's war against Ukraine and strength for those who endure its length.
- This Labor Day; Almighty God, deliver us, in our various occupations, from the service of self alone, that we may do our work in truth and beauty for the glory of Your name.
- This Patriot Day, we remember the 2,996 people killed in the September 11, 2001 attacks in New York city, Arlington, Virginia and Shanksville, Pennsylvania. We ask for peace in the hearts of all those impacted.
- Those on our parish prayer list: A.J., Andrea, Jose, Olivia, Juliana, Tim, Jem, Carolyn, Arlene, Shane, Tara, Joanne, Barbara, Lajuana, Betsy, James, Madeleine K., Matt, Robert & Mary M., Roberta, Harry, Lois, John, Madeleine M., Carol, Kevin, Jessica, Melanie, Allen, Linda, Marcia, Ralph, Emily, Karen, Carol, Manny S., John, Geoffrey, Valerie, Sherry, Joseph, John, Linda, Pauline & Ann, Trish & John, and for those being prayed for on the Grace Church Prayer Line.
- For Bernice Wenstrom's son, Richard and all those who have passed into God's eternal rest.



Healing Prayers by Phone

Anyone feeling a need for a healing prayer may call at any time. Contact Cathy Noble (781-344-1237), Deb Morton (781-769-4044), or Carol Maloof (781-551-0690).

Prayer for Labor Day

Creator Lord, the source of all wisdom and purpose, and the blessing of those who labor; be with us in our work to guide and govern our world. Give to all people work that enhances human dignity and bonds us to one another. Give us pride in our work, a fair return for our labor, and joy in knowing that our work finds its source in you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*





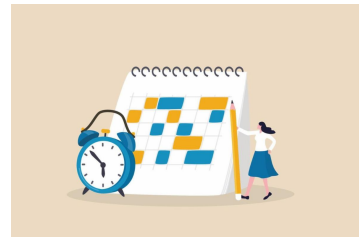
Prayer for Patriot Day

O Almighty God, who brings good out of evil and turns even the wrath of your children towards your promised peace: Hear our prayers this day as we remember those of many nations and differing faiths whose lives were cut short by the fierce flames of anger and hatred. Hasten the time when the menace of war shall be removed. *Amen.*

On the Calendar

Important Dates to Remember

Sept. 4: Self Care Items Drive begins
Sept. 5: Labor Day
Sept. 10: Norwood Day
Sept. 11: Patriot Day
Sept. 11: Fall worship schedule begins
Sept. 11: Blessing of the Backpacks
Sept. 14: Choir Practice Begins
Sept. 18: First day of Sunday School
Sept. 18: Choir begins
Sept. 21: Young at Heart Luncheon
Sept. 24: Church Open House 1:00



SEPTEMBER



Anniversaries

09/03 Brian & Lisa McTeague
09/06 Joe & Robyn Currier
09/10 Doris & Andy Howard

Birthdays

09/06 Jeremy Orozco
09/11 Samuel Gurney
09/12 Michael LeBlanc
09/12 Linda Purpura
09/13 David Folsom
09/15 Cami Rae Daly
09/15 Cathy Noble
09/15 Sarah Stanley
09/21 Sarah Malneritch
09/23 Andrew Cogliano
09/25 Jeannine Parsons
09/26 Maureen Drew
09/27 Lucy Perkins
09/29 Iris Falcone
09/29 John Falcone
09/29 Daniel Sangalang

Announcements

Self Care Items Drive | the New sock drive

Bombas Sock Company has very generously renewed the Grace Church grant I write each year! Last year, In combination with Bombas Grant and Grace Church's donation of socks, we had too many socks for shelters to hold in storage. As a result, I had to make 2 different trips over a couple of months for drop offs. That was a very good problem to have!!



This year will be different in the time of year Bombas delivers our socks, and in the products, we collect at Grace. Since Bombas is supplying the socks in the Fall, we will **not** collect socks but instead collect self-care items that shelters need desperately. I will combine the self-care items and socks for delivery.

Beginning September 4th, through Thanksgiving, you will find boxes inside the doors of Grace Church. Each will be marked with items needed:

Deodorant
Toothbrush/Toothpaste
Comb/Brush
Tissues
Chapstick
Hand sanitizer
Nail polish/Emery board.

Please purchase any/all of these products and place in the specific box. PLEASE DO NOT PURCHASE SOCKS. You do not have to purchase specific brands of items. Items should be for teens, women, and men.

If you are unable to shop, you are welcome to make a check out to Grace Episcopal Church, for any amount, and add a notation for the Self-Care Item Drive. I will purchase supplies with donated funds.

Thanks in advance for your generosity. Every item counts!! Now, get out there and shop for those items to help others who don't have the very basics in life.

Sue Breen
Outreach Coordinator



Church Open House

As part of Norwood's 150th Celebration, we will be participating in a neighborhood Open House on Saturday, September 24th.

This is a great opportunity for us to share what makes us special with the community. We will have stations set up in the Historic Sunken Garden, Inside the Church and feature our Historic Archives.

We are looking for volunteers to help make this Open House a success. If you are able to donate an hour or 2 of your time on the 24th, please reach out to Fr. John or Heather in the office.

Calling all families!

We are excited to announce the return of Sunday School!

Join us Sunday, September 11th at 10am for the annual Blessing of the Backpack service, followed by sign up to register children in grades K-8. Lessons will begin on September 18 at the 10am service. (A full calendar will be provided at sign up.)

On a typical Sunday parents will escort kids to the undercroft, check in with a teacher, then proceed to services in the sanctuary. Upon gathering the children will hear a Gospel story, based on the readings from your service. After, they will be guided thru a Godly Play lesson. Children will rejoin the congregation in time for Eucharist.



Norwood Day | Sept. 10



Norwood is celebrating 150 years and we are looking for volunteers to help support Grace Church's booth at Norwood Day. This is a great chance to show the community what a great parish we are! Are you available to volunteer on Sept. 10 between 10-3? If so, please contact Katherine or Heather in the office.

Blessing of the Backpacks | Sept. 11

School can be fun, scary, awesome and tough. We're sending students and educators back to school with prayer and blessing. Bring your backpacks on Sunday, Sept. 11th to be blessed for the school year ahead.





Ukraine Aid

Grace Church, in combination with the greater Norwood community, has donated \$3,663.57 to Episcopal Relief & Development. This money will specifically aid the Ukrainian people in their ongoing struggles to preserve their democracy.

Welcome Organist & Choir Director | Michelle French

We are excited to announce the start of our new permanent organist and choir director, Michelle French, this month.

Michelle has been organist and cantor at St. Jude's, Norfolk; St. Edward's, Medfield; St. Bartholomew's, Needham; and St. Michael's, Hudson. Before the pandemic she was at St. Margaret Mary's in Westwood where she conducted the adult choir while accompanying the congregation and cantoring. She has selected music and prepared adult choirs to perform "Lessons and Carols" as well as conducting a children's choir.

Michelle holds a Masters Degree in Vocal Performance from the New England Conservatory of Music. Her undergraduate degree is from Samford University, a private Baptist college in Birmingham Alabama.

In addition to sharing her talents with Grace Church, Michelle teaches voice and piano. She works part time at Bethany Health Care center as an activity assistant bringing music to residents with Alzheimer's and dementia.

Choir Practice | Sept. 14th 7:00–8:30pm



Lift every voice and sing! Have you been considering joining the choir? Have you always hoped to be trained by a professional? Fall choir rehearsals begin Wednesday, Sept. 14th at 7:00pm. Come, join as we prepare to help God's people worship in song.

Healing Prayers | Sept. 25

We are happy to announce the return of Healing Prayers during the last Sunday of each month. Fr John has blessed the beads that will be used to connect parishioners to the Healing Minister. The Healing Minister will hold the tassel and the parishioner asking for prayers will hold the cross. We will have our first Healing Prayers during the 8:00 and 10:00 services on September 25th.



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