

Grace Notes

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



From the Sr. Warden

Summer Edition: July/August 2024



The blessings of summer

Summer is such a special time of the year. As children, we all looked forward to the warm weather, the days away from school and the opportunities to spend time with family and friends. I look back fondly on all the adventures in the woods, swimming in the river and at our family camp on a small pond, and being out until dusk, drinking in the freedom that the season provided. As an adult, I don't have the same opportunity for boundless free time as once afforded us, but I can live vicariously through my kids as they enjoy the time away from school and making memories that will last a lifetime.

Here at Grace Church, this summer promises to be a special time. We continue to be blessed with supply priests to lead our Eucharist each Sunday. It is interesting to hear different voices and approaches each week, as it allows us an opportunity to understand what it is we are looking for as a parish in our future rector. Along those lines, please keep Rev. Martha Tucker and Rev. Edwin Johnson and their families in your prayers. Both have become members of the Grace Church family, by virtue of their generosity in spending time at our church and leading our services, and both are in need of our prayers and support. In addition to ensuring services are held each Sunday, the vestry, parish administrator and other dedicated volunteers have been working very hard behind the scenes to ensure the physical church remains 'up to snuff' and available for our use each Sunday. At times it feels like there is something new to deal with each day, but with patience and grace we are working through the challenges that come with aging infrastructure. Here are just a few examples of the progress made in the past few months.

- Starting late last year and continuing into this year, there has been a string of leaks that appeared in the vicinity of the sacristy and the information table outside the nave. Based on the increasing frequency of leaks and the age of the church roof, the decision was made to move ahead with a roof replacement. The work will be completed by Robert Kierce Roofing, out of Foxboro, and is currently scheduled to happen in the first week of September. Once the work is complete, churchgoers and building users should not have to worry about leaks for years to come.
- To both improve the appearance of the church grounds and to avoid burning out our dedicated volunteers who commit their time, we have engaged Dylan Maresco Landscaping for biweekly mowing services on the church and rectory grounds. Mr. Maresco is highly regarded by several members of the parish, and we are happy to have his company keeping the grounds looking fresh and sharp through the summer

and fall.

- Having acquired new ovens for the kitchen, the vestry continues to move toward making the facility viable for commercial use. A long overdue inspection of the fire suppression system in the church kitchen uncovered necessary repairs and upgrades. The vestry has engaged Gorham Fire Equipment to complete the necessary repairs, which will occur in July. Once complete, discussions will continue with a potential user for the space, bringing some much-needed revenue to the church.
- A significant number of trees were removed from the edge of the church property that borders 17 and 25 Bruce Road, due to unsafe conditions and requests by the homeowners. This effort is the first, and most likely not the last, tree removal effort required on the property. There are many older trees that have fallen and/or need removal around the property. The vestry will be working to identify and address them as time and funding permits in the coming years.
- As mentioned in recent midweek emails, thanks to Chris Jordan there will be a junk removal day scheduled for late July or early August. This will allow us to remove old, unnecessary equipment, tools, decorations, yard sale items, etc. that have started to fill the church and the garage. If you know of anything that should go, please move it to the garage or let the office know by July 21st so it can be taken. This is a great opportunity to free up valuable space in the church and create a better atmosphere to conduct our ministries.

The vestry and this newsletter will be taking a well-deserved summer break in August, so look for both to return in September. In the meantime, I wanted to leave you with a celebration of summer and all its blessings. I hope you and yours have a wonderful summer season and that we see you in the fall!

A Summer Gloria

Glory be to God...

for clear blue skies and sunny days
for fresh green grass and leafy trees
for vivid purple flowers and well-tended gardens
for fluffy white clouds and gentle breezes
for bright red buses and busy streets

Glory be to God...

for people stepping out with sandaled feet
for children playing games with delighted squeals
for picnics and street parties
for street traders and market stalls
for long days and short nights
for open-topped buses and open-necked shirts.

Glory be to God...

for seasons
for summer
for sunshine. – *Chick Yuill*

Yours in Grace, hope and faith,
Jon

Worship



Worship Schedule for the Summer

July 7

Fr. Bill Graham

Ezekiel 2:1-5

Psalms 123

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

July 14

Fr. Bill Graham

Amos 7:7-15

Psalms 85:8-13

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:14-29

July 21

Rev. Matt Kruger

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalms 23

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 28

2 Kings 4:42-44

Psalms 145:10-19

Ephesians 3:14-21

John 6:1-21

*Join us for Sunday
services at
9:00a.m.*

Reading this newsletter online?
Click on the readings listed
and be linked
directly to the passage.

Aug 4

Worship in the Park

with Emmanuel Lutheran

11:15am

service and picnic

Aug 11

Rev. Dawna Wall

1 Kings 19:4-8

Psalms 34:1-8

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

John 6:35, 41-51

Aug 18

Rev. Matt Kruger

Proverbs 9:1-6

Psalms 34:9-14

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

Aug 25

Rev. Dawna Wall

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Psalms 34:15-22

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69

In Prayer



Come summer with me, Lord; summer deep down in my soul; restore my faith in summer's time, in rest, in joy, in play, in you...

And let others summer in my shade, Lord, and share whatever summer's peace is mine to give, whatever summer's light is mine to shed, whatever summer's warmth is mine to share...

Good God of every season and every day this week, come summer with me. Amen.

(adapted from a prayer by Fr. Austin Fleming who blogs at "A Concord Pastor Comments.")

Please keep in your prayers...

- We pray for all those who endure the brutality of war.
- We pray for those who suffer from hunger, homelessness and illness.
- We pray for the community of Grace Episcopal Church in their time of transition and uncertainty.
- We pray for those lives most recently passed from this earthly world, especially Richard, loving father of Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker.
- We pray for Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker and Rev. Edwin Johnson
- We pray for those on the Grace Church prayer list: A.J., Jose, Loraine, George, Jean, Shane, Pat, Joanne, Barbara, LaJuana, James, Sue, Lillian, Vilma, John, Lyndon, Maryanne, Madeleine M., Carol, Jessica, Melanie, Scott, Allen, Linda, Andy P., John R., Marcia, Ralph, Emily, Karen, Carol, Dorothy & Family, Karen, Geoffrey, Valerie, Sherry, Linda, Pauline, Trish & John, and for those being prayed for on the Grace Church Prayer Line.



Healing Prayers by Phone

Anyone feeling a need for a healing prayer may call:
Deb Morton (781-769-4044), or Carol Maloof (781-551-0690).

Healing Prayers in Church

Healing Prayers are held at the 9:00 service, typically on the last Sunday of each month. We invite you to join us over the summer on July 28th and August 25th.



On the Calendar

Click for Summer Calendar

Important Dates to Remember

July 4: Independence Day

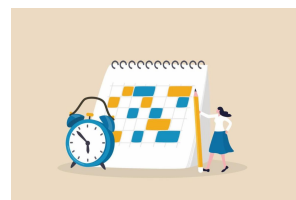
July 14: Summer Vestry Meeting

July 28: Healing Prayers

Aug 4: Worship in the park with Emmanuel Lutheran

Aug 21–28: Office Closed

Aug 25: Healing Prayers



Happy Anniversary

07/06 Allen & Linda Peeler

07/29 Michael & Sharon LeBlanc

Happy Birthday

07/01 Edmond Gosselin

07/02 Bryan Falcone

07/07 Matt Bravo

07/07 Sue Breen

07/08 Shannon McGettigan

07/11 Brandon Orozco

07/17 Ellana Baguma

07/19 Olivia Bedard

07/20 Cori Loescher

07/20 John McTeague

07/20 Heather Wisehart

07/27 Leighton Falcone

07/29 Cristy Dearbin



Happy Anniversary

08/07 Heather & Adrian Belden

08/20 John & Sarah Brockmann

Happy Birthday

08/01 August Loescher

08/02 Marsha McGettigan

08/03 Dave Escher

08/05 Pearl Mohamed

08/08 Kallista Jordan

08/14 Sharon Bravo

08/14 Liz Pierce

08/17 Luke Fleming

08/19 Ani Jordan

08/23 Charlotte Mathews

08/26 Allen Peeler

08/26 Anna Sangalang

08/27 Debbie Nedder

08/29 Katherine Wharton

Announcements

Search Committee Update

We are in the final stages of our parish profile, it has been sent off for review by our diocesan consultant. After it is approved it will be ready for publishing. Our next meeting will be scheduled following feedback from the diocesan consultant.

Additionally, we are in the final stages of our logo selection, which will help dictate the color palette for our NEW website. We will post our parish profile, church and rectory pictures which will be in separate sections for the search. Please send any recent pictures you have of events or gatherings. We are freshening our pictures on the website.



OUR
RECTOR
SEARCH

*Search Committee
representatives:
Tracey Johnson and
Eric Bedard*



Summer Vestry Meeting

Summer Vestry meeting will be held next Sunday, July 14th following Sunday service and coffee hour. If you have topics you would like addressed, please let your vestry members know prior to the meeting.

Vestry will not meet for a formal monthly meeting in August.



Church in the Park

We are invited to join Emmanuel Lutheran for a special Worship in the Park church service and picnic on Sunday, August 4 (worship at 11:15 with a pot-luck picnic and games afterward). Emmanuel members will provide hamburgers and hot dogs and they invite anyone who is able to bring a picnic side or dessert.



Summer Office Hours

Please note Summer Office Hours: June 10–Aug 30

Open: Tue, Wed, Thu: 9:30–1:30.

Tue: In Office

Wed: Remote

Thu: In Office

Additional in person hours available by appointment.



Contribution Statements

It may be hard to believe, but we are already halfway through 2024! Be on the lookout in the coming days for your midpoint contribution statements. We appreciate all of your pledges!



Office Closed for Holiday

The office will be closed from August 22nd–28th. Phone and email will be monitored so please feel free to reach out should anything urgent arise during this time. Wishing you all a lovely and relaxing end to summer before the hustle and bustle of the school year picks back up.



Looking ahead to Norwood Day

Norwood Day will be September 7th this year. Deb Morton will again be organizing a booth on Grace Church's behalf. Mark your calendars and please let Deb or the office know if you are available to help set up, sit at the booth, or donate supplies.
