



The MESSENGER

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

February 2018



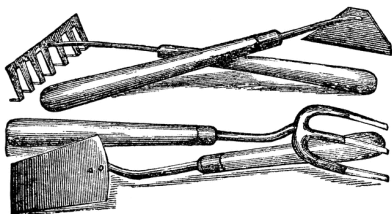
INTERIM PRIEST'S MESSAGE

The Rev. Richard Maxwell

Lent is almost upon us, even though as I write this it doesn't feel at all like spring. The word 'Lent' is from an Old English word—*lengten*—that means 'springtime.' And even though the weather isn't cooperating today, it's a beautiful way to think of Lent: a time of rebirth, spiritual renewal, and new life after the cold and darkness of winter.

Elsewhere in this newsletter Fr. Michel writes more about this season and its meaning. Here I want to remind us that right now, here at Grace, thinking of Lent as a time of rebirth, spiritual renewal, and new life may be particularly appropriate as soon we will enter a new stage of our transition. Soon our search committee (separate from the profile committee that has been working so hard over the past several months) will be accepting applications from priests hoping to be the next rector at Grace.

Transitions—changes—are rarely simple and tidy. More often they are complicated and messy. And this is not a bad thing.



Although it may make some of us "neat-niks" a bit anxious, the clutter, the uncertainty, the seeming randomness of events, the times when it appears that nothing is happening followed by the times when it feels like too much is going on, are all the stuff of creativity. Creativity is not linear or logical.

Over the past several months we've worked hard exercising our creativity. We've started some new ministries and attempted to breathe new life into some old ones. We've tinkered and mucked about with a number of things, perhaps most noticeably our Sunday service schedule. At this moment, I have no idea what the final decision will be about the schedule: whether we will continue with it as it is now, or go back to the old schedule, or do something else. This place of unknowing is a very interesting place to be because it's a place in which we need to leave room for the Spirit to work.

I hope you're all feeling the Spirit at work during this time of transition. I know that many of you are aware of the messiness of change as not all of you are happy with some of the changes we're trying out. Given this fact, I want



to tell you how much I admire the good people of Grace, both the congregation and staff, who have put up with our "creativity" with patience and good humor on the whole. These very qualities of patience and good humor are also signs that the Spirit is at work, and I hope you can feel this.

This period of transition—like Lent—should be a time of rebirth, spiritual renewal, and new life. And for this to happen there needs to be space, breathing room, and an openness to possibility for the Spirit to move. This Lent let us pray for the guidance of the Spirit, not only in our personal lives, but in our collective life here at Grace as the Body of Christ. Let us pray that we will be open to the surprising promptings, the unexpected inspirations, and the unplanned events that will lead to new life.

May we have a holy Lent together.

The Rev. Richard Maxwell
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PRIEST ASSOCIATE'S MESSAGE

by The Rev. Canon Michel Belt



It is hard for me to comprehend—it seems like just yesterday it was Christmas—but Lent is already around the corner. For those who have had an opportunity to look at, and compare, the liturgical and regular calendars, there is for me (at least to the best of my recollection) an interesting anomaly: Lent begins as always with Ash Wednesday, but it is also Valentine's Day (February 14); and Easter occurs on April Fool's Day (April 1)!

Growing up in a church other than the Episcopal one, Lent was a non-existent "thing" for most of my school friends and me. Being children, we (of course) loved to tease our friends for whom Lent was an important part of their church year. That harassment began when they showed up at (public) school mid-week with a smudge of ashes on their foreheads. We teased them mercilessly, asking how their mothers let them leave the house without having washed their faces! Of course, part of that was because by the time they got to school, regardless of how well-defined the cross might have been when first placed on their foreheads, by school time it had either been inadvertently rubbed, or they had tried unsuccessfully to remove it once they left their parents' car.

Despite our friendships, the teasing usually continued as we listened to them share personal stories of a family-enforced Lenten discipline (i.e., giving something wonderful

like chocolate or desert up for Lent). In those days, almost all of us went home for lunch, so we weren't able to "torture" them, by over-enjoying a luncheon dessert, or savoring a bar of Hershey's chocolate. But that didn't stop us, in our "ignorance," from teasing them on the playground, or talking about the luscious dessert we'd had with dinner the previous night, as we walked together to or from school each day. That continued for the better part of forty days—and yet they endured the taunts and teasing, and remained our friends!

About twenty years ago, I began to notice a shift in my own and my friends' thinking about Lenten disciplines. We began to think less about "giving something up," and instead began looking for something (usually health- or faith-based) that we could add. It turned our hearts and minds (and maybe our stomachs) from focusing on what we had lost, to what we might gain. Thinking about my own personal spiritual journey, the list of things I would like to do always seems longer than the list of things I would like to stop doing.

At times, I've undertaken turning off the TV an hour earlier than normal, and picking up a book. I've made (and continue to hold on to) the habit (made one Lent) of using the Forward Day-by-Day booklet to focus my thoughts after reading (or hearing) the appointed readings

from the Daily Lectionary. I've undertaken reading a "work-related" book, usually non-fiction or focused on some aspect of ministry, during Lent. I've picked up a "spiritual" book, focusing on the life and work of one of our saints. And at other times, I've made a concerted effort to maintain (or re-establish) personal connections with friends scattered across the nation and around the world.

For me, whether one gives up something, or takes something on, it shouldn't necessarily be onerous, in and of itself. For then it becomes like a New Year's resolution, which few, if any, ever take seriously or even really keep. Instead, it should be different enough from your normal daily tasks so that every time you do it, you might pause for a moment, think about what you are doing and why you are doing it, and then proceed. Jesus warned us, and scripture (Matthew 6: 1-8) warns us again each Ash Wednesday, to not be like the hypocrites who practiced their "piety before others," that "everyone" might know what they were undertaking, how difficult it was, and then they might be praised by the people observing. Like pledging, a Lenten discipline is really between you and God. You might fool the people, you might

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even fool yourself for a while, but God knows us—heart and mind—and knows whether our commitment is real and honest, or whether we're just trying to play another game.

Therefore, I won't recommend a specific action for any one of you. But I would encourage you to consider undertaking something—or if you want, giving something up—that has the potential to make you a better person of faith, a more thoughtful and prayerful follower of Christ, and a better representative of Grace Episcopal Church in our community. For many, Lent isn't an easy time of the year—with shorter days, often nasty weather, being confined inside our offices and homes—but it has the potential to help us, even for a short time, focus not on ourselves, but on the faith that calls us to be in daily relationship with the God who created us, redeemed us, and sustains us!

The Rev. Canon Michel Belt
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Read, learn, share

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm,
starting February 7 and running
through March 21
(no session February 14)



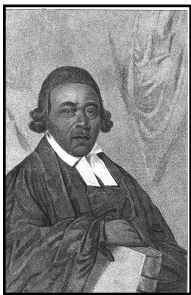
You are invited on a great journey to explore the entire story of Jesus' life as told by Saint Luke and to read about the earliest Christians, their encounters with the Holy Spirit, and their passion for sharing the Good News of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Episcopalians around the world will read the Gospel according to Luke during Lent, and the Book of Acts during Eastertide in 2018. Your clergy invite you on a *Forward Movement* adventure; join others across the world on this journey.



Remembering The Rev. Absalom Jones

Sunday, February 11, 3:00 pm
Trinity & St. Philips Cathedral in Newark.



The Diocese of Newark Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians will celebrate the life and ministry of the Rev. Absalom Jones, the first person of African descent ordained a deacon and priest in the Episcopal Church. The Rev. Canon Andy Moore (rector of St Elizabeth's Episcopal Church, Elizabeth, NJ) will preach. Father Michel Belt and the Grace Church Confirmation class will be attending.



Annual Parish Meeting Sunday, February 4 at 11:30 am

Plan to attend Grace Church's annual meeting where we will vote on our new Vestry members, learn about our finances, and announce our ongoing Sunday worship schedule. Your attendance is crucial to healthy communication within our parish.

There will be two morning services at 8:00 and 10:00 am. The Annual Meeting will begin at 11:30 am.

Note: There will NOT be a 6:00 pm service on Sunday, February 4.



NEXT BAPTISMAL DATE

Great Vigil of Easter,
Saturday, March 31
at 7:00 pm.

*If you are interested,
call the office at (973) 377-0106.*



A New Year Begins— Happy New Year!

As you read this, the clergy, wardens, vestry and staff are planning for the Annual Parish Meeting of Grace Church, scheduled for Sunday, February 4, 2018. This is an important time in the life of Grace Church in a year in which so much will be happening. All members of the parish in good standing are entitled to attend and participate. Please make every effort to do so.

First, how did we do in 2017?

We are still tallying the numbers but by all accounts, we ended 2017 in a strong position with positive budget numbers and endowment performance, as well as attendance. Due to some events in Washington, there were significant prepaid pledges for 2018. There will be much more in the way of detail at the annual parish meeting,

2018 presents some challenges on the financial front. Simply put, we are still short approximately \$90,000 in pledges and over fifty below in pledge units. This—sadly—is not a new issue for Grace Church. While the pledges are out there, it becomes a harder issue, year after year, to get them in. If you have not pledged (you will be getting a call and maybe even a visit) please get your pledge cards in as soon as possible.

Challenges

As a congregation, we have been discerning the best way to schedule and structure church on Sunday

morning. Discernment sessions have been had and information has been gathered. While some resolution points are clear, others are not. The one thing that is clear is that we will not be able to please everyone in a large diverse congregation with different ages, family situations, time constraints, church needs and expectations, and weekend needs. The leadership of Grace Church appreciates the cooperative, understanding, positive spirit in which this discernment has been undertaken. After much thought and consideration we have developed a plan that tries to achieve the best result. We are working out some of the details with the result to be announced at the annual parish meeting.

Beginning the search

2018 will also move us further along on the search process. Our Profile Committee has put in countless hours drafting a Parish Profile based upon all the data from the discernment process and other sources. Drafts have been reviewed by the Vestry, and comments exchanged. It is truly a superior product and one that will serve us well as we go out into “the Episcopal Marketplace” and search for a new rector. Finishing touches are being made and other necessary materials are being prepared. The goal is to get this packet to the bishop for approval by mid-February. This is easily doable.

The Vestry will next consider a timeline for the search process. This will be discussed in greater detail at the annual parish meeting.

Your help

That said, we need more people to volunteer for the Search Committee. We have some candidates but not enough. Remember, to be a search committee member, you need to be a member in good standing (you must be received or confirmed in the Episcopal Church, pledge to Grace Church, and attend regularly).

As we have said before, we also need you to step up and volunteer your time and talent. Your wardens have written about the need for greater congregational participation in some of our ministries and programs. While we are blessed with having many who give of their time and considerable talents, it is also true that in many parts of the ministries of Grace more is better. To put it directly, we all need to help if Grace is to happen in the way that we all want. There will be opportunities in the coming weeks to explore and better understand the many ministries of Grace and how you can participate in them.

Stay tuned.

Your Wardens

~ John Garde and Tom Honohan



Inquirer's Class for Adults

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm, starting February 6
and running through March 27 (no class February 13.)

- What do Episcopalians believe?
- Why do we worship the way we do?
- What does "episcopal" mean, anyway?

Whether you are new to Grace and the Episcopal Church, or you have been an Episcopalian all your life, or you are somewhere in between, you may have questions about the Church and your faith. Please join Fr. Max for seven weeks as we explore our questions and seek answers to them.

Our first meeting will be on Tuesday evening, February 6, at 6:30 pm. We'll skip February 13 as we'll have our Shrove Tuesday pancake supper that evening. Beginning on February 20, we will continue meeting on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 through the season of Lent, our final official session falling on March 27 (Tuesday in Holy Week).

In addition to these gatherings being a time to discuss the church and our faith, they will also constitute the official training needed for those adults desiring to be Confirmed or Received into the Church.

Confirmation is the rite in which baptized Christians make an adult affirmation of their faith. Reception is the rite in which those baptized and confirmed into another Christian tradition are welcomed into the Episcopal Church. *Feel free to ask Fr. Max about this if you have any*



Grace NOW!

The Pastoral Care Team invites your participation in a new ministry at Grace, which we are calling **Grace NOW!**

We have identified certain common circumstances when our priests or our Parish Administrator need hands-on help, often on very short notice, to provide pastoral care to parishioners. These circumstances may include: Help with arranging a funeral reception; providing rides to church or to doctors' appointments; making grocery or drugstore runs; taking a day in a meal chain; making an extra home visit or phone call;

or lending an extra pair of hands to change a critical lightbulb.

We invite volunteers to be included in a group who can be called upon to help fellow parishioners when we become aware of such needs.

If we can include you in this group, please contact Fr. Max to discuss your interest in this new ministry and the parameters of your availability.

He can be reached in the church office (973) 377-0106, ext. 12 or by email gracemadisoninterim@gmail.com.



You might wonder where people are when they aren't in church—especially on church feasts and fasts. On Ash Wednesday, many of God's people are involved in their daily lives: rushing to work, to pick up the kids, to get through the places and chores of our overscheduled lives. Thus, those for whom church is an important part of their lives, who couldn't conceive of missing church on Ash Wednesday, Grace will offer "Ashes to Go" for our friends and neighbors who struggle to find time for God in their lives.

"Ashes to Go" is one way to bring the gifts of worship out of our buildings and into the byways of life, where those gifts may be most needed. So, once again, Grace will have representatives at NY-bound side of the Madison Train Station on Ash Wednesday (February 14) from 6:30-7:30 am. If you've got friends who've told you they can't make church that day, tell them to look for us. If you're jumping on a train, and aren't sure if you'll be back in Madison in time, you should look for us too.



MUSIC AT GRACE

by Anne Matlack

Thank You!

We had a lovely Advent and Christmas season, with beautiful singing at all services. On December 17, we presented Bach's *Cantata 140* with an orchestra of three oboes, four strings, and harpsichord played by Helen Raymaker, to an appreciative congregation during Evensong.

The Christmas Pageant had lots of choir "carolers" joining current and returning Gargoyles, a harpist, and a children's bell choir. The "midnight" Christmas Eve service featured Teddy Love on oboe, with many returnees. Christmas morning had more younger siblings than ever participating in our intergenerational choir. Elizabeth Monkemeier and Claudia Sydenstricker sang all three services, while the Love family, Linda Bowden and Assistants Katie Hendrix and Eric Roper sang all three services on December 24 (including Advent IV morning)! The choirs topped it off with *Lessons and Carols* on December 31. I cannot thank my choirs—and their families—enough for their dedication!



Yay!

Sunday, February 4, is the first Sunday in the month, so Chapel Choir joins the "Red Choir" (School Choir I) in *Jesus' Hands*. Children ages 4-7 are invited to join our Chapel Choir team of Katie, Linda, Chickie (and sometimes Lindsey) on Friday afternoons from 3:30-4:15 pm in Neiman Hall.

Compline for Kids & Families

Join us for make-your-own pizza, craft, and a music-filled, child-friendly service on the first Wednesday of the month. If your youth would like to play an instrument for the offertory during Compline for Kids, let Dr. Anne know, she can accompany on piano or organ, or piano students may try the organ for their pieces! See Dr. Anne.

Lent starts with Ash Wednesday music

Choirs young and older will grace the **7:00 pm Ash Wednesday service February 14**. For adults and older youth, we sing shall the stunning *Miserere* by Allegri during imposition of ashes. Younger kids can participate in a children's program, joining the service at The Peace for Communion, and leading us in *Keep Me Keep Me*, a Compline favorite, and the Taizé *Bless the Lord*.

Dr. Anne Matlack
(201) 274-4617
Anne.Matlack@ChoralCommunities.com

Lenten Noonday Music



Noonday prayer and organ recitals begin Friday, February 16, at 12:15 pm (see flyer for full schedule).

These events were started by Grace's music director Helen E. J.

Thomas (pictured) in the 1950s and are a staple of the Madison musical community. The services will begin with a brief five-minute Noonday



prayer followed by a half-hour recital. Stay for lunch, catered by Slamwich this year. February 16, Madison schools will be closed for the President's Day holiday. That day, the recital will be a family-friendly program featuring some of Dr. Anne's friends and students.



The keyboard and pedal board will be projected onto the wall, so the congregation/audience can get a good look at the feet (and hands). All are welcome. Join us and bring a friend!



If parents with pre-schoolers would like to have a babysitter in the nursery, please speak to Dr. Anne ASAP so she can make arrangements.



HARMONIUM CHORAL SOCIETY

Song of the Open Road

Saturday, March 3, 2018 at 8:00 pm and
Sunday, March 4, at 3:00 pm

Hear Dr. Anne's acclaimed 100-voice chorus which includes Grace Church singers Mariam Bora; Susan Goodman; Jacki Lauria; Teddy and Kimberly Love; Peri Munter; Eric, Will, Caitlyn, Paula and Ted Roper; and Jabez Van Cleef. The uplifting program features Mark Miller's *Song of the Open Road*, a cantata on a Walt Whitman text with chamber orchestra, and other works about life's journey ranging from Clara Schumann to Stephen Hatfield, and folksongs and spirituals.

For a reduced rate, purchase your tickets online by February 23: www.harmonium.yapsody.com . Regularly priced tickets will also be available at the door. The church has ample parking.



Working together, Mark Miller and Anne Matlack.



CHATHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
460 Main Street, Chatham



GRACE COMMUNITY MUSIC

A Musical Love Story

Sunday, February 11, at 3:00 pm

Robert and Clara Schumann: A Musical Love Story is a vocal recital featuring Patricia Ruggles (pictured left), mezzo, Joseph McKee, bass, and Robert Schumann's Long, keyboard. The program is comprised of Robert's music, an organ solo, *Fugue on the Name of Bach*, *Frauenliebe und -Leben*, *Kinderscenen* selections, several lieder and duets; and Clara's music including lieder and the piano solo, *Variations on a Theme* by Robert Schumann.



A comprehensive program will be available which explores their lives, music and their enduring love. *Freewill donation at door.*



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

by Pamela Hamilton, Director of Children's Ministries

I want to thank all the members of Grace Church for allowing me to work as the Director of Children's Ministries. My time here has been short but will never be forgotten. The dedicated families who attend Sunday School and the people who work here have left a mark on my heart. Sincerely, Pamela Hamilton

Fun for the Kids

On Sunday, February 4, while the adults are attending the annual meeting, children will meet in the church for a Scavenger Hunt, then go to Nieman Hall and mix up a delicious beverage at the hot chocolate bar.



Compline for Kids (& Pizza!)

Wednesday, February 7, from 5:30-7:00 pm. Please join us for our monthly pizza-making event. We will make pizza, enjoy dinner, create Valentine cards for the Madison Fire and Police Departments and Volunteer Ambulance Corps, and celebrate a bedtime service with music and a children's homily. Families, feel free to come for part or all of this event. The service will begin at 6:30 pm.

The next Compline for Kids will be March 7 with pizza-making, followed by Stations of the Cross for Kids.



Boy Scout Recognition

Boy Scout Sunday is Sunday, February 11! All Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Eagle Scouts (and leaders!) are encouraged to wear their uniforms and help us celebrate their commitment to this service organization. We will have a special prayer during the 10:00 am service to recognize their dedication. Watch for news on Girl Scout Sunday.



Ashes

We will have an Ash Wednesday Chapel Service at 5:30 and 7:00 pm on February 14. Pre-K through third graders will meet in Nieman Hall for a special service. We will talk about what distances us from God and what we might give up or take on during Lent. Kids will get their ashes and then join their families at The Peace.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Cost is \$4/person or \$12/family

All are invited to the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, February 13, from 5:30-7:00 pm.

Come and enjoy the last evening before Lent with breakfast for supper. Pancakes, eggs, ham and other breakfast foods will be served. The Gargoyles perform a short set at 6:15 pm.

This event will be hosted by the Men's Group of the parish. Contact Ed Nunn, if you can help or have questions.

Parents' Day Out

We had sixteen children come to Grace's *Parents' Day Out* on Saturday, December 16.

The event raised \$295 for the Youth Mission Trip.

Thank you!

Pamela Hamilton
(973) 377-0106 x15
GraceMadisonMBelt@gmail.com



Visit with St. Nicholas and pancakes—a perfect



St. Nicholas stopped by.

Guess who stopped by? On December 17, Saint Nicholas paid us a visit to share a story and eat some pancakes! Thank you to all who made it such a memorable morning, especially to our own St. Nicholas himself, Bruce Davies! And a special thank you to our resident pancake chef John Bartolomeo and his many helpers the fantastic breakfast. It was fun—and also raised \$632 for Grace Church Ministries!



Pancakes for all!





Christmas Bell Choir



The song of angels



The Holy Family

Christmas Pageant 2017



Narrators.



Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified



The bright star of Bethlehem.



Thank to all the parents, costume helpers, and various wranglers who made this Christmas Pageant such a special event. Thank you to Wade Kirby, director and Pamela Hamilton, assistant director; but most importantly, thank you the children who dedicated themselves and worked so earnestly on this production.

Photos: John McManus



Lent Madness 2018

The Saintry Smackdown is Back!

By now you've heard that Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day coincide this year. The real Lenten love, however, kicks off the next day on February 15. Why? Because for the ninth year running, people of faith are gearing up for Lent Madness, the beloved "saintry smackdown!"

With its unique blend of competition, learning, and humor, Lent Madness allows participants to be inspired by the ways in which God has worked through the lives of saintly souls across generations and cultures. Throughout Lent, thirty-two saints will do battle to win the coveted Golden Halo. Based loosely on the NCAA basketball tournament of a similar name, this online devotion pits saints against one another in a bracket as voters choose their favorites throughout this penitential season.

Here's how to participate: on the weekdays of Lent, information is posted at www.lentmadness.org about two different saints. Each pairing remains open for 24 hours as participants read about and then vote to determine which saint moves on to the next round. Sixteen saints make it to the Round of the Saintry Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the

Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo.

The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the 32 saints. Things get a bit more interesting in the subsequent rounds as we offer quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch.

This year Lent Madness features an intriguing slate of saints ancient and modern, Biblical and ecclesiastical. 2018 heavyweights include John the Evangelist, Margaret of Scotland, Richard Hooker, Katharina von Bora, and the apostles Peter and Paul.

The full bracket is online at the Lent Madness website www.lentmadness.org and, while not necessary to participate, you can order *The Saintry Scorecard: The Definitive Guide to Lent Madness* at www.forwardmovement.org. (30 copies available at the office—while supplies last) This companion guide includes biographies of all 32 saints, a full-color bracket, information about how to fully participate, and a series of Pocket Lent trading cards.

Lent Madness began in 2010 as the brainchild of the Rev. Tim Schenck, an Episcopal priest and rector of St. John's Church in Hingham, Massachusetts. In

seeking a fun, engaging way for people to learn about the men and women who make up the church's calendar of saints, Schenck devised this devotion. Combining his love of sports with his passion for the lives of the saints, Lent Madness was born.

Starting in 2012, Schenck partnered with Forward Movement (the same folks that publish *Forward Day by Day*) executive director Scott Gunn, to bring Lent Madness to the masses. Schenck and Gunn form the self-appointed Supreme Executive Committee, a more-or-less benevolent dictatorship that runs the entire operation.

The formula has worked as this online devotion has been featured in media outlets all over the country including national television, the *Washington Post*, NPR, *USA Today*, and even *Sports Illustrated* (seriously). More importantly thousands of people have been inspired by the saintly stories of those who have come before us in the faith.

Eleven "celebrity bloggers" from across the country have been tapped to write for the project: the Rev. Amber Belldene of San Francisco, CA; the Rev. Laurie Brock of

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OUTREACH

2018 Youth Mission Trip
Moving Forward

(Continued from page 12)

Lexington, KY; the Rev. Megan Castellan of Kansas City, MO; Anna Fitch Courie of Honolulu, HI; Dr. David Creech of Morehead, MN; Neva Rae Fox of Somerville, NJ; the Rev. David Hansen of Woodlands, TX; Emily Miller of Chicago, IL; Carol Howard Merritt of Chattanooga, TN; The Rev. Marcus Halley of Minneapolis, MN; and the Rev. David Sibley of Manhasset, NY. Information about each of the celebrity bloggers and the rest of the team is available on the Lent Madness website.

If you're looking for a Lenten discipline that is fun, educational, occasionally goofy, and always joyful, join the Lent Madness journey. Lent needn't be all doom and gloom. After all, what could be more joyful than a season specifically set aside to get closer to Jesus Christ?

We at Grace are putting our own spin on this Bracket Mania. If you wish, you can participate in our "Charity Bracket". Simply pick the Saint you think will win it all, and submit the name(s) along with \$10 for each selection, check or cash, to Mike Kostial at the office by Tuesday, February 13. If your Saint wins, you get to pick which charity receives the proceeds. If there is more than one winner, you will have to meet and work it out. Discussion, Rock/Paper/Scissors or Coin Toss are acceptable forms of resolution. (dueling with pistols or sabers is highly discouraged). If there are no winners, this year's recipient will be The North Porch.

Plans are moving forward for this summer's Youth Mission Trip. We will be going to the Henderson Settlement (Grace Youth have been there on previous mission trips), in Frakes, Kentucky. While details are still evolving, we need to share some basic information so those Senior High (including rising ninth graders) youth interested, and their families, can establish their own summer plans.

We will be at Henderson Settlement the week of July 8. We anticipate departing (very early) Sunday morning, July 8, and are currently planning on driving straight through. We anticipate being on the road about 12 hours (including driving, bathroom and food stops), and hope to arrive before sundown that evening. We will return to New Jersey on Saturday, July 14. We will be working on an assigned project—as Henderson's website states: Meeting Basic Needs in Appalachia—throughout that week, doing some sort of construction project in the Frakes area.

Here are some financial details. We anticipate needing about \$9,000 total. This includes some \$2,000 for materials for the project itself; about \$4,000 for housing (for 12 people); about \$1,000 for food; about \$1,300 rent for our transportation and fuel; and, some money for the fun-day (project crews are given Wednesday off). We're asking each participant to consider raising \$325, the individual cost of housing for the week. Scholarships will be available as needed.

We plan on renting one of the Settlement's houses, which will enable the group to be together in one place while building a sense of camaraderie, as well as a theological understanding of what a mission trip is really all about. Currently we anticipate eight youth attending, with four adult chaperones. The Project deposit is currently being submitted, and all other costs due Henderson Settlement must be paid by April 1. Now we need to hear from our Senior High Youth and their parents. Will you go? Please advise Fr. Michel of your intention (and submit a \$50 deposit), no later than March 1. And ... watch for a variety of fundraisers, whereby you can help our Youth finance their Mission Trip. ~ *Father Michel*

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COMMUNITY SOUP KITCHEN

Our next Grace Day for the Soup Kitchen at Redeemer Church in Morristown is approaching. Mark your calendar for Tuesday, February 20. Kitchen workers and volunteers, please sign up by Monday February 13—sign-up sheet outside Grace Hall. Looking forward to working with you.
~ *Tom Honohan*



Thank You to All who have Pledged

We have included the latest updated list of pledges for 2018 recently as an insert to Grace Notes. We have not yet reached the goal of \$590,000. This goal is set by the Vestry after input from the Finance Committee. As of January 19, we have received pledges of \$504,000 (average pledge is \$2880). Our goal of 240 pledges has not been met either; Grace has received 175 pledges so

far. We are encouraging everyone to consider a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: “Life’s most persistent and urgent question is ‘what are you doing for others?’”

At Grace Church your time, treasure and talents are all “doing for others” whether here at church or in our outreach to the community and the world.

~ Stewardship Committee

E N D O W M E N T

Our Endowment increased by 13.2% or \$502,000 for the year ended December 31, 2017, due to the spectacular growth in the stock market. We did try to set aside our earnings by transferring funds from Equity into Fixed Income. Our goal was to conservatively maintain equity at between 55% and 60% of the portfolio while maintaining at least the 5% cash basis requirement. ~ Bruce Rudin

Ending Balance Per Account Statements	12/31/2017	12/31/2016
ML Collateral Account	\$230,280	\$225,671
ML	\$409,613	\$363,098
DIT	3,577,246	3,221,913
Total	4,217,139	3,810,682
Ending Value current period ⁽¹⁾	\$4,217,139	\$3,810,682
Ending Value for Performance	\$4,313,208	\$4,022,481
Beginning Value (prior year ending value)	\$3,810,682	\$3,781,662
Annual Performance **	13.19%	6.37%
Annual Cash flow: (inflow)/ outflow of the endowment	\$96,069	\$211,799
Rolling five year cash (inflows)/outflows	\$670,546	(\$207,138)
Yearly Gains (Losses)	\$502,526	\$240,819
One Year Performance - Benchmark	13.62%	8.07%
Five year Performance - Benchmark	9.93%	8.28%
Five year Performance - Endowment	6.93%	8.15%
Ten year Performance - Endowment	3.09%	2.74%
Five year Performance - S&P 500	15.79%	14.55%



End Hunger 3.6—2018

Again this year, the Madison Rotary Club—in recognition of the fact that every 3.6 seconds someone in the world dies of starvation—is asking for financial and physical help to purchase and package meals to help alleviate hunger in our area. In New Jersey, over one million people are living below the poverty line and one in five children is hungry and relying on food stamps for meals.

On Saturday, March 10, the Rotary Club will be packaging meals at the Baldwin Gymnasium on Drew University’s campus here in Madison. The goal is 250,000 non-perishable, nutritious meals to feed the hungry in New Jersey.

There is some interest in organizing a Grace Church group effort, and if you would be available that day (there will be more than one shift) please let Fr. Michel know.

If you can’t help with our group, you can still donate, or other investigate volunteer opportunities on the Madison Rotary Club website: www.madisonrotarynj.org —>click on the “buttons” for **donations and volunteering**

2017 Outreach Gift Recipients

Grace Episcopal Church has a long history of providing financial gifts, subsidies, and grants to many social programs and organizations throughout the world and within the Diocese. In addition to these grants, Grace parishioners regularly volunteer their time at many of the organizations that Grace financially supports. Outreach ministry at Grace Episcopal Church continues to make a positive effect on the lives of many people. Thank you to the members of the committee and the entire parish for their continued support of Grace's outreach activities.

It is the objective of the Outreach Committee to make grants to local, regional and national causes that may have a connection with Grace parishioners and the diocese. During 2017, the demand for services from food pantries, soup kitchens and homeless shelters continued to remain strong. The goal of the committee is to continue to provide grants to these worthy causes. If any parishioners are aware of social programs that may be interested in applying for such grants, please direct them to someone on the Outreach Committee.

World and National

Episcopal Relief & Development-poverty and natural disasters
Seaman's Church Institute-pastoral care for mariners
Union Theological Seminary
Gifts in honor of The Rev. Richard Maxwell

Youth

Crossroads Camp & Retreat-spiritual retreat center
Diocese of Newark Prison Ministry – mentoring programs
Haven of Hope for Kids-retreat center for terminally ill children
Project Community Pride-counseling for at-risk youth
St. John's/Cedar Hill CDC, Boonton – VBS and afterschool programs
St. Luke's-Afghan School Project-pen pal program

Diocese and Regional

Apostles' House-homeless shelter, food pantry, advocacy
Chaplaincy Program MCCF-annual support
Church of the Good Shepherd, Wantage-food pantry
Community of St. John Baptist
Good Shepherd Home
Daytop-adolescents with addiction, co-occurring mental health
Faith Kitchen-soup kitchen
Grace Counseling Center-annual support
Heartworks-9/11 ongoing support
House of Prayer, Newark-annual health fair
Family Promise of Morris County-emergency shelter /food for families
Madison Eagle Christmas Fund-annual support
Madison Rotary Club-"End Hunger 3.6"
Madison Volunteer Ambulance Dept.-annual support
Newark School of Theology-scholarships/support
North Porch Women & Infants' Center-formula, diapers, baby food
Our Promise (formerly *Our Place*)-drop in center for homeless
RAMP-refugee assistance in Morris County
St. Paul's CDC-food pantry

In addition to above, \$3,148 was raised from the 2017 "Souper Bowl" collection and was donated to the Community Soup Kitchen, Madison Rotary's "End Hunger 3.6," and Faith Kitchen.

The Church provided space at a subsidized charge to numerous organizations, including the Grace Counseling Center.

Grace parishioners have been very generous in donating time and money directly to causes such as the Community Soup Kitchen, the Re-Start Ministry and many other outreach organizations.

2017 Outreach Committee

Michael Ling
The Rev. Richard Maxwell,
The Rev. Canon Michel Belt
Kit Cone
Jennifer McCulloch
Kirk Nixon

Thanks, Grace!

by Kirk and Sue Nixon

Refugee Assistance Morris Partners (RAMP) is a local community organization formed in 2016 to assist vetted Middle Eastern and other refugee families transition to productive lives of dignity, safety, and hope in the Morris County area. Grace Church participates with twelve other churches, synagogues and mosques to further this goal. We are Grace's representatives to RAMP and also serve on its Executive Steering Committee. Currently, RAMP supports two families who come from war-torn countries.

RAMP states on its website (www.RAMPnj.org) that it is "a bridge to assist people to cross from one life to another." We are most grateful to Grace for its ongoing support of this organization and its mission. This support has taken many forms. The Re-Start Ministry has supplied nearly all the furniture to assist both our families settle into their new homes in Morris County. Our Outreach Committee has provided RAMP with financial support through regular ongoing contributions. This holiday season Dr. Anne's Harmonium Singers included the names of family members in an original and moving song titled, "My Name is Lamiya: Don't Call Me Refugee" by Michael Bussewitz-Quarm.

Most recently, our families were the recipients of the generosity of many Grace parishioners who selected their wish list items from the Angel Tree. We had the pleasure of having one of our families open their gifts at

our home. It was wonderful! They were all appreciative and the nine-year-old girl couldn't believe she actually got her wish for a 28" Barbie doll. The younger brother was most thrilled with his truck and action figure. They were both so excited for these and other gifts and we were grateful to be a part of their joy. The Angel Tree shoppers were attentive to the wishes of the children and also included goodie bags with treats that included their favorite toys such as Spiderman and Disney's Ariel. We couldn't believe this attention to detail in the children's gift bags and even the 19-year-old adult son received a goody bag of treats. The gift cards for the parents were really appreciated. How very generous of all the Grace donors!

We have been impressed and touched by the kindness of Grace Church. On behalf of RAMP, we want to thank each and every one of you for your loving and helpful ways.

www.rampnj.orgEndOf2017Updates.pdf



RAMP volunteers prepare apartment for Syrian family arriving November 2016.



Volunteers work in Boonton to furnish an apartment for a family of Syrian refugees being brought to the United States by a faith-based coalition. Photo: Courtesy Adam Kandil/Islamic Center of Morris County.

Refugee Assistance
RAMP
Morris Partners
*A Bridge to Assist People to
Cross From One Life to Another*

RAMP is associated with the Community Foundation of New Jersey, a 501 (c)3 organization.

EXPERIENCE GRACE

CHILI COOK-OFF

On this past cold winter's night of Epiphany, ten of our finest travelled to church with a hot pot of chili in hopes of winning the hearts (and stomachs!) of their fellow parishioners. It was Grace's first CHILI COOK-OFF, an *Experience Grace* event offered at our annual Auction in November.

Crowds gathered in Grace Hall as the competition began and the ten chefs watched over their pots of chili like the shepherds kept watch over their flock by night. The competition was fierce. Five families (Albiston, Bradshaw, Fraser, Nunn, Sacher), two "twenty-somethings" (Sally Monkemeier and Grace VanCleaf) and three very confident singleton chefs (Paul Kline, Marilyn Musielski and Chris Wilde) all thought they could win first prize with their chili. And right they were. Everyone's chili was unique and prepared to perfection. There was vegan chili, turkey chili, Texas beef chili, and even a white chili. The chefs presented and served samples of their chili with all kinds of special



Randi is serving chili as fast as she can!

toppings to over 60 guests and some of the guests went back for seconds (and thirds) to figure out whose chili would win our vote. It was a really difficult decision!

Ballots were cast and counted, but alas, it was a three-way tie for first place.

Congratulations to the Chili Champ Winners!

Scott Albiston for his "Albi's Texas Chili,"
the Bradshaw Family for their "Game On! Chili," and to **Rob Fraser and Family** for their

"The Fraser's "GOBBLING" Chili Delight."

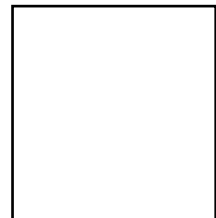
Thank you to all of the chefs (young and old) who participated and helped make this event a success. Our hearts and minds were warmed not only by your comfort food but by your energy and the excitement you generated in all generations present. Thank you also to Allison Garde, Auction Angel, for her yummy homemade brownies that were a big hit on the refreshing ice cream sundae bar.

We enjoyed a great night of fellowship and we raised \$800 as a fundraiser (some of which is included in the 2017 Auction proceeds previously announced). And that's what "Experience Grace" events are all about. Anyone up for a rematch next winter?

~ Randi Albiston and Alison Garde, Auction Angel



Rob Fraser's chili was super!



Our chili cook-off competitors.

EXPERIENCE GRACE

Act quickly— there are a few opportunities left!

“Experience Grace” events are an opportunity to attend a fun event with other members and friends of the Grace community, hosted by Grace parishioners. The proceeds from these events go to support the church. If you missed the auction, you can still sign up to participate in one (or more!) of these great events.

reprise!

MYSTERY WINE TASTING

Friday, February 23, from 7:30 to 10:00 pm, Grace Hall.

Enjoy a reprise of a MYSTERY wine-tasting and LIVE MUSIC from the What’s What Band, featuring Grace’s own Bill Geyer. Hosted by the Baulig, Blount, Farrell, Geyer, Hughes, O’Keeffe, Pacheco and Yost families in consultation with The Grateful Palate of Morristown. \$50 per person.



TURTLE BACK ZOO, West Orange, NJ

ADULT ZOO TOUR

Saturday, April 21, from 1:00-3:00 pm

Join Grace’s own docent, Dora Monserrate, for a fascinating adult, two-hour tour of the Zoo. Cost includes admission to the zoo (open 10 am to 4:30 pm). Limited to 25 adults ages 17+ due to tour content. Optional social hour on your own before or after at adjacent McLoone’s Boat House. Limited to 25 adults.

\$40 per person



FAMILY ZOO TOUR (for all ages)

Saturday, April 28, from 1:00-2:30 pm

Turtle Back Zoo, West Orange

Join Grace’s own other docent, Evelyn Callahan, for a fun-filled 90-minute tour. Cost includes admission to the zoo (open 10 am to 4:30 pm). Children must be accompanied by a paying adult (one adult for every three children). Limited to 25 guests.

\$30 per person.

Questions? Speak with Eleanor Rawitz.



Waiting Lists

Contact Eleanor Rawitz if you would like to add your name to the waiting list for these two SOLD OUT Experience Grace events.

FIVE COURSE GOURMET

FONDUE PARTY at the Madison home of John and Bev Wand.

Saturday, February 10, 6:00-9:00 pm

Five courses all paired with fine wines and champagnes from John’s cellar.

Only 14 seats. \$125 per person.

MURDER MYSTERY

DINNER PARTY

Saturday, March 10, from 6:00-9:00 pm,

Nieman Hall. Enjoy dinner and drinks

while you play the game Murder of the

Great Chef - in full character! Guests

can join the event as a suspect, an official

or a bystander. Seating limited to 20.

\$100 per person.

Your check payable to 'Grace Church' will secure your place.
To sign up, contact Eleanor Rawitz
erawitz@aol.com or (973) 224-1222

LENTEN WORSHIP

Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays in Lent

Beginning February 21, 6:00 pm

The service for Veneration of the Stations is a half-hour service on Wednesday evenings throughout Lent where congregants follow the liturgy by walking from one place to another throughout the church — candles are lighted in each of the window bays. After the final prayer, participants can stand in the front of the nave and see it truly kindled and enlivened by the flickering of their lights.

Please join us for this experience.



A Lenten Consideration
from The Book of Common Prayer

The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provision for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses.

Thanksgiving for a Child, BCP p. 445



Chanted Compline

Thursdays in Lent

Beginning February 15, 8:45-9:00 pm

End your day in quiet contemplation with the choir's candlelight chanted ancient compline service. The congregation is welcome to listen or join the choir in the stalls to chant. You may find this a meditative addition to your Lenten observance.
give it a try!

Noonday Prayer and Organ Recitals

Fridays in Lent

Beginning February 16, 12:15 pm followed by lunch

(\$7 catered by Slamwich)

February 16

Anne Matlack & Friends

February 23

Reformation Celebration

March 2

Eric Stroud

Clavichord, harpsichord and organ

March 9

Pingry School

Upper School String Ensemble

March 16

Anne Matlack

All Bach

March 23

Patricia Ruggles

Monteverdi

Pianto della Madonna with Darren O'Neil, guitar; and



we're here for you.

Please remember that your clergy are available for conversation, counseling, and prayer. Don't be shy about calling or emailing to make an appointment. Call the office at (973) 377-0106 or email

Fr. Max:

gracemadisoninterim@gmail.com

Fr. Michel

gracemadisonmbelt@gmail.com

“How to Create a Healthy Life”

A series of free talks at Grace Counseling Center

Come join us for a series of monthly discussions to help you create a more meaningful life. Grace Counseling Center is offering these discussions free to the community. Each one focuses on an aspect of your life that can help you unleash true happiness.

Food and You Thursday, January 25, 10:00-11:00 am OR 7:00-8:00 pm

Is how much and what foods we eat simply a matter of willpower or are there other factors that influence our eating? Our discussion will center on exploring some of the issues behind emotional eating as well as helpful guidelines for healthy eating.

Presented by: Joanne S. Miller, M.Div.

You Said What? Wednesday, February 7, 7:00- 9:00 pm

True communication requires two people to share a deep level of understanding about their needs, concerns or feelings. Often we are not tuned in deeply enough to really share on this level. This seminar can help persons in special relationships (married, committed, friendship, parent and adult child) enrich their lives through dialogue. For the greatest benefit, both parties of the relationship should attend together.

Presented by: Catherine M. Morrisett, D. Min

Raising Resilient Children Monday, March 19, 7:00- 8:00 pm

Raising children in today's world is complicated. One of the greatest gifts we can give them is the ability to be resilient. This workshop will explore the characteristics that define resilience and how to cultivate it in your child. *Presented by: Nunzio Gubitosa, MA, M Phil, LP*

Grace Counseling Center 16 Madison Avenue, Madison, NJ 07940
PLEASE RSVP TO (973) 822-0707 SPACE IS LIMITED

COUPLES WORKSHOP

“Listening with the Ear of the Heart”

Grace Counseling Center will hold a free half-day workshop for Grace parishioners (and their friends), designed for couples who wish to deepen and enrich their relationships, and be guided on a path that can lead to deeper joy and greater aliveness.

This workshop (based on the Imago work of Harville Hendrix, PhD), can help people in special relationships (married, committed, or even simple friendship), enriching their lives through honest and open dialogue. For the greatest benefit, both parties of the relationship should attend together.

Presented by Dr. Catherine M. Morrisett, staff therapist, this two-hour workshop will be Saturday, February 24, from 9:00-11:00 am. It will be followed by a renewal of your commitment to one another with a Eucharist here at Grace Church. Sign up on the bulletin board in Grace Lobby.

Did you know...

Fr. Mike Muller, who prepared for the reception of his Holy Orders at Grace Church, has a new position?

He's now Priest-in-Charge at St. Peter's Church in Essex Fells.

FELLOWSHIP



Save the date!

Grace Women's Retreat



2017 Retreat Participants

Our 2018 overnight retreat is tentatively scheduled for March 2-3 at Stony Point Retreat Center about an hour away in Stony Point, NY. More details will follow in the weekly Grace Notes regarding registration and theme. It is a wonderful way to step away from your daily demands and nurture your spiritual self.

TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATIONS

Our Website

www.gracemadison.org

The new Grace Church website will be launched immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting on February 4. This version will be:

- Much more stable with essentially no down time or formatting issues as we've had repeatedly
- Smart phone friendly—easy to check calendars and parishioner directory
- Much easier to manage and change without the need for external expert support

Less expensive for Grace, it will provide:

- Access to the Church Directory
- A simple update capability for Grace staff members so they can keep their sections up-to-date

- Ease of adding more sophisticated functionality over time to assure we continue to have a truly useful site for our members
 - A central and simple way to maintain and access up-to-date support documents such as forms, ministry schedules, Messengers, Annual Reports, etc.
 - Ability for users to identify and report problems and suggestions for improvement as well as provide new photos and other new content
 - Support us in the recruitment of our new Rector
- A presentation on the new website will be made at a First Friday and other events.
~ Tom Honohan and Sam Partridge



Keep up-to-date with Grace Church on Facebook, our Facebook page is called:
"Grace Episcopal Church - Madison, NJ"

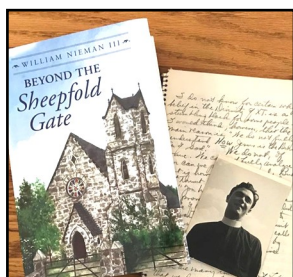


Check out our YouTube channel:
"Grace Church Madison"

First Fridays @6:15pm

Join us for our monthly potluck supper and to learn more about our fellow parishioners. Sign up in Grace Lobby with what dish you'd like to bring, and if you can set up or clean up.

February 2: Beyond the Sheepfold Gate



Bill Nieman, III will speak about his book, *Beyond the Sheepfold Gate*, which recalls the life of his father, the Rev. William Nieman, Jr. The book focuses on his ministry at Grace Church, and details Fr. Nieman's guidance of a parish experiencing dramatic growth, liturgical change and its own response to America's mid-century cultural upheaval.

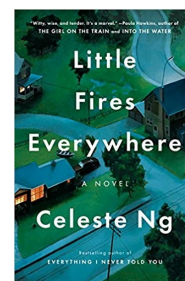
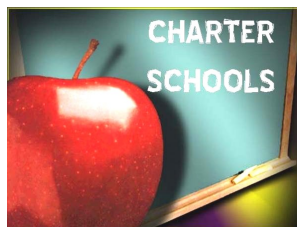
Bill Nieman was fortunate to have a trove of his father's handwritten sermons from which he has elaborated Fr. Nieman's vision of the nature of God and the essence of a true Christian faith. Taken together, these writings and the Rev. Nieman's public activities speak of a ministry with the hallmark of "reconciliation." He spoke often of the need to live in the "perilous middle" of conflicts in society, in one's faith or in family life.

Father Nieman loved most his role as counselor and pastor. He became a trusted friend and advisor to his congregants. Underscoring their respect for his gentle yet firm guidance, they chose for his epitaph, "A Good Shepherd." Bill will also speak about how researching and writing this book has influenced his own journey of faith, both within and beyond his own sheepfold gate.

The book will be available at the presentation, and for those who are interested in exploring the book before the First Friday Supper, you can learn more about it on the Facebook page "Beyond the Sheepfold Gate" and order it by sending a "Messenger" request on Facebook.

March 2: The Charter School Movement

In recent years, charter schools have become a hot-button issue in the debate over best practices for education. But what exactly is a charter school? Why is the movement so controversial? And, most importantly, what impact has it had on children? Meet **Ryan Gorman**, an AmeriCorps employee at Great Oaks Legacy Charter School in Newark, NJ, as he provides a firsthand take on the charter school movement in action.



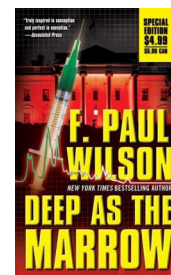
The Grace Women's Book Group will meet to discuss *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng on Monday, February 19, at 7:00 pm in Nieman Annex.

From publisher:

This gripping drama explores undercurrents and conflicts that ensue when an itinerant mother and daughter move in and defy every rule in this well-ordered Shaker Heights, Ohio community.

Planning ahead, we'll be reading Gail Honeyman's *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* in March.

As always, you are most welcome.
~ Joan Nolan (973) 267-2638



Men's Book Group with Author

The Men's Book Group will discuss *Deep as the Marrow* with the author, F. Paul Wilson, who will attend the meeting and will share his experience as a writer.

The meeting will be at Grillera Mediterranean Restuarant at 91 Park Ave, Madison on Tuesday, February 20, at 6:00 pm. Please RSVP to Bruce Rudin so reservations can be made. All are welcome. ~Bruce Rudin
brucedora@verizon.net

HOLY DAYS

Friday, February 2

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

5:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Saturday, February 24

ST. MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE

5:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Wednesday, February 14

ASH WEDNESDAY, First Day of Lent

9:30 am Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist, Rite I

12:15 pm Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist, Rite II, organ

5:30 pm Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist, Rite I

7:00 pm Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist, Rite II, choirs

Children's Program at 5:30 and 7:00 pm

Please let us know

If you are admitted to a hospital, please let us know. Due to HIPPA regulations, medical facilities are not permitted to contact Grace Church unless you ask them to do so. You may also ask a family member to contact us on your behalf. So please, if you or a family member is hospitalized, call the Parish office or clergy so we can help any way we can.



Delivered with love

January 3, 2018—The very cold weather in early January didn't stop our volunteers from delivering the lovely Christmas poinsettias to those on our delivery list!

Many thanks to Sue Nixon, Nancy Gates, Francine Ling, Janet Molstad, Eleanor Rawitz, Alison Cummins, Margie Paul, Ginger Maione, Katie Harter and her Olivia! These ladies made a wonderful team and were so diligent with each delivery!

Before closing, a big thank you to Judy Honohan for helping to select the plants to be delivered and taking such good care of the many poinsettias left adorning the church that day! Lots of thanks to all! ~ Peggy Oakes



Adult Forums

Grab a cup of coffee and join us Sundays after the second morning worship service.

February 4

*Annual Parish Meeting
(no Adult Forum)*

February 11

Lent

Frs. Max and Michel will lead a discussion about Lent—
What is it; where it came from,
and more.

February 18

Warden's Update

February 25

Cross Roads

Program Director Kathryn Schaefer
Joining us to explore the important partnership opportunities between the ministry of Cross Roads and of our church. We will focus our conversation around the key role summer camp plays in youth faith formation and leadership development. Join us to learn more about Cross Roads's programs and the benefits of getting involved with our camp and retreat center.

Save the date!

Men's Group Meeting

Discuss possible fall
Men's Retreat and
an Outreach Project.

Friday, March 9, 6:30-9:00 pm,
at 5 Surrey Lane.

GRACE-AT-A-GLANCE

Fri., Feb. 2	6:15 pm	First Friday: Bill Nieman III talks about his book <i>Beyond the Sheepfold Gate</i>
Sat., Feb. 3	8:30-12:30	Harmonium Bootcamp
Sun., Feb. 4	11:30 am	Parish Annual Meeting
		Scavenger Hunt for the kids, <i>babysitting available in nursery</i>
		Souper Bowl of Caring Collection
Tues., Feb. 6	6:30 pm	Inquirers' Class, <i>Nieman Hall</i> —1st session
Wed., Feb. 7	5:30 pm	Pizza-Making (Compline), <i>Kitchen</i>
	6:30 pm	Compline for Kids Service, <i>Church</i>
	6:30 pm	Good Book Club, <i>Nieman Hall</i> —1st session
Sun., Feb. 11	10:00 am	Boy Scout Sunday, wear your uniform to church
	9:00 am	Adult Forum: Clergy on Lent, <i>Nieman Hall</i>
	3:00 pm	GCM Concert: <i>Schumann: A Musical Love Story</i>
	3:00 pm	Absalom Jones Service, <i>Newark</i>
Tues., Feb. 13	5:30-7:30 pm	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, <i>Grace Hall</i>
	7:30 pm	Grace Counseling Center Board, <i>Nieman Hall</i>
Thurs., Feb. 15	8:45 pm	Chanted Compline, <i>Church</i>
Fri., Feb. 16	12:15 pm	Noonday Prayer and Concert, <i>Church</i>
Sun., Feb. 18		Adult Forum: Warden's Update, <i>Nieman Hall</i>
Mon., Feb. 19		<i>Office closed in observance of President's Day</i>
Tues., Feb. 20	6:30 pm	Inquirers' Class
Wed., Feb. 21	12:15 pm	Noonday Prayer and Concert, <i>Church</i>
	6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross, <i>Church</i>
Fri., Feb. 23	12:15 pm	Noonday Prayer and Concert, <i>Church</i>
Sat., Feb. 24	9:00 am	Couples Workshop, <i>Grace Hall</i>
Sun., Feb. 25		Adult Forum: Cross Roads
Wed., Feb. 28	6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross, <i>Church</i>

Ongoing Weekly Groups

2 nd Sunday	9:00 am	Buildings and Grounds Committee
2 nd and 4 th Sundays	7:00 pm	Confirmation Class, <i>Nieman Hall</i>
Mondays	9:30 am	Tai Chi, <i>Grace Hall</i>
1 st Monday	7:00-8:00 pm	Mindfulness for Adults, <i>Senior High Room</i>
2 nd Monday	7:00 pm	Pastoral Care, <i>Nieman Hall</i>
3 rd Monday	7:30 pm	Finance Committee, <i>Library</i>
3 rd Monday	7:00 pm	Women of Grace Book Group, <i>Nieman Annex</i>
4 th Monday	7:30 pm	Vestry Meeting
Tuesdays	6:30 pm	Inquirers' Class, <i>Nieman Hall</i>
	7:30 pm	Craft Guild, <i>Library</i>
3 rd Tuesday	7:30 pm	Men's Book Group, <i>see Bruce Rudin for location</i>
3 rd Tuesday "even" months		Grace's Day at Community Soup Kitchen
Wednesdays	10:15 am	Women's Meditation & Centering Prayer, <i>Library</i>
	noon	AA (Men's Group), <i>Grace Hall</i>
	6:30 pm	<i>The Good Book Club</i> with Frs. Max and Michel
2 nd and 4 th Wed.	7:30 pm	Survivors of Suicide, <i>Library</i>
Fridays	7:30 am	Men's Breakfast, <i>Waverly Place Restaurant</i>

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

4 MADISON AVE, MADISON NJ 07940

PHONE: (973) 377-0106

FAX: (973) 377-0828

www.GraceMadison.org

GraceMadisonNJ@gmail.com

Clergy & Officers

The Rev. Richard Maxwell

Interim Priest

GraceMadisonInterim@gmail.com

The Rev. Canon Michel Belt

Priest Associate

GraceMadisonMBelt@gmail.com

John Garde, *Warden*

Tom Honohan, *Warden*

David Gates, *Treasurer*

Vestry

John Bartolomeo Laura Norwalk

Diane DuBrule Bendelius

Doug Harter Sam Partridge

Michael Ling Charlie Schiller

Beth McKeever Evangeline Tross

Dora Monserrate Melissa Waterstredt

Kirk Nixon

Parish Staff

Michael Kostial, *Parish Administrator*

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