



# GRACE NOTES

THE NEWSLETTER OF GRACE CHURCH, AMHERST, MA

FEBRUARY, 2012

## *A Note of Thanks from the (Former) Deacon*

*January 8<sup>th</sup> was a truly memorable day in my life – a bitter-sweet day - as I both celebrated my ministry with you at Grace, and had to say “Goodbye” at the same time. I want to thank all of you, therefore, who contributed to making the day so very special, as well as for your generous gifts and cards. I don’t want to mention names, because I’m afraid if I do, I will leave someone out, but you know who you are. One of the moving and many memories that I will take with me from Grace, was the kindness of your response to Rob’s words during the 10:30 service, as well as your kind remarks following both services in church and in the Connector afterwards.*

*My thanks would not be complete without my mentioning all those who have contributed to my ministry at Grace – from the acolytes who helped me “set the Table”, or were Gospel book-bearers, to all members of the pastoral care team and to the whole leadership team. The one and only name that I will mention, is that of our Rector, Rob Hirschfeld, who graciously and humorously aided my learning curve when I first came to the parish and who has served as an “icon” for me ever since. Thank you, Rob, and thank you, Grace Church. You will always have a special place in my heart.*

*The Rev. Ann P. Wood*

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## WARRANT \* NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of Grace Episcopal Church, Amherst, Massachusetts will take place on Sunday, February 5, 2012 for the following purposes:

- To hear a Report from the Rector;
- To elect officers – Sr. Warden, Jr. Warden, Clerk, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer;
- To elect five members to the Vestry for three-year terms each, and two for one-year term each;
- To elect two delegates at large, and one delegate representative from the Vestry, plus one youth delegate and two alternates to the Diocesan Convention. Each of these delegates serves one year. This year, each will serve at the special electing convention in June and the usual annual convention in October;
- To receive the annual reports of Grace Church; and
- To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

We will begin with Holy Eucharist at 9:30 am. The Meeting will convene at 11:00 am in the Parish Hall.

*By order of the Wardens and Vestry*

## Burning of the Palms in Preparation for Ash Wednesday

Please join the Acolytes and Altar Guild on Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to noon in the Columbarium. They will be burning last year's palms for Ash Wednesday. You may donate your palms from last year; just leave them in the basket at the back of the church.

## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

The last day before Lent is Shrove Tuesday. Join the Brother Lawrence Guild for the annual pancake supper on February 21 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. For just a song you get all the pancakes and sausage you can eat.

## Ash Wednesday Services ~ February 22, 2012

8:00 am 12:10 pm 5:00 pm (Children's Service) 7:00 PM

## Happy February Birthday To:



3	Cameron Baird	9	Samuel Orvis	19	Margaret Clardy
4	Bryce Van Cleef	11	Gordon Anderson		Bette Moriarty
	Jessica Duda	13	Jane Pemberton		Paul Bracciotti
5	Jeanne Balcom	14	Lynne Baker		Hillary Atkinson
	Stephen Armstrong	15	Elizabeth Baker	21	Peter Kibbler
	Rev. Hilary Bogert- Winkler	16	Jack Pemberton		Mary Wistar
	Trudie May Seterdahl		Mary Steigner		Kira Eve
7	Catherine McGraw		Owen Williams	22	Eric Treyz
8	Meriel Moner	17	Emily Kibbler	23	Juanita deCuir
	Charles Beall	18	Kevin Coughlin	27	Benjamin Klock
			Ann Holland	28	Sean Fox
					Catherine Spence



~ Eco-tip~

As the days lengthen, treat yourself to a daily outing on God's beautiful earth.

*Greening Grace*



## The Garth Planting Committee

will have available at the Annual Meeting on Feb. 5 a planting plan and posters depicting the trees and shrubs we wish to plant in the restored Garth. We hope that parishioners will be willing to donate a specific tree or shrub to be purchased, delivered and professionally planted this spring. You may choose a specific item to fund or donate money to be pooled for general purchases. Three parishioners have already volunteered to adopt a tree or shrub for donation. See the proposed list--with estimated purchase prices (right). If you have any questions, please contact a committee member: Cheryl Johnston, Miriam Jenkins, Jane Pemberton or Sherry Wilson.

### TREES

- 2 Cornus kousa (Chinese dogwood) \$100 each
- 1 Heptacodium miconioides (Seven-son-flower) \$90
- 1 Ulmus 'Princeton' (Princeton disease-resistant elm) \$180
- 2 Viburnum plicatum 'Shasta' (double-file viburnum) \$40 each

### SHRUBS

- 7 Ilex glabra (Inkberry) \$32 each
- 6 Cornus alba or C. sericea (yellow-twig dogwood) \$40 each
- 1 Buddleia alternifolia (fountain butterfly bush) \$35
- 1 Buddleia 'Lo and Behold' (dwarf butterfly bush) \$40
- 3 Cotoneaster horizontalis perpusillus (compact rockspray) \$30 each
- 1 Hydrangea quercifolia (oak-leaf hydrangea) \$35
- 2 Fothergilla gardenia 'Blue Mist' \$45 each

Trellis for vine on parish hall  
Soaker hoses and landscape pins

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## Holy Baptism and Preparation Classes

According to *The Book of Common Prayer*:

*"Holy Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body the Church. The bond which God establishes in Baptism is indissoluble" (298).*

In other words, in baptism we are welcomed fully into the body of Christ that is the Church—those who have come before, those who live now, and those who are yet to come. In the early Church, Lent was the traditional season when those wishing to enter into the body of Christ would prepare for baptism at the Great Vigil of Easter.

This Lent, Hilary will be offering baptism preparation classes for those youth, children, and families with infants who are interested in being baptized at the Easter Vigil or on Easter Sunday. There are three sessions for the catechists (another name for those preparing to be baptized) and their families. If you're interested, please let Hilary know by March 1 (hbwchurch@gmail.com). Dates and times will be set up after we know who will be participating and when folks are available.

## Special Events February 2012

Wednesday, February 1	12:10 pm	<b>Holy Eucharist</b> , Rite I with healing prayer
	4:00 pm	<b>Al-Anon</b> – Parish Hall
	7:00 pm	<b>Adult Education</b> – Connector
	(January 4, 11, 18, 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15) 7:00 PM	
		“A Bold Vision and a Refreshed Wisdom’: Conversations on the Basics of the Christian Faith” – Led by the Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld and the Rev. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas. This seven-week series is intended for multiple audiences: those without any background in the Church or the Christian faith; those who would like a refresher on the foundations of the faith; and those who have a sense that Christianity just has to be about more than what we hear in the news. We’ll start by asking the usual questions: are you saved, and from what? Is the Bible inerrant or is it true? What does it mean to be born again? To be baptized? What is prayer, and do I have one? Is that thing with the bread and the wine just hocus-pocus? What the heck would Jesus do if he were in my shoes? There will be some peculiarly Anglican/Episcopal responses to some of these questions, and we’ll also ask: did Henry VIII start the Church of England? Do Protestants “do” confession? What’s a bishop, a parish, a ministry, and why should I care? Feel free to come, whether you are interested in joining the church, in becoming baptized, or in looking for a safe opportunity to ask some questions. You are welcome here.
Thursday, February 2	7:30 pm	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> -- Church
Friday, February 3	7:00 am	<b>Men’s Group</b> – Parker Room
Sunday, February 5	9:30 am	<b>Combined Service of Holy Eucharist</b>
	11:30 am	<b>Annual Meeting – Parish Hall</b>
Monday, February 6	5:30 pm	<b>Rector’s Contemplative Bible Reading</b> – Parker Room
	7:00 pm	<b>Education for Ministry</b> – Connector
	7:00 pm	<b>AA</b> – Parish Hall
Tuesday, February 7	3:00 pm	<b>Shawl Ministry</b> (Parker Room)
	5:15 pm	<b>AA</b> – Parish Hall
Wednesday, February 8	12:10pm	<b>Holy Eucharist</b> , Rite I with healing prayer – Church
	4:00 pm	<b>Al-Anon</b> – Parish Hall
	7:00 pm	<b>Adult Education</b> (Refer to entry for February 1.)
Thursday, February 9	6:00 pm	<b>Grace Volunteers at the Cot Shelter</b> -- Edwards Church, Northampton.
	7:30 pm	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> -- Church
Friday, February 10	7:00 am	<b>Men’s Group</b> – Parker Room
Saturday, February 11	9:00 am	<b>Quiet Day</b> : “Epiphany: Resting in the Light,” led by Rev. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas. The radiance of Christ’s glory is shining within our lives, but most of us barely perceive it. Usually our attention is focused on the outward noise and demands of the world, or on our own inner state of unrest. This retreat invites us to step away from the busyness of ordinary life and to rest awhile in the light of Christ. In shared meditation and in solitary prayer we will practice being alert to the present moment, exploring themes of abiding, rest, stillness, and strength. The retreat ends at Noon. – Parish Hall

10:30 pm **Grace Volunteers at Not Bread Alone** – First Congregational Church, Amherst

Sunday, February 12

8:00 am **Holy Eucharist**  
9:00 am **Coffee Hour** – Connector  
9:00 am **Liturgy in the Round** – Parish Hall  
9:20 am **Bible Study** – Parker Room  
9:35 am **Sunday School** – Parke House  
10:30 am **Holy Eucharist**  
12:00 pm **Coffee Hour** – Connector  
12:00 pm **Episcopal Peace Fellowship** – Parker Room  
12:30 pm **Iconography** – Parish Hall, Garth end

Monday, February 13

5:30 pm **Rector’s Contemplative Bible Reading** – Parker Room  
7:00 pm **Education for Ministry** – Connector  
7:00 pm **AA** – Parish Hall

Tuesday, February 14

10:30 am **Greening Grace** – Parker Room  
5:15 pm **AA** – Parish Hall  
5:30 pm **Liturgy Commission** – Connector  
7:00 pm **Vestry** -- Connector

Wednesday, February 15

12:10pm **Holy Eucharist**, Rite I with healing prayer – Church  
4:00 pm **Al-Anon** – Parish Hall  
7:00 pm **Adult Education** (Refer to entry for February 1.)

Thursday, February 16

7:30 pm **Choir Rehearsal** -- Church

Friday, February 17

7:00 am **Men’s Group** – Parker Room

Saturday, February 18

10:00 am **Burning of the Palms** – Columbarium  
10:30 am **Lector Training** – All Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers need to attend this meeting. – Church

Sunday, February 19

**No Sunday School today**  
8:00 am **Holy Eucharist**  
9:00 am **Coffee Hour** – Connector  
9:00 am **Liturgy in the Round** – Parish Hall  
9:20 am **Bible Study** – Parker Room  
9:35 am **Sunday School** – Parke House  
10:30 am **Holy Eucharist**  
12:00 pm **Coffee Hour** – Connector  
12:00 pm **Sunday Forum** “Grace Church: The Windows,” led by the Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld. Many stained glass windows tell the stories of our faith by showing scenes and characters from the Bible or our tradition. Yet except for the window of St. Michael and the Dragon over the west door, the windows of Grace Church don’t tell stories. Or do they? Looking more closely at the window above the Altar, and at some windows along the nave, we can piece together an interesting narrative about the history of our parish and how several local ancestors in the faith played a significant role in the history of the Episcopal Church, monasticism, and the movement to restore the unity of the Church. NOTE: this Forum will be held in the church.

Monday, February 20	<b>President's Day – Old Rectory Closed</b> 7:00 pm AA – Parish Hall 7:00 pm <b>Education for Ministry</b> – Connector
Tuesday, February 21	3:00 pm <b>Shawl Ministry</b> (Parker Room) 5:15 pm AA – Parish Hall 5:30 pm <b>Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper</b> – Parish Hall
Wednesday, February 22	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes:</b> 8:00 am, 12:10 pm, 5:00 pm (designed especially for children), and 7:00 pm – Church 4:00 pm <b>Al-Anon</b> – Parish Hall
Thursday, February 23	7:30 pm <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> -- Church
Friday, February 24	7:00 am <b>Men's Group</b> – Parker Room
Sunday, February 26	8:00 am <b>Holy Eucharist</b> 9:00 am <b>Coffee Hour</b> – Connector 9:00 am <b>Liturgy in the Round</b> – Parish Hall 9:20 am <b>Bible Study</b> – Parker Room 9:35 am <b>Sunday School</b> – Parke House 10:30 am <b>Holy Eucharist</b> 12:00 pm <b>Coffee Hour</b> – Connector 12:30 pm <b>Iconography</b> – Parish Hall, garth end
Monday, February 27	5:30 pm <b>Rector's Contemplative Bible Reading</b> – Parker Room 7:00 pm <b>Education for Ministry</b> – Connector 7:00 pm AA – Parish Hall
Tuesday, February 28	5:15 pm AA – Parish Hall
Wednesday, February <u>29</u>	12:10 pm <b>Holy Eucharist</b> – Rite I with Healing Prayer – Church 4:00 pm <b>Al-Anon</b> – Parish Hall 7:00 pm <b>Adult Education</b> , "Lent: Practicing Forgiveness," led by the Rev. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, Veronica Chapman, and Anne Homme. Forgiveness looks simple when we read about it, and we may find it easy to discuss the theory of forgiveness. Yet how difficult it is to practice forgiveness when someone has deeply hurt us! Why is it so hard to seek or to grant forgiveness? Are there places in our lives where we are unreasonably demanding of someone? What about people who don't deserve to be forgiven? This five-week Lenten study and practice of forgiveness will use the exercises in Doris Donnelly's book, <i>Putting Forgiveness into Practice</i> , as a springboard for personal exploration and discussion. Every class will include time for private reflection and small group sharing. This course would be especially helpful for those preparing to receive the sacrament of reconciliation. (The book is out of print, but available on-line; several copies, used and new, are available for sale in Annie's office in the Old Rectory. If possible, please bring a copy to class.) <i>Veronica Chapman and Anne Homme are mentors in the Education for Ministry program. Veronica is also a certified Veriditas Labyrinth facilitator.</i> – Connector