



GRACE NOTES

Grace Episcopal Church ♦ 133 School Street ♦ New Bedford, MA 02740

October 2011

FROM THE RECTOR.....

Abundance of Heart

When I was a kid I loved roller coasters. When I was 15 I worked one summer at Six Flags over Georgia, (although in the parking lot—my Lord, was that hot work) and loved all the rides! There is a real rush when we let go and give in to the feeling of being out of control, trusting that at the end all will be well.

I don't like that experience so much today, whether on a roller coaster or in the Stock Market which lately has been plunging and rising for no apparent reason. I wish it were more like the Children's train at Buttonwood Zoo that slowly follows a path you can see.

But if we pay attention to the rough ride in the financial markets and in life we can learn some profound things.

First we can learn that the only predictable thing in life is change. All we have to do is look in the mirror and see that we are not the same person who looked in the mirror last year or even last week. It frightens us so much that we do all in our power to stop it.

One of our chief tools is to hoard our treasure. This makes logical sense—the less I share the more I'll have to keep myself young and healthy.

The problem, however, is that when we refuse to share we are also closing our hearts, which means we close ourselves to the abundance in our hearts thus shutting ourselves off from joy and peace.

In Jesus' parable of the Rich Fool, God says to the man who builds bigger barns to hold all his stuff: 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be? So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.'

We thought storing up treasures would give us life but instead it robs us of the abundance flowing through our hearts.

Life goes up and down but our hearts are always full of the Divine Abundance. Jesus comes to wake us up to this profound reality and calls us to give our treasure, like in our pledge to the church, as an essential practice that allows us to experience God's abundance and thus find our lives.

Ask yourself: When are you the happiest? Is it when you hunker down and close your heart, or when you open your heart and lavish your love on others?

Jesus says, "I am the vine, you are the branches." The Divine Life flows through each of us at every moment. Giving allows us to touch this reality and to be transformed by it.

In a couple of weeks you will receive a handwritten letter from a fellow member of Grace asking you to join them in making a pledge to Grace Church for 2012. I hope you will give out of your abundant heart, in thanksgiving for all the Lord has given and continues to give to you and your family. The roller coaster of life is ever so much more fun when we are riding with God.

Grace and Peace,

Bill

PS Gathered in Grace is a worship opportunity Wednesdays from 7:00am to 7:30am in the main church: we read scripture, mediate, pray, and celebrate communion. Those that are able share coffee and conversation till 8:00am. We'd love to see you!

FROM YOUR CURATE/CHILDREN'S MINISTER....

We recently came home after adopting our son, Isaiah. He is inquisitive, sweet, and has big bright eyes and two adorable dimples. He is the apple of our eye, and we love him to pieces.

In the last few weeks, countless people have said the same thing:

"Your life will never be the same again!"

Before we had Isaiah, we understood this intellectually. But now we understand it in our bones. It's true. Gone are the days of lingering over supper or spontaneously changing our plans. I have wiped up more drool and yogurt-encrusted cheerios than I ever thought possible. Our lives have changed forever, and we wouldn't change it for the world.

Parenthood involves making sacrifices for the sake of love.

When I returned to church as a young adult, I thought about what a life of faith could do for me. It was hard to accept that sacrifice was such a critical part of life with Christ. It was easy to enjoy the programs at church and great worship. It was harder to learn to give money or to plod through meetings that were boring but important to the life of the community. Why would anyone want to take part in these aspects of church life?

For the sake of love.

Jesus said, "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it." (Matthew 15:25)

I could have remained childless, and enjoyed more vacations and dinners at restaurants. But I gladly give up both for the sake of a child. And I could have enjoyed a life of leisurely Sundays at home reading the newspaper. But I gladly give that up for the sake of a life with Christ in community. Parenthood and faith both involve great joy and much hard work. Both lead to laughs and frustration. Both involve self-investment and sacrifice. And both parenthood and faith are completely worth it.

How have you been called to make sacrifices in your own life? How have these sacrifices led to a life of greater purpose and meaning?

In Christ,
Malia

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN....

"Do this in remembrance of me...." Jesus

It is the weekend of September 11th and having left the market I was greeted by a small, frail, almost stooped over gentleman in his eighties. He wears a WW2 Veterans' hat, and in his outstretched hand, he holds a can. His smile matches the twinkle in his eye. The emotion floods over me as I approach to make my "donation". I see my father. He speaks softly, almost in a whisper, and I lean in to catch his voice, as he thanks me for supporting his fellow veterans and their families. He is thanking me? I return the smile and respond with a: "I thank you for your service, and God bless you." Oh, and he handed me a poppy: the flower of remembrance.

The VFW celebrated the 75th anniversary of the "Buddy Poppy" as its official flower in 1997. And while profits from its sales have helped countless veterans and their widows, widowers and orphans over the years, the poppy itself survives as a perpetual tribute to those who have given their lives for the peace and freedom that we enjoy today.

Every spring during the four long years of WWI, soldiers witnessed the brilliant red poppies blooming on the newly dug graves and on the shelled battlegrounds surrounding the fields of Flanders in Belgium. Poppy seeds will lay dormant for years until the soil around them is disturbed. The battles in Flanders Fields, with their deep trenches, created the ideal conditions for poppy seeds to germinate, take root and bloom everywhere in great numbers...even among all the devastation and destruction that surrounded them.

A Canadian physician (field medic during the War I) penned these beautiful words in his journal after having witnessed the death of a friend on the battle field of Flanders. The poem was published three years later in England, and the "poppy" became the international symbol of remembrance of fallen comrades:

In Flanders Fields

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders Fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Fields. ~~~ John McCrae*

The poem was written by Major John McCrae during the second battle of Ypres in May 1915, where he fought as part of the First Brigade of the Canadian Field Artillery.

Red is the color of Resurrection—rebirth--renewal. Though Flanders fields are in Europe, its legacy is everywhere. The small, simple red poppy, bathed in resplendent red garb, should also remind us of the beauty **of** and **in** God's world around us...despite the ugliness that strives to overcome us. Look for that beauty to heal and hold us in the hope that freedom and justice will prevail. The saints and martyrs who have gone before us demand and deserve nothing less. That, my friends, is Good News!

In peace,
Paula

LITURGY & LITURGICAL MINISTRY

Jerré Croteau, Verger

OCTOBER 2011

During the month of October we are still playing out the season after Pentecost. The color is still green which liturgically speaking is the color of "ordinary time". The first Sunday is October 2nd. As has become our tradition, we celebrate St. Francis of Assisi, whose feast day is October 4th, with the **Blessing of the Animals**. As usual our Acolytes will represent God's wonderful assortment of creatures, and our animal companions can accompany us to church. At the ten o'clock service we will have St. Francis leading his friends in the procession, and after his prayer, our animal friends will be blessed during the service. A blessing will also take place at the five o'clock service on Saturday.

October 8-9 will be the **Seventeenth after Pentecost** with regular services. The last **Acolyte class** will take place at 9:00 a.m. on that Sunday. The following Sunday, October 16, will be the annual **Children's Sabbath** with special prayers for our children.

October 22-23 will be the **Nineteenth after Pentecost** with regular services. The following Sunday, October 30 at Grace is **Acolyte-Lay Minister Sunday**, when we honor all our liturgical ministers. New Acolytes and other Liturgical Ministers who have joined the guild during the past year, or who have been trained this Fall will be commissioned on that day.

Every Wednesday there is an informal **Gathered in Prayer** at 7:00 a.m. At 10:00 a.m. the usual **Holy Eucharist and Healing** service will take place in All Saints' Chapel, at which we celebrate the Saint of the day or one whose feast day occurs during that week. We will celebrate **William Tyndale**, Priest on October 5th; **Samuel Isaac Joseph Schereschewsky**, Bishop of Shanghai October 12th; **St. Luke**, Evangelist and patron of physicians October 19th; and **St. James of Jerusalem**, brother of Jesus October 24th.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The liturgical and allied guilds are always open to people who are interested in preparing and serving at the altar as well as serving the congregation. At this time we especially need additional volunteers for the **Usher Corps** and **Altar Guild**. Ushers serve on Sundays and the occasional special feast day or evening services, such as Christmas or Holy Week, three or four times in a three month period. Members of the Altar Guild are responsible for setting up the altars for services once a month. There are teams assigned to each week, and some act as floats. The principal duties take place on Saturday mornings for about an hour, and after one of the services on Sundays, and the occasional special feast days. Anyone interested in either of these volunteer opportunities, please see me, **Jerré Croteau**, for information.

Additional **Greeters** would also be welcome. Greeters are scheduled each week to welcome people as they come into the service, help the ushers hand out leaflets, make newcomers feel at home, and choose people to bring up the bread and wine at the offertory. If this sounds like something you or your family would enjoy doing, let us know.

A Tribute to The Rev. Philip Carlton Douglas

-Eloise Pina

The many years I have known him, he was Rev. to me, as all the Rectors have been called by me in the Episcopal Church.

He was firm, but a kind, caring person

His calling was for real, he loved his flock and his church.

He was with us in hard times and joyful times.

Many sacrifices were made, especially in outreach in the community.

He was his own person, brilliant and a great husband and father and grandfather.

Grace has been blessed for some of the ministries here, such as his.

I will never forget his true, loving, and sincere spirit he had for Grace. He attended services up to his last - even with his disability.

Now God has called him home, a journey each and every one of us has to take.

His special gift was used by serving and enhancing people's quality of life in the community,

Words just cannot express all that this great humanitarian meant to Grace Church and members of my family.

To the family, Nancy, Susan, and Joan, and grandchildren....Rev fought a good fight. He is not dead - but asleep. When the trumpet shall sound, he will rise and be with your mom and the rest of the family.

His legacy will live on in my heart. We all loved you, but God loved you best.

In closing I dedicate a few of these verses to him.

Hold to God's unchanging hand
Trust in Him, who will not leave you.
Whatsoever years may bring
If by earthly friends forsaken, you
Still more closely to him cling.

When your journey is completed,
If to God you have been true
Fair and bright the home in glory
Your enraptured should will view.

Save the date and join us for a **Celebration of the Adoption of Malia's and Amy's son, Isaiah** on Sunday, October 9th, 2011 after the 10am service. Watch for addition details in the weekly service

ABUNDANCE OF HEART

Grace Church, the church we love so much, which is our source of inspiration and a cornerstone in the community has many financial demands above and beyond which meet the eye. For example,

- The expense of heating and lighting our great edifice
- The many people who comfort and serve you in many capacities
- Printing leaflets and newsletters
- Children's programs
- After school classes
- Numerous outreach initiatives
- Community breakfasts

The list goes on and on and the joy of giving to those in need is a source of satisfaction. If we sit back and analyze everything it's a very expensive undertaking.

It takes many resources to underwrite everything you see and participate in. Our means of income are limited. The endowment, on which we have depended on far too much is slowly decreasing in value. Times could be much better for all of us. Nonetheless, our priorities need to be addressed. Does Grace Church mean as much to you in trying times as good time? I think you will agree we need strong religious convictions to carry us through these challenging days.

Pledging, the art of making a commitment to help with church finances, is an integral part of supporting our parish. The statistics which accompany this article show the average pledging of our sister and brother Episcopalians. You will soon be receiving a pledge card in the mail. Please fill out and return it to the church as soon as possible so we may plan to continue to meet all your religious needs as we have in the past.

Sincerely,

The Stewardship Commission
 Dick Greenhalgh, Chairperson
 Paula Cabral, Senior Warden, Ex-officio
 Ned Hines, Commission Member
 Terri Nowell, Commission Member
 Beth Sharpe, Commission Member

National average per week of giving \$44.19
 Diocesan average per week of giving \$33.76
 Grace Church average per week of giving \$14.90

Calling all Christian Women...

What is being an E.C.W member all about?

Come see if the "shoe fits."
 Bring a friend!

Episcopal Church Women of Grace

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2011

Noon ~ Pot Luck Luncheon
 Grace House

Program

"Who? What? Where are we?"

Contact Norma Dyer at 508.992.9881 and
 let her know if you will attend!

PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE

IF.....your home address, mailing address, telephone numbers, or email address changes. This will help us stay in touch with you and at the same time, save the church the money the Post Office charges when they return mail to us because it cannot be delivered as addressed. Also, if you are going to be away for an extended period of time, we will be happy to forward your mail to your temporary address. All you need to do is give us a call and tell us where to send it and for how long. Thank you.

Bless Our Pets!



Bring Rover and friends to
Grace's Annual Pet Blessing

Rain or Shine
 Saturday, October 1st - 5pm
 Sunday, October 2nd - 10am

Pets (and their caregivers) of all religious backgrounds - or none - are welcome!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

CHURCH SCHOOL

-Malia Crawford, Curate and Children's Minister

Church School Teachers

Many thanks to those ministering to the children of Grace this year as Church School teachers. They give so much of their time and energy, and we are grateful for the ways they are forming the next generation of Christians. Please keep our teachers in your thoughts and prayers throughout the year. They are:

Preschool: **Melissa Botelho and Gail Sargent**

Kindergarten/Grade 1: **Betsy Pye and Linda Pope**

Grade 2/3: **The Doe Family**

Grade 4/5: **Marie Gardner and Karen Maciulewicz**

A big round of thanks to **Liz Jaikes and Rachel Vincent**. Having finished their youth mission trip, these teens have chosen to assist as church school teachers on the weeks they are not busy with Grace's youth activities.

We are looking for additional people to substitute or assist in the classrooms. College students, youth who have finished their mission trip, and adults with or without children are all welcome to talk with Malia if interested.

National Observance of Children's Sabbaths-

Grace Church will observe the 19th annual *National Observance of Children's Sabbath* at our 10am children's liturgy on Sunday October 16. This year's theme is "Justice, justice shall you pursue: Answering God's call to protect children." Children's Sabbath is a national event celebrated by a diverse array of faith groups, including Jews, Muslims, and Christians. The Children's Defense Fund sponsors the National Observance of Children's Sabbaths and describes it as "a way for faith communities to celebrate children as sacred gifts of the Divine, and provides the opportunity for houses of worship to renew and live out their moral responsibility to care, protect and advocate for all children." Please join us!

Thank you!!! Many thanks to all those who helped make our annual Kick-off Cookout successful. Parents—please see Malia if you haven't yet completed church school registration forms for each of your children. Thanks!

JOURNEY TO ADULTHOOD

-Charles Morse, Youth Minister

We are into it now.

October 16th J2A Presentation: Mission Trip to New Orleans, great pictures, and good stories. Right after the 10:00 service in Rodman Hall

October 16th Family Dinner at 6pm, Cooked and served by your children. Great family event, great fellowship opportunity, and a chance to talk about your expectations for the program. Please don't miss it. RSVP to Charlie at charlesmorse08@gmail.com

October 29th Costume Party with games and prizes. This is a late afternoon party for our Church School children, their friends are welcome and encouraged. Party will run from 4:00 to 6:00-6:30. At 8:00 to 10:30 Halloween Teen Dance (Costumes encouraged) More details as we plan.

October 30th We will begin taking orders for thanksgiving pies. Charlie's Mom's Cranberry apple and cinnamon apple both with crumb topping, (you really need one of each). Pies will be available for pickup the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

GRACE AFTER SCHOOL AND SUMMER PROGRAM

-Donna Pires, Program Director

It is hard to believe that the Grace After School and Summer Program (GASSP) is in it's 12th year of operation. How exciting!

The Program started at the beginning of the summer of 1999 as an outreach program that would provide affordable educational based child care after school, and full-time care during school and summer vacations. It is a not-for-profit program owned by Grace Church and licensed by the State of Massachusetts. Grace Church provides the space and utilities to run this program. Because it is an outreach program, Grace is able to deduct approximately \$9,000.00 each year from it's Diocesan assessment - much like a tax credit!

GASSP has been self-supporting and has not had to raise student fees since 2007, making ends meet with tuition payments, donations (including gifts from the Thrift Shop and Bazaar), and various fund raising events. The Program has also used it's income to provide a number updates to the classrooms and bathrooms.

During the school year, homework is always a priority. This year, the program is providing activities that will support the MCAS curriculum requirements. During school vacations, the program offers a wide array of activities both educational and recreational. A parent recently noted to us how happy she is with our program and how comfortable she is leaving her child here.....like leaving her with a family member.

Over the years we have had a positive impact on many children and look forward to continuing to provide this valuable outreach service in the years to come. Please contact Donna Pires at 508-993-0547 if you would like to enroll your child in the After School Program.

Dear Family and Friends of Grace Church,

I have been thinking just how to write a thank you to all who were "God's hands and feet" to us while Ron was so ill. I have decided (with my family's OK) to write this letter from my husband's point of view. Here's how Ron would say it.

"Ronald Guillemette In Thanksgiving"
September 27, 1949 - August 20, 2011

THANK YOU all who sent me prayers in your hearts either silent or alone, in your car or at church.

THANK YOU for sending me or my family cards and notes. You lightened our days and we knew that you were thinking of us.

THANK YOU for the beautiful flowers and plants. Bet that you didn't know that I knew all of the Latin names and adored them. God's creation is beautiful.

THANK YOU for the many phone calls and inquiries. I know that sometimes that is hard but they were appreciated.

THANK YOU to all those who cooked for my family and me. You know how I felt about cooking. That's just how I cooked everything. Especially at our Top of the Hill socials - with love and caring. Ask my wife.

THANK YOU to all who made others know that Grace Church was a welcoming and caring community. I know that I always tried to spread the good news about this parish. We are unique and have so much to offer. I learned this first hand.

THANK YOU for visiting me and signing to me and sharing our best memories.

THANK YOU to those who came to our home to give us the Body and Bread of Christ. You cried with me and laughed with me and I needed that at that very moment. It carried me on.

THANK YOU to those who helped my family care for me. I tried to be a good patient, but I really appreciated those who lifted some of the burden from my family. I know that this was hard.

THANK YOU to those who prayed with me during my final hours. I was with you and I knew that you were with me.

THANK YOU to all who contributed to the hungry and to those who gave to my love of the theater.

Lastly, THANK YOU for the glorious service as I made my final walk, especially to The Rev. William Bradbury, The Rev. Malia Crawford, and Jerré Croteau.

THANK YOU to the wonderful Grace Church Choir, Dwight Thomas, Organist, Brian Roderick, Director of Music, and soloists Caroline Blais and Joann Sardinha.

THANK YOU to our youth who served as acolytes were, as always, wonderful as were the Altar Guild, Ushers, and Office Staff.

My proudest moment and SPECIAL THANKS go to my grandchildren, Owen, Emma, Liam, and Andrew. Great job reading, speaking and being part of this celebration of Papa's life. To my son-in-law, Ronald Cavanaugh, your tribute to me was one that I nor all who attended will ever forget. THANK YOU. To all who filled the pews, the love was felt.

So there you are - MY THANK YOU FOR THE BEST JOURNEY EVER.

As Christ said, "Assuredly I say to you in as much as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me."
-Matthew 25:40

Love to you all in Christ,
Ron, Priscilla, Melissa, Amy and Matthew Guillemette

TEAM PROPERTY

-Ben Baker, Chair

Discussion at the September meeting centered around the various projects pending for the Parish House and the Church.

The most urgent project is the emergency repair to the northeast corner of the bell ringers space of the tower. Further tests have resulted in the need for additional anchors that will be installed at the end of September or early October. This project will be followed by other repairs to the tower which will begin with addressing the tower "cap" and the other related structural elements. The Vestry will be briefed by the engineer on the proposed work which remains and the congregation will be informed as the design work for the repairs progress.

A review of the other work projects needed in Grace House included major undertakings of replacing windows and painting the exterior. It was discussed that many of the smaller projects needed for the parish house might be undertaken on a volunteer basis.

If you have a skill, a trade, or even a tool that you can lend to a small task needed here at Grace, please contact the Senior or Junior Warden.

With best wishes to our former Junior Warden, Norman Lopes, and assistant David Miranda who have given so generously in this the spirit of donating time and talent ---let's keep the gift of giving back alive and ongoing at Grace!

TOP OF THE HILL FELLOWSHIP

***Celebrates Columbus Day
Saturday, October 15th - 6pm***



Come join us in Rodman Hall on Saturday, October 15th as we celebrate Columbus Day. Although Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand of Spain financed his voyage to America, Christopher Columbus spent most of his exploring days based out of Portugal, and it is this heritage we are celebrating. Our menu will feature many Portuguese dishes we are familiar with, and perhaps a few we are not. We are also fortunate to have Grupo Folclorico Madeirense (a local Portuguese dance group) coming to perform for us. Please sign up in the Narthex or outside the library. It is important that we have an idea of how many of you plan to attend so that we can plan our menu and seating arrangements. In order to keep our prices stable (\$7 per person – all inclusive), we need to plan ahead, so please sign up as soon as possible. Looking forward to seeing you all on the 15th! If you have any questions, please call or speak to: Priscilla Guillemette, Sandi Jaikes or Janet Miranda.

SUSTAINABILITY

-Nina Catelli Vincent

*For the good earth which God has given us,
and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let
us pray to the Lord.*

-BCP, Prayers of the People, Form I, pg. 384

How can we put this prayer into action?
What do these words and phrases mean?

- ★ Sustainability
- ★ Organic
- ★ Reduce
- ★ Reuse
- ★ Recycle
- ★ Buy Fresh
- ★ Buy Local
- ★ Green Living.

On October 9th I will be leading a discussion about sustainable and green living. We will talk about simple ways to conserve resources in our daily lives. And I'll share tips on how your family could save \$100 or more a year by living a greener lifestyle!

Join me at the adult forum on Oct. 9th after the 10 a.m. service.

**WHY DOES GRACE CHURCH HAVE A THRIFT SHOP?
WHERE IS IT?
WHAT DOES IT DO?
WHAT HAPPENS TO THE MONEY IT EARNS?**

Read on.....

After the great fire on November 29, 1987, a group of women started the Thrift Shop for the purpose of earning money to help with the overwhelming cost of rebuilding Grace. A significant part of the cost was the requirement to bring the buildings up to code, such as installing the elevator, which we did not have before the fire, and therefore not covered by insurance.

The shop opened in a rented house at Pleasant and Maxfield Streets on May 3, 1988. It moved to 132 School Street (across the street from the Parish House), in August 1989, and finally to the re-designed lower level of the Parish House on September 17, 1991, where we remain twenty years later. By November 1989 the first \$3,500.00 had been turned over to the Rebuilding Fund, and another \$2,000.00 in July 1990.

Over the years, the Thrift Shop has made many major donations to Grace Church, initially for the rebuilding of Grace and continuing for repairs, fixtures, and furnishings. In addition to making donations to many national and local charities, donations also include:

\$34,000.00	stained glass windows
\$ 3,000.00	tower bells
\$ 5,240.00	organ
\$11636.00	fixtures and furnishings, including carpeting and dance floor in Rodman Hall, drapes, amplification system, water heater and other items.
\$12,500.00	budgetary support
\$ 4,260.00	After School and Summer Program
\$20,300.00	monthly rent to help pay for utilities
\$ 9,625.00	Food Pantry
\$ 1,462.00	miscellaneous expenses

In the early years we had as many as 19 volunteers. We now have 5 volunteers. Gladys Lomas, the venerable manager for 20 years passed away on May 13, 2011 at the age of 94.

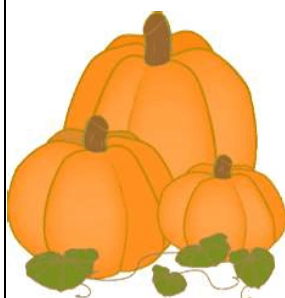
The Thrift Shop is open on Thursdays from 9am to 2pm and Saturdays from 9am to 12noon. We are in urgent need of additional volunteers, either during the hours we are open, or by arrangement on a Tuesday or Wednesday to sort donations, which often are overwhelming due to limited work and storage space. Would you be willing to volunteer a few hours? Please contact Norma Bossé on Thursdays at Grace (508-993-0547) or at home (508-999-1787). We would really appreciate some able bodied help!

The Thrift Shop volunteers are very grateful for all who have donate quality, clean clothing in excellent condition. There is no question that these items are ready to be placed on sale, and our discerning customers quickly recognize quality clothing at very affordable prices - these items sell well. However, it is not always so. All too often items have to be carefully screened, and many must be discarded. We cannot sell items that are soiled, stained, torn, frayed, worn thin, have broken zippers, missing many buttons, etc. We do not have facilities for laundering, dry cleaning, or mending.

There is much more competition as many thrift shops have opened since 1988. Our goal is to become known as the BEST Thrift Shop in town, offering quality, designer label clothing at the lowest prices. We have limited space for bed and bath goods, dishes, small appliances, kitchen utensils, pots and pans, jewelry and "gifty" items. The money earned goes to Grace Church to help with expenses giving some relief to the budget. Come in, see what we have to offer, and make a purchase to benefit your church!

We do not have space for furniture, large appliances, sporting goods, or other larger items. Those are good for the Bazaar in November, another source of income for Grace Church.

Become a customer and help Grace!



COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER AT GRACE

Grace Church will be hosting a community Thanksgiving Dinner again this year. Will you be able to help? Please consider volunteering some time to bake a pie, peel some vegetables, help set the tables, serve the dinner, or perhaps help with clean up. Date and time to be announced. Watch for details in weekly service leaflets and the November Grace Notes.



You can participate in the world wide celebration of the 400th anniversary of the printing of the King James Bible by signing up for a fifteen minute reading during Grace's read-through of the New Testament. Simply call the Church Office to schedule your time during the following sessions:

Thursday, October 20 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Friday, October 21 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday, October 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The celebration will continue at the Saturday and Sunday, October 23rd Eucharists with readings from the King James Bible, a special sermon, music from the 1600's and a reading of the final chapter in the New Testament, Revelation 22. All are invited to a "birthday" reception in the Parish House following the 10 a.m. service. In the English tradition, ladies are invited to wear their finest hats to the 10 a.m. service, as befitting this most auspicious occasion.

Please invite your friends to participate in our celebration by reading during the above schedule. You may also visit the Church during the read-through in the Chapel to listen to our parish members, area church members and the general public.

The King James Bible, created by a committee, has been hailed as the greatest work in prose, having an impact on our language, the arts and music and called the book that changed the world.

FOOD PANTRY

-Martha Reed, Coordinator

With the economy and job market remaining stagnant our number of clients continues to increase.

The hurricane inflicted damage to the gardens at Friend's Academy but we are still receiving limited produce which is much appreciated by those in need. We have also received donations of many boxes of cucumbers from Lucky Field Organics operated by Weston and Eileen Lent in Rochester.

Project Bread has awarded our Food Pantry a \$3,000.00 grant for which we are grateful (although down from last year). Other donations include:

The Saturday Club	43 canned items
Macy's Foundation	\$ 726.00
Feinstein Challenge	\$ 267.00
Thrift Shop	\$ 50.00
Anonymous Gift	\$ 50.00
Memorial Gifts	\$1,295.00

Please continue to bring non-perishables to church every Saturday or Sunday as we truly need the goods. Monetary donations are also encouraged as they enable us to go shopping for the shelf items we need.

Elaine Tavares is a new volunteer helping to fill shelves with an assortment of items, packaging tea, and double bagging bags.

Thank you for your continued support for this very important outreach program.

LIKE TO KNIT? ☆ LIKE TO HELP THE NEEDY? ☆ HAVE LEFTOVER OR NEW YARN?



For the past several years, Joan Bullard and many of her friends and Grace Church members have been knitting hats that are given to those who join us at our Community Breakfast on Sunday mornings. Although they have enjoyed doing this, it seems they have gotten tired of making hats. So, their new endeavor is to make afghans. Here's how you can help them.

Using size 9 knitting needles and worsted weight yarn (wool preferred), knit strips that measure 53 inches long. Any width, any pattern, any color is fine. You can either sew your strips together to make a 40" X 53" afghan or you can drop your strips off at the Church Office to have them assembled. Your choice! Hats are also still welcomed.

Please call the Church Office at 508-993-0547 with any questions.

CARING FRIENDS

-Linda Pope

We're looking for volunteers! Can you lend a hand every once in awhile? Might you have time to drive someone to an appointment, cook and deliver a meal, or visit an elder? In the back of the church there are forms to fill out with an expanded list of possible volunteer opportunities. These can be placed in the Caring Friends box nearby, or given to a clergy member.

For those who need an occasional helping hand, please remember your caring friends at church. Just call the office and we'll see if we can match you up with a volunteer.

Thank you for caring,
Linda Pope

GATHERED IN GRACE

-Kristen Kalbrener

I've been attending the Wednesday 7:00 "Gathered in Grace" service each week and have found it very meaningful. The smiles that greet me when I arrive, the quiet calm of the sanctuary, the ritual of the service, the attention to the readings, the sharing of cares and celebrations, draw my attention in a different way than the grander Sunday services. My favorite part is the time of silent prayer - I sense the power of being alone, together. It does mean rushing out of the house a bit earlier than usual, yet at 7:45 there I am enjoying a cup of tea and a chat with a small cozy group and recognizing it is not yet "time to leave for work!" Every time that is an unexpected and joyful discovery. It's as if this quiet, intimate service is a gift from God just for me, a treasure. I go about the work of the day renewed, refreshed and aware of God's love.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit that they may have courage and hope in their troubles: Dillon LaVallee (Cousin of Pauline Roderigues), Jeffrey Moller (Brother of Karen Maciulewicz), Fay Rodrigues, Dolly Goulart & Michael Ouimet (Friends of Richard Fabio), Jeffrey Golden & Irma Rosenfeld (Brother-in-law & Friend of Anne Gundersen), Joanne Grant (Friend of Joan Swain), Mildred Solomon (Member), Paige Gauthier (Friend of Sondra Reid), John Moore (Friend of Tom Davis), Aza Johnson (Niece of Carol Johnson), Irma Rosenfeld (Friend of Anne Gundersen), Heather VanDyke (Niece of Jean Clarke), Swede Chaves (Friend of Nancy Mularczyk), Arthur Moller (Father of Karen Maciulewicz), Larry Moyer (Friend of Malia Crawford), Lisa Dunaway (Member), Rosalyn Alexander (Daughter of Priscilla Taylor), Julie DeTerra & Ted Conder (Friends of Jean Brown), Nick and Scott Seavey (Nephew and brother of Diane Doe), Iris Begley (Daughter-in-law of Ed & Eleanor Begley), Angela Hackett (Friend of Terri Nowell), Maria dos Santos (Friend of Tom Davis), Brenda Swain (Sister-in-law of Joan Swain), Dick Bordas and Alzira (Friends of Gerry Lopes), Catherine Wilbur (Sister of Harriet Shaw), Irene Tunstall (Member), Liz Kelley (Friend of Nancy Mularczyk), Joy Nichols (Member), Dolores Desroches (Friend of Paula Cabral), Yvette Gracie (Cousin of Terri Nowell), Marilyn Bradbury (Sister-in-law of Bill Bradbury), Michelle Lopes (Member), Norman Lopes (Member), Kara Haney (daughter of Jack Haney).

Pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in God's eternal Kingdom: Mary Watts (Aunt of Malia Crawford), Faith S. Mosher (Sister of John Howcroft), The Rev. Philip C. Douglas (Member), Arthur Moller (Father of Karen Maciulewicz), Jeanette Langlois (Member), Richard Chase (Father-in-law of Bill Bradbury).

Pray for our servicemen and women...those who may be mobilized to the region around Iraq as well as those who are standing in at other international or domestic military installations: Ross Mandly (Grandson of Alvin & Eileen Mandly), Ted Steliga (Nephew of Barbara Bachand), Joshua Read (Grandson of Ellie Read), Kenneth Monteiro (Member), Michael Luongo (Grandson of John Howcroft), Steven Alves (Friend of Chuck Cotter), Robert and John Gardner (Sons of Robert and Marie Gardner), Charlie Mulcahy (Brother-in-law of Karen Maciulewicz), Alex (Friend of Gerry Lopes), Jared Chongarlides (Member), Aaron Patnaude (Grandson of June St. Pierre), Shawn Souza (Member), David Monteiro (Member), Thomas Storer (Grandson of Ronald & Judy St. John), Craig McGregor (Grandson of Carl McGregor), Jorge Lee Vega, Dana Gilmour (Grandson of Peggy Fellouris), Sasha Knezevic (Nephew of Diana Ukleja).

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Community Breakfast: *In thanksgiving by* James Bisagni and Norma Bossé.

Food Pantry: *In memory of* Ron Guillemette. ***In thanksgiving by*** Edith R. Lauderdale, M/M Donald Driesen, Grace Church Thrift Shop, M/M Alvin Mandly, and Macy's Foundation .

Journey to Adulthood: *In memory of:* Ron Guillemette.

Memorial Fund: *In memory of* The Rev. Philip C. Douglas.

Music Program: *In thanksgiving by:* The family of The Rev. Philip C. Douglas.