

GRACE CHURCH BULLETIN

May 27, 2008

God's grace sustains us as we strive to know, love, and serve others in our daily lives. Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome at Grace Episcopal Church.

Dear Members of the Parish,

We had a wonderful discussion on Sunday's gospel passage in Grace Discussion Group, led by Bill Bruins. It was the famous, "Consider the Lilies of the Field" passage from Matthew 6: 24-34. Like an onion, we peeled back the layers of meaning for us and went deep and deeper into the reading. We talked a great deal about not getting caught up in anxiety and worry, but looking outwards to the needs of others and by so doing, bringing about the Kingdom of God on earth.

We talked about how rich we all are in comparison to the other two thirds of the world -- any of us sitting in the room would be considered in the upper 10% of the world's wealth. So the question was asked, "What do we do about this gross imbalance in wealth?" The Episcopal Church has launched a campaign called ONE. **ONE Episcopalian™ is a grassroots partnership between The Episcopal Church and the ONE Campaign to rally Episcopalians – ONE by ONE – to the cause of ending extreme poverty in our world and achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). You can learn more by visiting this web site: <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/ONE/>**

At the Episcopal Church's last General Convention in June 18, 2006, the House of Deputies joined the House of Bishops in supporting the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and urging parishes, missions, congregations and dioceses across the Episcopal Church to work for their implementation. The MDGs are an eight-pronged declaration that has at its core the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger by the year 2015.

In what has become a major mission and evangelism emphasis of this General Convention, the MDG resolution (D022):

- Establishes achieving the MDGs as a stated mission priority of the Episcopal Church for the next three years;
- Urges each diocese, congregation and parishioner to give 0.7 percent toward the MDGs by July 7, 2007; i.e. by 07/07/07;
- Designates the Last Sunday after Pentecost as a special day of prayer, fasting and giving in the Episcopal Church toward global reconciliation and the Millennium Development Goals;
- Calls on every diocese to establish a global reconciliation commission to mobilize Episcopalians to work for achieving the goals of the MDGs;
- Endorses the "ONE Episcopalian" campaign that calls on the U.S. government to spend an additional 1 percent of its budget to combat global poverty; and
- Asks the budget committee of the Episcopal Church to consider a line item equal to 0.7 percent (or roughly \$900,000) in the coming three-year budget for work that supports the MDGs.

When General Convention convenes in 2009, they will assess how far the Church has come in attaining its goal to making poverty history. We cannot simply wait to see what happens. The National Church is asking each parish and diocese to help make these goals a reality. That means giving a portion of our budget (.01%) and our personal income.

I hope that in the coming weeks and months we can work together as a parish and with members of our deanery to reflect on all that God has given us and our responsibility to help eradicate poverty throughout the world. If we can get everyone to understand that sharing just a small portion of the bounty of our blessings, we will begin to see God's Kingdom come on earth.

Let me know your thoughts and your interest in becoming a catalyst of God's redeeming love.

Blessings and Peace,
Miriam

**Miriam will be away May 28th and 29th
for the Dean's Retreat with the Bishop.
Miriam will also be away June 2-9th
for CREDO (Clergy renewal program.**

Those In Service, June 1st

Altar Guild:	Barbara Stock
Greeter:	Carol McNally
Acolytes:	Nate Sobeck, Mwambanga Mkaya, Mwamburi Mkaya
Lectors:	Eileen Callahan, Bill Bruins
Lay Reader:	Carol McNally
Chalice Bearers:	Bill Bruins, Bessie Lyman
Counters:	Butch Matthews, Carolyn Sprich
Hospitality:	Gelfer, McAlpine
Nursery:	Kathy Gould

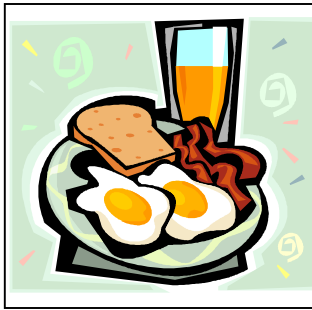


We ask your prayers for all those who serve our country and local communities, especially Brendan Bowen, David DiCicco, Michael Gould, Sean Hoyt, Calvin Johnson, Brad Leitch, Darnell Lyman, and Adam Sacchetti. We also ask your prayers for those in need of healing: Kathy Sachetti, Gwen Julia, Nicole, Aagot Berg, Maureen Van Niel, Mavis Chase-Sobers, Sally McAlpine, Jim McAlpine, Bob, Tony Kill, Pam Jones, John Mayfield, Julie Spangenberg, Priscilla Graf, Harry Snyder, Matt Shea, Jane Scott, Kate MacDonald, Sally Lingner, Alison Sprague, Cindy Grogan, Merle Orren, Jane Shapiro, Sven, Sr. Joan Duffey, Liz Hunting, Judy Borowicz, Barbara Stock, Ed Jacobi, Barbara Karlin, George Lloyd, Tim Clancy, Mateo Singer-Torres, Carson Johnson, Cali, Hardy, Richard Borowicz, Alhaji Baba Nagada, Richard Sullivan, Kathy Owen, Mary Eliza McDaniel, Neila Gonsalves, Naomi Bolser, Trudy Kontoff

Please call or email Susan Clancy to add someone to or update the Prayer List.
You may also complete the Sign-up Sheet in the Intercession Book in the Church office.

Grace Discussion Group

June 1	Matt Skinner to discuss recovery
June 8	Fathers, Jay Burke
June 15	Wrap up, ideas for next year, feedback on this year



Men's Breakfast
Saturday, June 7th
7:30 – 9:00 AM
Small Hall
(Please note, change of date from May 24th)
All men of the parish are welcome!

Liz Steinhauser to be Ordained

By the Grace of God and the People consenting, our Intern, Liz Steinhauser will be ordained as a transitional Deacon at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston on June 7th at 10:30 AM. Please keep Liz in your prayers as she prepares for this important day. All are welcome to attend the Ordination service on June 7th. Liz will be with us on May 18th to talk about her trip to Israel and her last Sunday at Grace will be June 1st.

Annual Meeting of Episcopal City Mission (ECM)

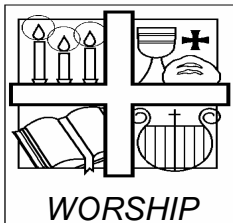
Takes place on **Tuesday, June 10, at 5 PM** at Boston University's George Sherman Union. The Rt. Rev. Barbara C. Harris, retired bishop suffragan of the diocese, will be the guest speaker, with an inaugural social justice award in her name to be presented during the evening's program. I'm planning on going to the dinner. **Please let me know by May 30th if you are interested in attending** -- the Church will provide the tickets.

Small Victories #4...maintenance of Grace Church

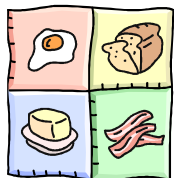
We have a large building, much of it built 135 years ago. In occasional messages, the Property Committee will communicate issues on which we are working. The additional spaces have been added for wheelchair-seating among the pews in the Sanctuary, and the cushions have been re-sized. There were 6-7 persons in wheelchairs at the 11 AM service on Easter; we hope to make Grace Church inviting to all. This week, the slate roofers from Quincy are scheduled to repair the lower roof, damaged in December by a snow/ice slide which ripped out the guard rail above the bulkhead in the driveway. Our insurance is covering the cost of this repair, as well as the cost of the temporary tarp repair last December.

Marian Bruins and Don Kennedy for the Property Committee

Worship Committee News



The Worship Committee met this past Sunday to review the past year and to begin planning for next Advent and beyond. Following on the great success of the 4pm Christmas Eve family service and pageant this past year, we propose to once again schedule the pageant for this service in 2008. Please help us by letting your thoughts on this subject be known to any members of the committee (Miriam, Linda Clark, Ed Pease, Diane Droste, Debra Katt-Lloyd, Frank Pesci, Jennifer Reed, Carol Robinson) before our next meeting, scheduled for **July 20th**. Also in the works for next year are 2 sung Evensongs, and liturgical initiatives springing from our new grant from the Calvin Institute. See you in church! -- Diane Droste



The Grace tradition of Summer Breakfasts will begin Sunday June 24. Breakfast will begin at 8:30 AM each Sunday and end at 9:15 so that people can attend the 9:30 AM service. There is a sign up sheet available in the church office.

In addition to the Breakfast, volunteers are needed for Altar Guild, Acolyte, Lector, Lay Reader, Chalice, and Counter/Greeter. The summer service schedule begins with Sunday, June 22nd. Please take a moment to sign up in the office or email Susan if you are able to fill any of these essential positions during the summer.



**The summer watering sign up still has numerous vacancies.
If you can spare just one hour a week
please consider signing up**

Thank you to those who have already volunteered to help with the Church's gardens over the summer months. If you have any ideas about planting, etc., please let Barbara Stock know. bps1128@aol.com



**In the next week we will begin preparing the summer leaflets.
If you are planning on donating altar flowers for a service
during the summer months please let the office know.**

Please note: The last day the office will be open is June 19th.

GRACE GREEN TIPS

Inspired by the leadership of Religious Witness for the Earth, the Social Action Committee provides weekly recommendations for environmental preservation.



Tip 34: Support Anti-Smoking Efforts in Massachusetts

The American Lung Association issues an annual "State of Tobacco Control" Report in which each state is assigned scores on its tobacco control efforts. The most recent report, issued in 2007, gave Massachusetts the following scores:

Tobacco Prevention and Control Spending:	F
Smokefree Air:	A
Cigarette Tax:	C
Youth Access:	A

Our state's failing grade in Tobacco Prevention and Control Spending reflects the fact that in 2007 Massachusetts spent just \$8.25 million for tobacco control, far below the \$35 million that is recommended by the Centers for Disease Control. Our grade should improve somewhat for 2008 since the state allocated \$12.75 million in the fiscal year that ends this June 30. Tobacco control spending may further increase over the next 10 years as Massachusetts begins to receive \$47 million annually under the terms of a tobacco control settlement. This is not guaranteed however, since Massachusetts has funneled past tobacco settlement money into other health care services when there has been a downturn in the state economy.

Smoking prevention efforts have been found to be very successful in reducing smoking rates, particularly among young people. According to the Massachusetts Youth Risk Health Survey, the proportion of high school students who smoke decreased from 20.5% to 17.7% from 2005 to 2007, and this is largely attributable to youth-targeted prevention efforts as well as stricter laws to reduce youth access to cigarettes. The Department of Public Health awarded 18 mini grants to youth groups during the 2007-08 school year, and also launched its first youth oriented tobacco prevention web site at www.the84.org

Massachusetts average grade on Cigarette Tax is also likely to go up due to the recent passing of an increased cigarette tax from \$1.51 to \$2.51 per pack. Increases in cigarettes taxes have proven to be effective in reducing rates of smoking among adults. The rate in Massachusetts currently stands at 18.5%, which puts us in the bottom five among the 50 states. We have a long way to go to catch up with Utah, however, which has an enviable rate of 10.4%.

Submitted by David Adams

Social Action Opportunity for Service this Summer

Please join other members of Grace and surrounding churches in supporting the B-Safe camp program this summer. This is the third summer that Grace Church will be providing a week of lunches and reading, along with a field day, for the camp. We will be going to Dorchester during the final week of July (July 28-August 1).

Please help us by: coming to Grace and making lunches Monday-Thursday (10:00-11:00 AM); delivering & serving lunches, and reading to campers (11:00-1:30 PM); joining in barbequing, leading & playing games with campers on Friday, August 1.

We need your help, also, in one of two days help clean and paint St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Dorchester, to gear up for camp. The other partner churches for St. Mary's Church (Ascension Memorial, St. Paul's, Natick, & Our Savior, Brookline). The cleaning days are: Sat., May 31 and June 14. (We are moving from St. Mary's to St. Mark's this summer because of renovations at St. Mary's.)

You can contact me at 617-964-3525 or via email. Thanks for your help!!

Lisa Tieszen, for the Social Action Committee

YOUTH & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Class meeting times and places June 1, 2008, The Third Sunday after Pentecost

<u>10:00 AM</u>	Arts and Crafts	Ages 4 and up	Stage, Large Hall
	Junior Choir Rehearsal		Choir Room
	Rite-13		Conference Room
	J2A, Confirmation Class		Miriam's Office

<u>10:45 AM</u>	Godly Play	Pre-K and K	Godly Play Rooms
	Firelight 1	Grades 1-3	Chapel
	Firelight 2	Grades 4,5	Chapel

Godly Play and Firelight Classes (Pre-K--Gr. 5)
enter the church service approx 11:45 a.m., at the Greeting of Peace
Rite-13 and J2A Members attend the 11 A.M. Service.

For Safety, children leaving church during the service should always
be accompanied by an adult.

LOOKING AHEAD

MAKING A BIBLE VIDEO, A New Project for Firelight 1 & 2 Classes (Grades 1-5) CONTINUES!

On June 1 and 8 the two Firelight classes combine to continue the work of making a Bible Video of the Gospel Reading for June 15th. This project is being done with the help of Mary Arbuckle and Mary Malagodi. We hope that the results of this experiment will lead to making more Bible Videos by our Sunday School and Youth.

JUNE 8 is Sunday School Teachers' Appreciation day.

The work of Grace Church adults serving in Christian Education for Youth and Children will be thanked at the 11 a.m. Service!

JUNE 15 is Youth and Children Appreciation Day. The youth and children who have been active in Christian Education this year and the Junior Choir, will be thanked for their participation at the 11 a.m. Service. A picnic for all will take place after the Church Service.

Ed Pease, Assistant for Christian Education, clarkpease2@cs.com, 508-668-5055.

New Community News

A celebration! The fifth anniversary of the Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center

Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center, Greenfield, NH

June 22, 2008 - 11:00am - 4:00pm

- Activities and food available 11 a.m. until 2:45 p.m. - arrive any time - worship at 3 p.m.
- Activities will include swimming, kayaking, canoeing, archery, sandcastle building, arts & crafts, moon bounce, pickup choir (anyone with a willing voice is urged to contact Marta Judson (mjudson@diomass.org) and a dunk tank!

Let's celebrate the fifth anniversary of the [Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center](#) and the birthday month of Bishop Barbara C. Harris! You're invited to join the first woman bishop in the Anglican church, as well as Bishops Tom Shaw, Gayle Harris and Bud Cederholm and friends throughout the diocese, for a fun day of camp activities, food, music and fellowship. Come share in the excitement! Enjoy the beautiful setting! It's going to be so much fun, the Cathedral congregation is decamping from the Cathedral and coming up to the Camp for the day!



Since opening in the summer of 2003, the Barbara C. Harris Camp has quickly established itself as one of the premiere Christian camps in New England. Thousands of campers and families have enjoyed its spectacular indoor and outdoor facilities, a caring Christian community and a strong commitment to excellence. The Conference Center provides many charitable, religious, educational, and other non-profit organizations with year-round lodging and meeting facilities.

Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center

