



Grace Notes
A newsletter about the Activities of
Mission and Ministry
at Grace Church in Elmira, New York
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Summer 2017

A Note from the Parish Priest

What Does The Church Do During Summer Vacation?

By the time you receive this newsletter, June will be over, most graduation ceremonies and parties will have taken place, and Fourth of July activities will be on our minds – about to or just having occurred. Grace Church may not be in the forefront of your thoughts. After all, it's summer! The church is on vacation too; isn't it?

Well, not really. While we have only one Solemn Mass on Sunday at 9 a.m., Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. Low Mass with Healing Prayer continues in the Lady Chapel. Reserve Communion Services at Woodbrook and Bethany, Rummage Sale, Community Kitchen, and regular 10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. office hours Monday through Thursday continue during July and August. As always, I am a phone call or email away if you would like a pastoral visit – at your home or at Grace.

Summer projects around the campus include painting the window trim above the main Church doors, refinishing the narthex enclosure, repairs to the sidewalks/entrance to the parking lot, AND a "Painting the Annex Party" being organized by Jim Baker. Perhaps, reading this, you will have ideas for summer and/or fall activities – if so, please share them!

Although we are not seeing each other as often because many are at summer locations or travelling, we are all members of the Grace Church family connected through our mutual worship, care, and support of each other. Remember during this time particularly to hold each other in prayer, acknowledging God's love for us individually and as the Body of Christ at Grace.

Wherever your summer travels take you, I encourage you to visit Episcopal churches (or churches of any denomination you may wish) on Sundays along the way and bring back one of their worship bulletins to put up on our bulletin board.

Be safe in your travels, be kind to the strangers you meet, and return to us rested and refreshed.

Peace and Blessings
– Mother Kit+

News and Events From Around the Parish and the Diocese

"Change For Grace" – We're Doing It!!

Last Sunday, following the 9:00 a.m. Mass, we gathered to celebrate our fellowship and our care for Grace Church with the initial pouring of our collected containers into our new Church Bank. Our goal was \$1,000.00 — and, with some containers not yet returned, we "filled the bank" to just over \$950.00. We expect to surpass the goal as additional containers come in. Thanks to all who participated in this innovative fundraiser! Thanks to Brenda Barnstead for the idea and graphics; thanks to Calvin Barnstead for building "the church."



First Sunday Discretionary Fund Donations

At the June 25 Vestry meeting, it was decided that the loose offerings on the first Sunday of each month will be placed in the Grace Church Discretionary Fund.

CANON III.9.7 of The Episcopal Church specifies that Alms and Contributions (offerings) not otherwise specifically designated (i.e. "loose plate" offerings), on one Sunday in each calendar month, shall be deposited with the Rector or Priest-in-Charge or with such Church officer as the Vestry shall designate for "pious and charitable uses."

Taizé

Taizé will be in recess for the summer and resume in September.

Rummage Sale

The Rummage Sales will be held Saturday, July 1, and Saturday, August 5, from 9:00 a.m. until noon.

Submissions Due

Submissions are due by Monday, August 21, for the September issue of *Grace Notes*. If you have a church-related event to share, please email it to the office by then.

Second Place East, Inc.

"Help for the Home" Shop

Grace Church is asked to provide dish detergent for July and toilet paper for August for Second Place East's Help for the Home Shop. If you would like to contribute some, please bring the detergent to the church office by Monday, July 10, and the t.p. by Monday, August 14.

Pioneers Games with Our Friends at The Jewish Center & Federation of the Twin Tiers

Members of Grace Episcopal Church are invited to join the local Jewish community for two evenings of Pioneers baseball and fireworks at Dunn Field!

The dates are Saturday, July 15, and Saturday, July 29. Both games are at 7:05 p.m.

Just purchase tickets at the gate (\$8, \$5 for children and seniors), or obtain them from a sponsor. The July 29 game is free with a donation of pet food. Meet inside near the concession stand so that we can all sit together.

For more information, please contact the church office or Paul Soly, Executive Director, Jewish Center & Federation of the Twin Tiers, at (607) 734-8122 or exec@JewishElmira.org.

Rummage Sale Workday

A Rummage Sale Workday is held every Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. until noon. Help with organizing, sorting and setting prices is very much appreciated. Thank you!

Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer begins at 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Guild Room. All are welcome to come share in this enriching experience.

Summer Sunday Schedule

Don't forget, there's only one Sunday Mass during the summer, and it begins at 9:00 a.m.!



Thank You! from Lucy Keith

I just wanted to say thank you—which is long overdue—for the beautiful shawl that was made by your group. It is lovely and was (and is) used during my recovery.

Bless you all. Lucy Keith

Thank You! from Good Friday Offering

Thank you for your parish's generous response to the Presiding Bishop's call for support of the Good Friday Offering. On behalf of all those whose lives are improved throughout the Anglican Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East, please accept my profound and sincere appreciation.

Faithfully,

The Reverend Canon Robert D. Edmunds

Vestry Appointee

At the June 25 Vestry meeting, Peggy Chaffee was appointed by unanimous vote to fill the vacant position and will serve until Vestry elections at the 2018 Annual Meeting. At that time Peggy may run for election to the seat.

Elizabeth "Betty" Sauerzopf

Elizabeth Sauerzopf, 79, mother of the Rev. Richard Sauerzopf, died on June 6. A funeral service took place on June 24 at the First United Methodist Church of Horseheads, interment in Rural Home Cemetery.

Blanche M. Bartlett

Blanche Bartlett, 96, mother of Gail and Bruce Bartlett, died May 28. A Burial Service and Committal took place in the Chapel of Blessed Michael the Archangel at Grace Church, the Rev. Kit Tobin, officiant. Mrs. Bartlett's cremains have been interred in the Columbarium beside those of her husband, Dr. George T. Bartlett, M.D.

Farewell To Two Faithful Members of the Grace Church Choristers

Many thanks to Chuck Burch for leading the tenor section of our choir for over five years. We will miss him and his beautiful voice. We also thank and will miss Rachel Clarkson, who sang in our soprano section for over three years.

Farewell to Rachel and Michael Clarkson

Sadly for Grace Church, June 18, The Solemnity of Corpus Christi, was Rachel's and Michael's last Sunday with us at Grace. In their three plus years at Grace, they have given much of their and talent – for which we will be forever grateful. They will be sorely missed – Rachel for her contributions to the Choir, and Michael as Master of Ceremonies and a member of the Liturgy and Music Commission. With characteristic generosity of spirit, as a departing gesture, the Clarksons have gifted Grace Church with an Incense Boat and a set of Sanctus Bells. These handsome gifts were accepted, dedicated, and blessed by Mother Kit at the Solemn Mass on the eighteenth.

Following the Mass, we gathered in Welliver Hall to present the Clarksons with a gift of thanks for their spiritual presence, service, and friendship. Rachel was presented with flowers from the High Altar; Michael ceremoniously cut the Celtic Cross "Farewell" cake. We shared a time of fellowship and then bid Rachel and Michael a fond farewell with the blessings of their Grace Church family.



Left to right 1. The new Incense Boat and Sanctus Bells 2. Blessing the new Incense Boat 3. The Clarksons 4. A festive cake

Photo credit 1 Barb Brownrigg 2 Jake Ferris 3 Mother Kit 4 Michele Sanford

In this letter from my colleague, The Rev. Scott Gunn, Executive Director of “Forward Movement,” quotes a prayer from the *Book Of Common Prayer*, which I have always included in Fourth of July services and celebrations. It expresses well, as do Fr. Scott’s comments, our responsibility as followers of Christ and Episcopalians – not just on Independence Day, but every day. – Mother Kit

Dear friends in Christ,

Early next week, the United States will celebrate its Independence Day. The day is more than the sales that will probably keep malls and stores busy this weekend. The day is more than a few fireworks. Independence Day is a day to give thanks for the blessings of this nation and to recommit to treasuring and building up the ideals of our country.



Photo by Flickr user Celso FLORES / Creative Commons

As Episcopalians will know, this day is a red-letter day in the Book of Common Prayer. It's a Major Feast day, and churches are meant to have celebrations of the Holy Eucharist on this day. Our prayer book provides a couple of prayers and a set of readings for the occasion. There's another prayer I quite like, a prayer that we might all say on or near Independence Day. It's not specific to the United States, so readers from other nations might use it also.

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*Book of Common Prayer*, page 820)

This prayer reminds us – both as citizens and as people of faith – that we must remember both our rights and blessings and our duties and obligations. In particular, we have a sacred duty to look out for the lost, the least, and the last. As Emma Lazarus wrote for the Statue of Liberty, “Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”

Ours is a nation of people yearning to be free. Let us all seek to make a nation where all are free. And when we see that oppression and captivity are preventing freedom, let us open our hearts and the doors of our churches to give

sanctuary to those in need of protection and safety.

This Independence Day, let us indeed celebrate our many blessings. But let us also remember that righteousness and justice demand constant vigilance.

Yours faithfully,
Scott Gunn
Executive Director

[Lectionary for Summer 2017](http://www.lectionarypage.net/)
<http://www.lectionarypage.net/>

<u>The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</u> (Proper 8) July 2 Genesis 22:1-14 Psalm 13 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42	<u>The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</u> (Proper 9) July 9 Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 Psalm 45: 11-18 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	<u>The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost</u> (Proper 10) July 16 Genesis 25:19-34 Psalm 119:105-112 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9,18-23
<u>The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost</u> (Proper 11) July 23 Genesis 22:1-14 Psalm 13 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42	<u>The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</u> (Proper 12) July 30 Genesis 29:15-28 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b <i>or</i> Psalm 128 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33,44-52	<u>The Transfiguration</u> (Proper 13) August 6 Exodus 34:29-352 Peter 1:13-21 Luke 9:28-36 Psalm 99 or 99:5-9
<u>The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</u> (Proper 14) August 13 Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Psalm 105, 1-6, 16-22, 45b Romans 10:5-15 Matthew 14:22-33	<u>The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost</u> (Proper 15) August 20 Genesis 45:1-15 Psalm 133 Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28	<u>The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</u> (Proper 16) August 27 Exodus 1:8-2:10 Psalm 124 Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20

Ministry Statements of Grace Church Of Mission:

The Mission of Grace Church is to celebrate the Glory of God in the Grace of Jesus Christ through **Worship, Outreach, and Pastoral Care**, nurtured in the Anglo-Catholic tradition.

Of Stewardship:

As Stewards in the Grace of God, we are called to the fullest use of our Time, Talent, and Treasure; therefore, we are committed to living out our Baptismal Covenant by:

Participating regularly in worship

Discerning and utilizing our talents for outreach and pastoral care

Engaging in proportional giving

Parish Register

Burials A service of thanksgiving for the life of Ellen Gibbs Matson was held Wednesday, May 17, 2017.

We most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor

June	Norman	Richard	Ann
Shirley	Elizabeth	Daniel	Bob
Arlie	Linda	Paula	Brent
David	Betty	Parnilla	Susan
Lee	Christopher	Fred	
Community of Mount Saviour		The Pelchar family	

and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity.

Happy Birthday!

July

3	Linda Edgerton	7	Kei Philip	11	Geof Royall	18	Bob Bowers
5	Lea Noviello	8	Julia Heyward	16	Rebecca Bjorck	21	Allegra Dawes
7	Bill Palmer		John Sentigar	17	Jake Ferris	27	Jessica Schuld

August

1	Helen Lutomski	12	Penny Willoughby	17	Nicholas Reynolds	26	Abigail Meier
3	Katy McCormick	15	Alexandra Palmer	18	Nancy Swartwood	27	Jürgen Kerber
4	Gail Prettyman	16	Marion Leljedal	22	Matthew Bowers	28	Peter Lowman
7	Lynne Collins		Riley McCormick	23	Katherine Meier		Madison Pelchar
12	Kensie Elliott	17	Richard Locke	26	Terry McCormick		

Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Attendance Statistics

May 2017

Sunday Attendance: 194

Average Sunday Attendance: 49

Weekday Attendance: 76

at Mass at Grace: 62

at Woodbrook: 6

at Taizé: 7

Know Your Vestry!

Wardens James Baker, Sr., Calvin Barnstead II

Class of 2017 Barbara Brownrigg, Eleanor Haber, Elizabeth Haralson

Class of 2019 Brenda Barnstead, Marian Rutty

[Click/tap here for the calendar.](#)