



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church _ _ _ August 9, 2024

Welcome, Charlene Williams!

We welcome Charlene Williams this month as Grace's new Director of Children and Youth ministry. Charlene, who grew up here in Providence, will run Grace's Sunday School and youth group. She grew up in the Christian Pentecostal church and after college began attending the AME Church. During the week, Charlene works at the Wheeler School as the Assistant Director of Diversity,



Equity and Inclusion. Prior to this role she was Wheeler's children's librarian for eight years, working with students in nursery through second grade.

Charlene graduated from Classical High School in 2005 and received her undergraduate degree from American International College in Springfield, MA in 2009. Upon returning to Rhode Island, she started her family (she has three school-age kids: Caleb, Caylynn and Cayden) and continued to work in the Providence community. Some of the organizations she has worked with include Community Libraries of Providence, Providence YMCA, and the Rhode Island Black Storytellers.

Charlene is excited to start work with the kids at Grace and to get to know this unique Christian community. The first day of Sunday School (age 4 through 5th grade) will be on September 15th during the 10 a.m. service, and youth group (grades 6-12) begins on Friday, September 20th, and meets from 7-8:30 p.m.

Welcome, Charlene!

Service Schedule Change at Grace Church

While the 10 a.m. Sunday service at Grace has grown over the past several years, the 8 a.m. Sunday service has been trending in the opposite direction for some time, with attendance now usually in the single digits. In addition to the Sunday morning services,

Grace offers a noon eucharist on Wednesdays, Evensong one Sunday per month, and the service of Compline monthly at 8 p.m. on Sundays. We also have services on various holy days, such as All Saints'/All Souls', Christmas, Lent, and Holy Week.

Going forward, Grace will no longer offer a weekly 8 a.m. service on Sundays. I have spoken with the four parishioners for whom the 8 a.m. service has been their primary worship service about this change, and – while disappointed – they understand that it makes sense to put the energy and resources of the parish towards growing services.

If you have any questions or concerns about this change, feel free to call me at 331-3225 or email me at ihuyck@gracepvd.org.

Blessings, Jonathan+

Collecting School Supplies for Kids

We're collecting school supplies at Grace Church through Wednesday, August 21 to be shared with our friends at St. Peter's and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Providence, and we invite you to join us!

Please bring your donations on Sunday or drop them off at the parish office during the week (8am-4pm, Monday through Friday). All will be organized and distributed at St. Peter's and St. Andrew's later this month.



The Diocese Needs Volunteers

Are you interested in serving on a diocesan committee? There are several committees that are in need of volunteers. If you are interested in learning more, email Michele Adamo in the parish office at madamo@gracepvd.org, and she can send you more information on the various committees and ministries of the diocese.

Thanks! Jonathan.



Thank You, Presiding Bishop Curry!

As we approach the final weeks of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's leadership, we invite you to join us in expressing gratitude for his remarkable ministry. His unwavering commitment to love, justice, and compassion leaves a lasting mark on our hearts and

communities within The Episcopal Church.

His invocation to follow the "loving, liberating, and life-giving" way of Jesus is the hallmark of Bishop Curry's ministry. He encouraged all of us to create a world where love, justice, and compassion prevail.

Thank you, Bishop Curry, for advocating for social justice, inclusivity, and unity. Your work inspired countless individuals to embrace Jesus' love as the guiding force in our daily life. Your legacy will endure, we will continue to follow the Way of Love.

To honor his ministry, make a gift to the BLESS Appeal today.

You can make your gift:

• Online: <u>BLESS APPEAL</u>

• Call: (212) 716-6002

• Text: 'Appeal' to 91999

• Send a check to:

DFMS - Protestant Episcopal Church US

PO Box 958983

St. Louis, MO 63195-8983

You also are invited to <u>click here</u> and share a note of thanks to Presiding Bishop Michael Curry.

Our Shawl Ministry

Each holiday season, the Christmas at Sea knitting ministry presents bags of gifts to thousands of crew members on ocean going cargo ships and boats. This is a program of the Seamen's Institute, which has roots in the Episcopal Church, and it is now in its 125th year of service to the maritime community. Handmade hats and scarves are included in each bag. We invite you to knit or crochet for this project. Please email Jane



Ditmars at <u>janeditmars@gmail.com</u> if you would like to have the patterns.

Thank you for helping us to bring God's love to those in need of comfort!

Summer Choir

During the summer months we will enjoy the leadership of our Summer Choir! Summer Choir is open to anyone who sings with the Grace Church Choir, or anyone who would like to try singing in the choir. We meet in the Choir Room at 9:15 AM on Sunday mornings, rehearse the hymns, psalm, and a simple anthem or two. You don't need to give previous notice, but if you would like to try Summer Choir, please email Vince Edwards for more information. Feel free to sing one Sunday, or every Sunday! Please note: We may not vest once the weather turns hot, so please wear our summer choir 'uniform' - white blouse or shirt, black (or very dark) shorts, pants or skirt and dark-ish shoes.



Sunday Morning Worship: The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 11, 2024

Most Sunday Mornings, Grace Church offers a 'live-stream' broadcast of our Sunday morning 10:00 AM Eucharist service. We hope this experience allows those who are not able to join us in person on Sundays to participate in the worship life at Grace. (Live-streaming will resume in September.)



~ Sunday Morning YouTube Link ~ (to return in September)

When available, this service will be live-streamed to the <u>Grace Church YouTube</u> <u>Channel</u>. Please use the link provided above to watch. The service also will be archived on the <u>Grace Church website</u> for 'on-demand' viewing after Sunday morning. We hope this experience allows those who are not able to join us in person on Sunday to participate in the worship.

To view the Order of Service for The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, please <u>CLICK HERE!</u>

Regardless of how you choose to participate in our worship life together, ALL ARE WELCOME at Grace Church!

August 11, 2024 The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



For the texts of the readings for The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, please click here.

<u>Click here</u> for the latest from the Episcopal News Service. And for current news from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, please click here.

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300 Westminster Street Providence, RI 02903 (401) 331-3225 info@gracepvd.org www.gracechurchprovidence.org The Mission of Grace Church is to build, by the grace of God, a loving and joyful community which lives the Gospel through worship, proclamation and service to each other, to downtown Providence, and beyond.

Grace Episcopal Church | 300 Westminster St | Providence, RI 02903-3499 US

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