

Parish Family News

Happy Birthday:

April 1	Beverly Sparks-Shands
April 2	Wendy Ludbrook
April 3	Susie Reis
April 4	Dianne Casey, Richard Eschenroeder, Katie Streicher
April 5	Luella Foster, Allie Friar, Jay Friar, Jewel Leveritt
April 7	Chas Aylsworth, Betty Bowersox
April 8	Pam Fitzgerald, Lesley Hoffarth, Clayton Smith



Happy Anniversary:

April 2	Pam & Michael Fitzgerald
April 4	Dana & Jamie Callaway



Spring Newsletter: Bread for the Journey

The spring edition of *Bread for the Journey* is hot off the presses and available today in the Narthex. This issue of our parish newsletter has feature stories about our new labyrinth, improvements coming to Grace Church, and a clergy reflection on what it means to be "Easter people." All are welcome to take a copy home today.

Invite • Welcome • Connect

New to Grace Church?

 We're so happy to have you with us today! If you are looking for a new church home or have any questions about us, please ask the person sitting next to you, talk to an usher, introduce yourself to our clergy after the service, or fill out a visitor card in the pews. You'll also find lots of information about us and upcoming events on our website: GraceKirkwood.org.

The Messenger is a weekly publication of Grace Church. If you have information you would like included, please contact Janis Greenbaum in the church office. janis.greenbaum@gracekirkwood.org.

Connect with Grace

Grace Episcopal Church

514 East Argonne Drive
Kirkwood, MO 63122
314-821-1806
www.GraceKirkwood.org

Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday / 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Rector:

The Rev. Todd McDowell, ext. 14
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Assisting Priest:

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Visit our website for updated news and events:
www.GraceKirkwood.org

Sign up for Diocesan publications:
www.DioceseMo.org/subscribe/

Learn more about the Episcopal Church:
www.EpiscopalChurch.org

Like us on Facebook:
www.Facebook.com/GraceChurchKirkwood

View our Photo Gallery:
www.flickr.com/GraceChurchKirkwood



The Messenger

Easter 2018

News of the people and ministries of . . .



The Lord is Risen!

Welcome to Grace Church

We are happy to welcome you to Grace Church! Easter celebrates the good news of Jesus' triumph over death with the conviction that we, too, will have eternal life.

There is a lot of good news happening at Grace Church this spring. Here are a few items we'd like to share with you:



Easter Outreach Offering

Grace Church joins Episcopalians around the world in making a special offering to support the Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East.

Our annual Easter Offering promotes peace and mutual understanding through pastoral care, health care, and educational programs throughout the region. Offering envelopes are available in the pews or donate online at GraceKirkwood.org/give-to-grace (click "Make an online donation").



Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 1 at 11:30 a.m.

All children are invited to search for hidden treasure after our 10 a.m. worship service on Easter Day. Please meet on the front lawn (or parish hall, if raining). You will be escorted by age groups to your hunting space. Didn't bring your basket? No worries - pick up a bag in the Narthex!



Grace Episcopal Church Community Labyrinth

Contact the church office for available times

All are welcome experience our beautiful new labyrinth inside Albright Parish Hall. This walking meditation device has a single winding path from the edge to the center for your contemplative journey. Individuals are welcome any time the parish hall is not in use; groups should contact Shari Bonham in the church office to make reservations.



Messy Church

Sunday, April 8 / 4:15 - 6:30 p.m.

All ages are invited to celebrate the Easter season at this alternative Sunday worship experience. This monthly event is food for your spirit! Come for some or all of the events:

- ⇒ **4:15 p.m.**
Crafts and activities
- ⇒ **5:00 p.m.**
Family-friendly worship
- ⇒ **5:30 p.m.**
Casual dinner



Please note: Messy Church usually meets on the first Sunday of each month, but has been moved this month to accommodate the Easter holiday.

Grace Nursery

We have a beautiful nursery with a changing table, rocking chair and lots of toys at the end of the hall on the main floor, staffed with caregivers to watch for your little ones while you worship. Infants through 4-year old toddlers are welcome.



Who We Are

History: The Episcopal Church is part of the one Church that began 2,000 years ago when Jesus Christ commissioned his apostles. Our Anglican Communion is the third largest Christian communion in the world, with 80-million members in more than 165 countries.

The Episcopal Church has its beginnings in the Church of England. We are catholic, but not Roman Catholic. We are reformed, but not Protestant. We are the State Church in some countries; a small Christian minority in others.

Our parish was founded in Kirkwood in 1859 and is part of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri. We strive to be a vital part of Christ's presence in the St. Louis community and throughout the world.

Receiving Communion: Holy Communion may be received by all baptized Christians, not only members of the Episcopal Church.

Our Priests: Both men and women, including those who are married, are eligible for ordination as deacons, priests and bishops.

The Book of Common Prayer: We uphold the Bible and worship with the Book of Common Prayer (the red book in the pews). The BCP contains multiple worship services, prayers and historical documents that guide our liturgical practices.

Welcome: We strive to love our neighbors as ourselves and respect the dignity of every person.

We celebrate our unity in Christ while honoring our differences, always putting the work of love before uniformity of opinion. All are welcome to find a spiritual home in the Episcopal Church!



welcomes you

The Five Marks of Mission

The Anglican Communion has identified bonds that tie us together in our common life and mission. Grace Church uses these Five Marks of Mission as a guide for our missional activities:



The mission of the Church is the mission of Christ:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Grace in the Community

Hundreds of people come to Grace Church each week for reasons other than our Sunday worship. Our church building serves as a home for many community groups and services, including the following:

- ⇒ **St. Thomas Deaf Church:** an Episcopal mission for deaf worship and support
- ⇒ **The Lab School:** a not-for-profit preschool
- ⇒ **SPROG:** a transformative summer program for underserved children in our community
- ⇒ **Contemplative Outreach of St. Louis:** teaching and practicing centering prayer
- ⇒ **Christian Twist Yoga:** weekly classes to strengthen body, mind and spirit
- ⇒ **Boy Scouts**
- ⇒ **Drug and alcohol recovery and support groups**
- ⇒ **Non-profit executive board meetings**

An Invitation to Ministry

Our ministries at Grace Church are open to all to give and receive. Here is a sampling of our worship, service and fellowship opportunities:

Worship Services:

- ⇒ **Holy Eucharist**
Sundays at 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.;
5 p.m. on 1st Sundays
Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.
*includes Unction on 1st Tuesdays
- ⇒ **Morning Prayer**
Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.

Music:

- ⇒ **Parish Choir** - Thursdays at 7 p.m.
- ⇒ **Children's Choir** - Wednesdays at 4:15 p.m.
- ⇒ **Handbell Choirs** - Sundays at 11:20 a.m.,
Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Christian Formation:

- ⇒ **Nursery** - available Sundays, 9 - 11:30 a.m.
- ⇒ **Sunday School** - Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
- ⇒ **Youth Group** - ongoing special events
- ⇒ **Adult Formation** - Sundays at 9 a.m.
- ⇒ **Grace Online Academy** - continuous

Spirituality & Fellowship:

- ⇒ **Holy Ground** - 1st Mondays at 6 p.m.
- ⇒ **Women's Book Group** - Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
- ⇒ **Women of Grace** - 3rd Tuesdays at Noon
- ⇒ **Bridge Group** - 2nd Wednesdays at 10 a.m.
- ⇒ **Grace on the Go** - monthly tours with lunch
- ⇒ **Creation Care** - special environmental focuses

Community Outreach:

- ⇒ **Trinity Hot Lunch** (feeding the hungry)
- ⇒ **KirkCare** (food & assistance bank)
- ⇒ **Shepherd Center** (senior services)
- ⇒ **Episcopal City Mission** (for youth in detention)
- ⇒ **Deaconess Anne House** (Episcopal Service Corps.)
- ⇒ **Magdalene House** (for abused women)
- ⇒ **Episcopal Relief & Development** (Int'l aid)

Intercessory Prayer List

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Elaine Alexander	Vernon Balster
Dorothy Bardwell	Barry Bell
Lorette Billings	Randy Cook
Phyllis DeCristo	Ron Dickinson
Harriet Foiles	Ellen Friedla
David Fly	Gordon Gurley
Mary Eta Heggie	Martha Johnston
Kelsey Jones	John Mann
Lucille Miller	Marilyn Monson
Bill & Connie Nix	JoAnn Overall
Chloe Poe	Ann Rinehart
Gracie Rodgers	Jeff Sims
Colleen Schmittgens	Chris Sommers
Lucas Woehle	

Pastoral Care

Grace's clergy are available by appointment to discuss personal, pastoral or spiritual matters; please call or email the clergy directly.

In case of a pastoral emergency, please call the parish office at 314-821-1806. For pastoral emergencies after office hours, call the parish office and press "7" to be connected to the priest-on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

In case of severe illness, hospitalization, when a person is near death or at the death of a member of the church, please notify the clergy as soon as possible in order to secure the ministrations of the church.

Sacraments

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism is administered four times each year at Grace Church:

- ◆ Pentecost (May 20, 2018)
 - ◆ All Saints' Sunday (Nov. 4, 2018)
 - ◆ The First Sunday after Epiphany/
Baptism of our Lord (Jan. 6, 2019)
 - ◆ The Great Vigil of Easter (April 20, 2019)
- Please contact the church office to arrange for a baptism or marriage, request the Reconciliation of a Penitent (confession) or Unction (healing of the sick).