

GRACE NOTES

DECEMBER 2016



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CLERGY

Rector — The Reverend Cathy Carpenter
Rector@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org

STAFF

Office Manager — Margaret Houck
Office@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org

Interim Organist — Sue Darrohn
Music@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org

WARDENS

Susan Allen, Seniorwarden@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org
Brad Pettit, Juniorwarden@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org

This year we are singing the Advent hymn “Christ be our Light” during communion. I was unfamiliar with this piece until just a few years ago, but I think Bernadette Farrell’s words speak not just of the deepest desires of we who are as the Church, but to the desires of the wider world as well.

*Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.*

*Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.*

*Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.*

*Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.*

*Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come.*



Refrain:

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.*

*Christ, be our light! Shine in your church
gathered today.*

Even as we wait and watch for the signs of Christ’s presence in our world, we are called to shine with that same Light, mere candles to that all-surrounding, all-encompassing glory of God, but still, light at work in the world. Our repenting of our resistance, and turning to God’s work in us and through us is the beginning of fulfillment of this longing. God’s promises and the hopes and dreams throughout history, are realized, in part, by allowing the Christ light to shine in us, transforming us and the world. At baptisms at Grace, after the water and the chrism oil, we give a candle, lit from the Paschal candle, to the newly-baptized with the words, “You are the light of Christ. Be Christ’s light in the world”. Those words are for all of us who are baptized into that longing for the fulfillment of God’s promises in our Lord Jesus Christ.

In this holy season, how might you be Christ’s light?

Mo. Cathy+

CONVENTION OF THE DIOCESE OF CENTRAL NEW YORK 2016



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sue Allen	Pat Apicella
Ross Ney	Sharon Ney
Scott Warner	Mason Warner

Paul Cooney
Stu Reeves

Pam Griffio
Abrianna Renfrew

Rose Mercer
Dan Wiemers

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARY

John & Phyllis Rogers

REST ETERNAL grant to Rose Shyposh & Ron Savacool O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them.

FROM THE PAST

From *Baldwinsville's Own Cook Book* by Women's Auxiliary
Grace Episcopal Church, published 1950's

Soft Molasses Cookies

1 c. sugar	4 c. flour
1 scant c soft shortening	2 tsp. soda, scant
2 eggs	2 tsp. baking powder
1 c. molasses	1 tsp. ginger
1 c. hot water	1 tsp. salt

Mrs. Harold Fancher

Mix sugar, shortening and eggs and beat well. Add other ingredients in order given. Pour into 2 small cookie sheets and bake at 350° for 25 - 30 minutes. Sprinkle with powdered sugar when hot and then cut in squares.



CLEANING OUT YOUR CLOSETS

St Mark's Lutheran Church will be collecting new and gently used winter coats, of all sizes, through December 18th to benefit Interfaith Works and our local refugee families. Please drop the coats off at St. Mark's on Cold Springs Road. Any questions call at 315 635-0406.



NINE-FIFTEEN FORUM

Are you someone who has been a Christian for a long time, but sometimes still wonders about the basics? Or are you new to God and the Church who wants to get a better idea of what this Christianity thing is really all about? Come join us Sundays at 9:15 A.M. for *Transforming Questions*. In this class, we will seek to move into deeper life in Christ by engaging in some of faith's most basic questions: Who is Jesus? Does God answer prayer? How do I read the Bible? Why bother with Church? What do I have to do to be a Christian? Each week we will gather, hear a talk on one of the central questions of the Christian faith, and join in small-group discussion. Through both listening and sharing, we will wrestle with these foundational questions in the context of faith and in the company of fellow seekers. As we do so, we will learn more about ourselves, one another, and the Jesus we are seeking.

THANKS FROM THE OUTREACH MINISTRY!

Our "Birthday Party in a Bag" was a big hit! We collected approximately 50 bags which were delivered to the Baldwinsville Food Pantry. Everyone seemed to have fun putting the bags together and I'm sure the recipients will appreciate the creativity that went into each one. Thanks to all who contributed to this project!



COMING IN JANUARY ...

Woman of God by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro has caught the attention of several members of the parish. In January we plan to have a group reading and discussing the novel. Weekdays or weekday evenings seem to be the most favored times. Interested? Speak with Mother Cathy. The novel is available from Amazon and other retailers in hardcover, paperback, Kindle and audio CD formats.

First Friday Films – Begins January 6th. Join us for monthly classic films that raise questions of faith in a complicated world. God at the movies isn't always found in "religious" films. For youth and adults (parents' guide available beforehand). At 6:00 we'll have pizza (RSVP for 'za in advance so we order enough!) and at 6:30 we'll start the film. Bring something to drink--Popcorn will be provided.

Chowder & Savory Bread Cook Off – Saturday January 21st 6-9 PM. is this year's annual cook-off. Get your Down East on and start your recipe research! Who will be the champion of chow-da?

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

- Mardi Gras Jambalaya Dinner (Shrove Tuesday)



HARVEST DINNER

Parish Life hosted their final event for 2016 with the Senior Harvest Dinner on Sunday, November 13th. Under the very capable hands of Kathy Tamblin, 46 seniors were served a delicious early thanksgiving dinner of jelled salad, roast turkey breast & gravy, mashed potatoes and squash, topped off with a dessert of brownies ala mode.

Helping Kathy to prepare the meal were Stacey Wolf and Carla & Brian Smith. Servers were Roxanne & Rob Parmele, Pam & Cate Griffio, and Austin & Emma Wolf. Chief dishwasher was Allen Wolf. **Thank you all** for a delicious meal and the opportunity to gather together and socialize.



The members of Parish Life would also like to express our appreciation to the parishioners of Grace for their attendance to our various activities throughout the year. We look forward to seeing everyone in 2017 beginning with our annual Cook-Off on January 21st.

We welcome suggestions for activities that you might enjoy attending and hope to send out a survey asking for program ideas.

Thank you to all the members of the Parish Life Ministry for your dedication and hard work throughout the year.

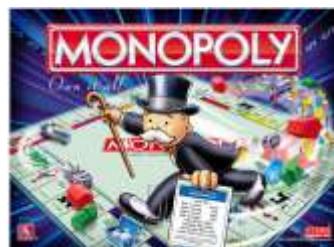


PARISH LIFE MEMBERS NEEDED

If anyone would like to become a member, please let the office know and someone from our ministry will contact you. Our meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month (August through June) in the conference room located on the lower level in the undercroft.

DECEMBER OUTREACH MINISTRY PROJECT

The December Outreach Project is collecting board games for the Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau. Board games for families (older kids and adults) are especially needed (Young children's games such as Candy Land are not needed at this time). Unwrapped items may be brought to the Welcome Area. The last Sunday to drop off items is December 11th. The Outreach Ministry will be transporting items to the Christmas Bureau on Tuesday December 13th.





PARLOR PROJECT UPDATE

Thanks to generous donations of furnishings and funds, our project is coming along! An oak lighted china cabinet for the display of historic parish articles was purchased from Craigslist with memorial funds, and moved to the church Thanksgiving weekend by Lou Santy, Dan Wiemers and Allen Wolf (Thanks guys!). A few more donations of cash or furnishings are needed; see the list on Mother Cathy's office door for details.

PARISH CENTER WINDOWS

The Parish Center window replacement project has been completed, despite historic November snow! Our contractor, Bob Fleming Windows & Doors carefully installed new vinyl replacement windows featuring double low-e glass, argon gas between panes and tilt-in panels. We have already noticed fewer drafts and improved visibility. Our utility bills should also reflect energy savings. Thanks to the property committee for their work in executing this project.

MORE WINDOW NEWS

The exterior window frames on the church building were scraped and painted (just!) in time for winter.

BEAUTIFUL THANKSGIVING DECORATIONS





DECEMBER 23RD - GREENING OF THE SANCTUARY

Come help the Altar Guild decorate the church at on Friday, December 23rd at 10:00 A.M.

Christmas Eve Service — Saturday, December 24TH

- ~ 7:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist with Bells and Choir
- ~ 11:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist with Music

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE — SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

- ~ 9:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist for the Nativity of our Lord



LESSONS & CAROLS

Sunday, January 1st with Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS may be given in celebration, thanksgiving for blessings, or in loving memory for a loved one. Please have your requests in the office by Monday, December 19th.

Poinsettias can be returned to you or given to shut-ins. Flower request forms can be found on our website or in the Welcome Area.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED!

Make and serve coffee, a cold drink and treats after 8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist. Can't do it alone? Ask a friend to help or call the parish office. Sign up in the Welcome Area at the church entrance.

STEWARSHIP PLEDGES

Do you live differently than you might because of Grace Church? Would you like others to do the same? Then, please, remember to return your pledge card to the office or place it in the offering plate at one of the Sunday services. Thank you

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH AS WE SEEK A MUSIC DIRECTOR

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Guide us as we seek to call a new music director to lead our efforts through music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to us now glimpses of your beauty, and make us worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Website: GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org

Tel: 315 635 3214

110 Oswego Street, Baldwinsville, NY 13027



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3rd 11th ANNUAL COOKIE WALK



Grace Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 6, 110 Oswego Street
Baldwinsville, NY 13027 - 0006

**Non-profit org
US postage paid
Baldwinsville, NY
Permit No. 20**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUEST

TO:

HOLY EUCHARIST SERVICES

8 & 10:30 A.M.

+ + + + + + + +

Tuesdays 12 NOON

+ + + + + + + +

First Saturdays 4 P.M.

+ + + + + + + +

Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 23rd 7 P.M.