

**REGULAR
EVENTS**

Choir

Wednesdays,
7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Communications

Last Tuesday, 6:30 pm

Garden of Grace Committee

TBA

Grace's Kitchen

Last five days of the month
(excluding Sundays)
11:30 am-1:00 pm

Healing Service

3rd Sunday after Eucharist

Health Ministry

2nd Sunday, 12:15 pm

Investment Committee

2nd Monday of March, June,
September & December

Men's Guild

3rd Sunday, 12:15 pm

Starfish Food Collection

1st Sunday

Stewardship

1st Monday, 7:30 pm

Vestry

3rd Wednesday, 7:30pm

Women of Grace

3rd Sunday, 12:15 pm

Worship Commission

1st Sunday, 12:30 pm



THIS WEEK AT GRACE June 4-11, 2017

Please also check the website, display tables, and bulletin board for more information about other activities in which you might want to participate.

SUNDAY, JUNE 4: FEAST OF PENTECOST (WHITSUNDAY)

STARFISH FOOD COLLECTION

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist Rite I, <i>Church</i>
10:00 am	Lighthouse Chapel International, <i>All Saints Chapel</i>
10:30 am	Sunday School, Classrooms
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist Rite II, <i>Church</i>
12:15 am	Worship Commission, <i>Rector's Office</i>

Monday, June 5

7:00 pm - 8:15 pm	ESL Classes
7:30 pm	Stewardship Commission, <i>Meeting Room</i>
7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	AA, <i>Knickle Hall</i>

Wednesday, June 7

7:00 pm - 8:15 pm	ESL Classes
7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Grace Choir, <i>Choir Room</i>

SUNDAY, JUNE 11: TRINITY SUNDAY

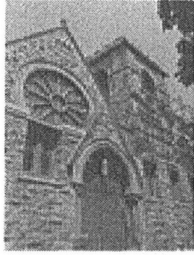
8:00 am	Holy Eucharist Rite I, <i>Church</i>
10:00 am	Lighthouse Chapel International, <i>All Saints Chapel</i>
10:30 am	Sunday School, Classrooms
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist Rite II, <i>Church</i>
12:15 am	Health Ministries <i>Meeting Room</i>

Next Sunday's Reading: Trinity Sunday

First Lesson: Genesis 1:1-2:4a Psalm 8

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 **Gospel:** Matthew 28:16-20





GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Diocese of New Jersey

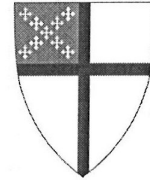
600 Cleveland Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060

908-756-1520 www.graceplainfield.org

Twitter: @plainfieldgrace Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church—Plainfield, NJ

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Reverend Theodore E. Moore, *Deacon*
Andrew Kilkenny, *Director of Music*
John Taitt, *Treasurer*
Noel Taitt, *Assistant Treasurer*
Vince Chiumento, *Parish Office Administrator*
Karen Moore, *Board President, Plainfield Community Outreach, Inc*
Patience Smith, *Project Director, 21st Century After School Program*
Marvin Daniels, *Coordinator, Grace's Kitchen*
The Reverend Theodore Moore, *Coordinator, ESL Program*



WARDENS AND VESTRY

Wardens

Lawrence Ishmael (2017), Jason Algeo (2018)

Vestry

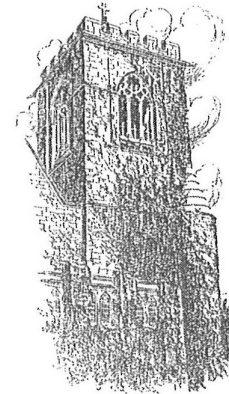
Carol Taitt (2017), Timothy Mann (2017), Conrad Roberts (2017)
Brenda Loncke (2018), Winsley Rudder (2018), Selma Cato (2018)
Trevor Forbes (2019), *Clerk*; Ivor Blair (2019); Amanda Garcia (2019)

Convention Delegates (2017)

Ken and Victoria Blenman, Gloria King

Alternate Delegates (2017)

Jason and Holly Algeo, Trevor King



Parish Office: 908-756-1520 908-756-0175 (fax) office@graceplainfield.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please take this bulletin home since it has important information about upcoming events

- Do you have a graduate in the family? Please let us know so that they can be recognized at a special service honoring 2016 graduates on June 25. Please send us the student's name, the name and city location of the school and he or she is graduating from, the name and city location of the school he or she will attend in the fall and, if a college graduate, the degree received. Please send that information to karen@graceplainfield.org.
- If anyone is interested in joining the Community Garden of Grace Committee please contact Deacon Ted Moore at tmoore12@comcast.net or Barbara Nichols at tbmee@aol.com.
- If you are interested in being trained to serve as an Acolyte, Lector, or Lay Eucharistic Minister please contact Deacon Ted Moore at tmoore12@comcast.net or Karen Moore at kfomoore@comcast.net.
- The Sanctuary Candle Chart is on the wall by the Parish Office. If you would like to give a Sanctuary Candle, please write your name and the name of the one to be memorialized in the appropriate space. The candle will burn for the week in memory of your loved one. Suggested donation for the sanctuary candle is \$10.
- The Flower Chart is on the wall by the Parish Office. If you would like to dedicate flowers, pick an open date and write your name and the name of the one to be memorialized in the appropriate space. The office will confirm with you the week before. The cost of altar flowers is \$50.

The Spring Convocation meeting for the Watchung Convocation, which includes Grace Church, will be held on Sunday, June 4 at 4 p.m. at St. Mark's in Basking Ridge, located at 140 South Finley Avenue. Grace members are encouraged to attend. The meeting will focus on "Discerning Our Common Call" and will be followed by regional and congregational gatherings throughout the summer and into the early fall in preparation for a Diocesan-wide special Convention on October 7. The last Spring Convocation meeting will be held on Wednesday June 7 at 7 p.m. at Christ Church located at 415 Washington Street in Toms River.

Letter from the Bishop Stokes

Dear People of the Diocese of New Jersey,

And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God....Philippians 1:9-11

Across the Diocese of New Jersey, we have begun a process of self-exploration we have named Discerning our Common Call. This consists of a series of expanding conversations in which the people of the diocese are asked to explore a central question: *What does it mean to be a diocese in The Episcopal Church today?*

Exploring this question requires us to examine our interrelationship, interdependence, and commitment to and with one another as a community of the faithful knit together as the Diocese of New Jersey. These conversations have already begun with three of the Spring Convocations - Camden, Atlantic and Northern.

Questions have emerged from these early convocations which reflect some concerns and confusions about the process and the direction it is taking. I felt it would be helpful for me to address these.

In March, we deferred action on the Proposed 2018 Budget of the Diocese. As presented, it was drastically austere. If implemented, it would require draconian measures which would have a dramatic impact on our common life, and on the lives of many individual congregations. I believe very few people support the passing and implementation of such a budget.

It has been recognized for years that the "Fair Share System," has not worked. Heretofore, however, little has been done to address the problem. The 2018 Proposed Budget was predicated on income assumptions which reflect the current levels of giving from congregations of the diocese supplemented by responsible draws from endowment and other investment funds. The Preliminary 2018 Budget as proposed was not intended as a scare tactic; it was a reality check.

The questions we are asking are deeper than the budget. They concern our common life and common call. This is why we are engaging in this discernment process that will lead us to a Special Convention on October 7, 2017 at Trinity Cathedral.

While there were initial considerations about presenting the 2018 Budget at that Special Convention for adoption, it has become clear that this is neither practical nor prudent. Congregations will just have received their Marks of Mission Giving requests and, in many cases, be considering their own budgets. Therefore, **we will not be considering the 2018 Budget at the Special Convention on October 7.**

So what will happen at the October 7 Special Convention?

1. As a Committee of the Whole, we will formally receive the report from our consultant Kim Fletcher and the Discerning Our Common Call Steering Committee with recommendations which may require action.
2. Delegates will be asked to come ready to make a preliminary, non-binding commitment to their Marks of Mission Pledge as a faith-filled indication of thankful giving to the common life of the diocese similar to what the many parishes who engage in New Consecration Sunday do in local stewardship practices.

3. A resolution will be presented asking delegates to approve continuing diocesan operations at 2017 budget levels until the Diocesan Convention meets on March 2-3, 2018 at The Crowne Plaza in Cherry Hill, when the actual 2018 Budget will be presented and considered by Convention for action.

In his book, *People of the Way: Renewing Episcopal Identity* (New York: Morehouse Publishing, 2012), The Rev. Dr. Dwight Zscheile, who was the keynote speaker at our 2014 Convention, writes:

*Organizational change for the church is often painful and slow. Within the framework of establishment, the church has tended to be conservative in its organizational life - trying to preserve and maintain what it has. This is understandable and in some ways commendable. The church's treasures are precious and they must be stewarded well. Like other churches of the Reformation, the Episcopal Church's focus has tended to look backward, toward earlier patterns and practices in Christian history. This is a necessary and important turn - the church is always **reforming**. At the same time, we've lost sight of the fact that the church is always **forming** - innovating new ways of creating Christian community under the Spirit's leadership. Now is a moment to shift our focus to discerning what new life the Spirit wants to bring forth in our midst. This means making space for new expressions of church within our existing structures. It invites us to suspend current rules and regulations until new and more adequate patterns emerge. It calls us to prioritize learning and discovery over maintenance and control...(p. 128).*

In our process, *Discerning our Common Call*, we are engaging in precisely this "forming" work about which Zscheile writes. It is exciting, unsettling, sometimes uncomfortable work. It is, however, the work to which God calls us in this time and in this place.

I am grateful to those who have already begun the conversation and urge those who have not yet participated to be a part of this sacred discernment at the remaining convocation meetings and at regional, congregational and, finally, diocesan-wide gatherings being scheduled throughout the summer and into the early fall. Blessings and thanks for your participation in Christ's work and mission.

Blessings and peace,

The Right Reverend William H. (Chip) Stokes, D.D.
XII Bishop of New Jersey



¢ents Bargain Clothes for Kids



**600 Cleveland Avenue, lower level
(corner of Sixth Street)**

9 a.m. to noon every Saturday

Check out ¢ents Bargain Clothes for Kids, a new thrift shop selling new and gently used children's dresses, pants, sweaters, sneakers, shoes, coats and other clothing.

For more information,
call Joyce Smith at 908 756-7897

¢ents is an initiative of Plainfield Community Outreach (PCO), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization of Grace Episcopal Church to provide services to the greater Plainfield area.