

# FROM THE BELL TOWER

News & updates from our church, our friends, and our community



## **OTHER STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Updates from the National Church
- Meet the Wegrzynowiczs
- A Look-back at a Mother's Day Concert

Where Anglican tradition engages the contemporary world, Grace Church opens its doors on Madison's Capitol Square, inviting all to join us in sharing the love of Jesus Christ in worship and in outreach to our neighbors and the world.



Galatians 3:28 NIV: "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

## A Time of New Beginnings

BY ERIN SCHUURMANS ASSISTANT PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Over the last several months I've loved observing the changing in seasons out my kitchen window at home. As winter has faded into spring, the grass has become less of a dull brown and the trees have begun to put forth new leaves. Tempted by the warmer weather and new shoots, our backyard is typically visited by a host of animals, and any day now I'll see young bunnies joining their parents as they feast their way through my garden beds. In the last week or so my hostas have returned, and my lawn is becoming a carpet of springtime flowers. This is a time of new beginnings, of life at it's most fresh, not only in our backyards, but also within the church. Easter has come and with its' promises of the resurrection and new life. Soon it will be Pentecost, a most joyous of days in which we celebrate the gift of new life and understanding that the Holy Spirit grants to all of us. Just as spring blesses my garden, so to do the gifts of the Holy Spirit bless my soul.

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## IMPORTANT DATES

**Saturday May 4th:** Diocesan Special Convention

**Sunday May 5th:** Cinco de Mayo,  
Pride Committee Meeting

**Friday May 10th:** UW Commencement

**Saturday May 11th:** UW Commencement

**Sunday May 12th:** Mother's Day

**Sunday May 19th:** Pentecost!  
In-person Vestry Meeting

**Saturday May 25:** Grace Presents Concert

**Sunday May 26th:** Memorial Day Weekend  
Trinity Sunday  
Madison Half-Marathon

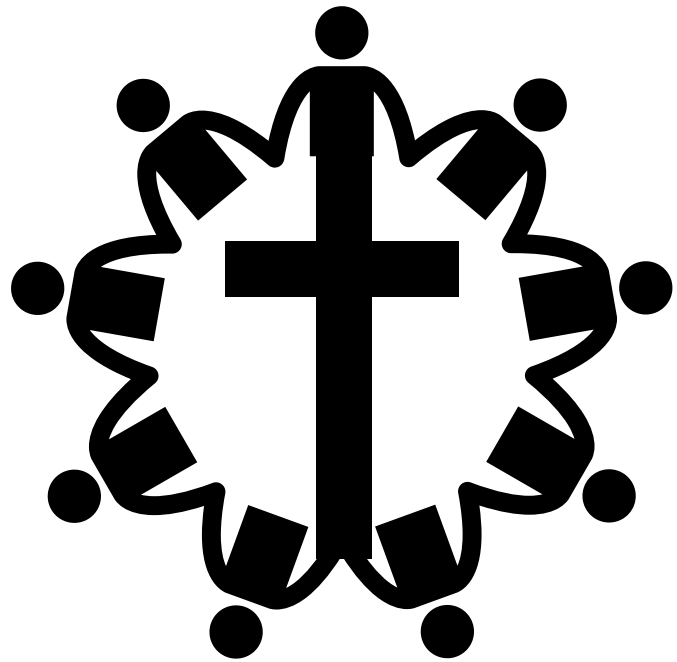
**Monday May 25th:** Memorial Day  
Offices Closed

Welcoming New Members for Pentecost - May 19th  
The Feast of Pentecost is on May 19. It is an especially appropriate day to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism. If you or a family member is interested in receiving baptism, please contact Fr. Jonathan to make arrangements. We will also be recognizing new members. If you would like to be included in this recognition, please contact Fr. Jonathan.



# COMMITTEE AND PARISH ROUNDUP

Grace Church is home to nearly 20 different committees and organizations. Some of them are focused inwardly on the growth, development, and care of the church building and parish, such as the Vestry and the Development Fund Trust Committee. Others are outward facing and focus on bringing the love of Christ to those around us and in the community. Regardless of your interests, there is a place for you at Grace.



**For more information about the following organizations or if you're wanting to get involved, please contact [assistantadmin@gracechurchmadison.org](mailto:assistantadmin@gracechurchmadison.org).**

Adult Formation – Tuesday Bible Study  
Creating a More Just Community  
Compassion Circle  
Episcopal Church Women  
Grace Food Pantry  
Haiti Partnership  
Healing Prayer Ministry

Hymn Sing  
Mission and Outreach  
Music Ministry  
Pride Committee  
Rector's Guild  
St. Margaret's Altar Guild  
Welcoming Committee  
Parish Life Committee

DIOCESAN SPECIAL CONVENTION THIS SATURDAY, MAY 4TH THE JOINT CONVENTION OF THE THREE DIOCESES OF WISCONSIN WILL TAKE PLACE MAY 4 AT HOCHUNK GAMING WISCONSIN DELLS IN BARABOO. THE CONVENTION BEGINS AT 10:00 AM WITH EUCHARIST (BISHOP LEE WILL BE PREACHING). PLEASE PRAY FOR THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN WISCONSIN AS WE DISCERN OUR FUTURE.

FR. JONATHAN WILL BE OFFERING AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROPOSED REUNIFICATION AFTER THE 10:00 SERVICE SUNDAY THE 28TH IN THE NAVE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEARN MORE, GRAB SOME A SNACK AT COFFEE HOUR AND COME JOIN US! INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSAL, INCLUDING CONSTITUTION AND CANONS, IS AVAILABLE ON THE WISCONSIN EPISCOPAL WEBSITE:

[HTTPS://EPISCOPALWISCONSIN.INFO](https://episcopalwisconsin.info)

# VISITING GRACE

## MINISTRIES FOR ALL

With open hearts, we invite you to join us on our journey of faith. Walk through the Red Doors into the warmth of our Grace Church community. Whether you self identify as gay, lesbian, straight, bisexual, transgender, queer or prefer no label, we all belong to one family in God's sight; accepted, valued and beloved.

### Worship and Fellowship

#### **Sundays**

8:00 AM Rite I - Holy Eucharist  
8:45 AM Coffee Hour I (Vilas Hall)  
9:30 AM Children's Church (lower level)  
10:00 AM Rite II - Holy Eucharist (Nursery available)  
11:15 AM Coffee Hour (Vilas Hall)  
6:00 PM Hymn Sing (Zoom)

#### **Wednesdays**

12:10 PM - Noon Eucharist  
5:30 PM - High School Youth Group with Pizza (Vilas Hall)  
7:00 PM - Evening Prayer

### Church office hours

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
Friday: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Saturday - Sunday: Closed

Monday: Staff availability may change, so please reach out

(608) 255-5147  
admin@gracechurchmadison.org

### **Hearing Loop/Listening Devices Available during Sunday Services**

Access to the hearing loop is available through your hearing aids set to "T-coil" or "loop listeners," which may be used with or without hearing aids. Please ask an usher for assistance, if needed.

### **The Grace Nursery is Open for Your Infants and Toddlers!**

The Grace Nursery is open for children ages infant through 4 during the 10am worship service on Sundays. Please feel free to bring your young children to the Nursery at the lower level between 9:00 and 9:45am to sign in.

### **Christian Formation**

Spring semester of Christian Formation for our Pre-K through 8th Grade begins January 7th. Erin Schuurmans is excited to be leading the children on an adventure through faith and doctrine, focusing on Christian education through both Old and New Testament Lectionary readings.

Our teen programming is underway, as well. Meeting on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 pm in Vilas Hall, our teenagers are engaging in conversations around faith, and enjoy pizza and fellowship together. Please contact Father John Francis with any questions about our Christian Formation activities and programs.

### **Hymn Sing**

Please join us every Sunday at 6:00 pm to enjoy hymns via zoom. Our Hymn Sing is led by Steve Webster. The zoom link changes weekly and is found in the current issue of GraceNotes, or by emailing assistantadmin@gracechurchmadison.org.

### **Wednesday Evening Prayer**

You are invited to Evening Prayer at Grace Church, every Wednesday at 7:00PM, starting on 4/3. Evening Prayer, or Evensong, is an ancient liturgy of the western Church. It includes readings from the Psalms, Epistles, and the Gospels, many of which are said collectively. Evensong presents a wonderful opportunity for prayer, community and reflection. For more information, please contact Joseph Warfel at jpwarfel@gmail.com.

# VISITING GRACE

## LAY MINISTRY

### Healing Prayer Now Offered Two Ways

Members of the Healing Prayer Team are available for prayers in person on Sunday mornings at 10. In addition, we continue to honor prayer requests sent in by phone or email. To ask for prayers, contact one of the co-leaders of the team, the Rev. Margaret Irwin at [mbirwin@charter.net](mailto:mbirwin@charter.net) or Kara Pagano at [baronesspagano@gmail.com](mailto:baronesspagano@gmail.com) . Please tell us if you want us to keep your communication in confidence or if you are requesting that we share it with the team, who will also keep it confidential.

### Lay Eucharistic Ministers are Available

LEMs (Lay Eucharistic Ministers) are among us at Grace, and now that COVID is somewhat under control, we'll be seeing more of them. Early in the history of the church there was a practice of taking the Eucharist to those who were ill and unable to gather in person with the Christian Community. In 1985, the Episcopal Church approved appointment of LEMs in our congregations to engage in that ministry. It provides a significant way to reach out and draw us all together. If you are interested in becoming a LEM, please contact Deacon Carol Smith. And PLEASE, if you feel that you would like for a LEM to visit you at home or in the hospital, let Carol know.

## PARISH STAFF

Rector - The Rev. Dr. D. Jonathan Grieser  
Associate Rector - The Rev. John Francis Maher  
Assisting Priest - The Rev. Margaret Irwin  
Deacon - The Rev. Deacon Carol Smith  
Deacon - The Rev. Deacon Georgeanne Cusic  
Parish Administrator - Kristen Wold  
Assistant Parish Administrator - Erin Schuurmans  
Music Director - Berkley Guse  
Organist - Mark Brampton-Smith  
Grace Presents Director - James Waldo  
Food Pantry Coordinator - Vikki Enright  
Wedding Coordinator - Pat Werk  
Kitchen and GH Coordinator - Mary Ann Nanassy  
Financial Administrator - Andrew Pizzello  
Christian Formation Lead Teacher - Erin Schuurmans  
Kitchen Assistant - Bradley Simonson

## PARISH WARDENS AND VESTRY

Senior Warden - Amy Robinson  
Junior Warden - Mary Schlaefer  
Treasurer - Tom Felhofer  
Vestry Clerk - John Andrews  
Bess Malson-Huddle  
Steve Langlie  
Jeremy Schuurmans  
Suzy Buenger  
James Waldo  
Paul Quinn  
Shelley Hansen-Blake  
Kenn JeSchonek  
Robert Lemanske



# WAYS TO SERVE

## **Altar Guild Demystified**

Before and after Sunday services, you may see members of our congregation working around the altar. You may have wondered who those people are and what they are doing.

**What is Altar Guild?** Liturgy begins and ends with the work of the Altar Guild. We prepare the Eucharist and sanctuary for each service. We care for the sacred vessels, the bread and the wine, the linens and hangings, and the candles used for worship. The Altar Guild also decorates the church for Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter.



## **What is the volunteer commitment?**

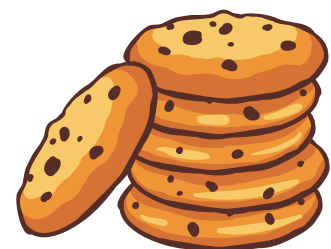
Each Sunday, two Altar Guild members meet at 9:15 to prepare the 10:00 Eucharist (about 20-30 minutes) and also at 11:00 to clean the 10:00 vessels and prepare for the following week (about 20 minutes). Each Altar Guild member serves approximately once every 4 weeks. Each person volunteers for Sundays that are convenient on their personal calendar. Also, for Easter and Christmas, we gather for a joyous morning to transform the nave and chancel for the season.

**Why join Altar Guild?** Any Altar Guild member will tell you that it's an enormously satisfying ministry. You become more closely connected to the traditions and annual cycle of the church -- the colors and decorations, the songs, and the liturgies associated with each season. Imagine being in the Grace sanctuary. It is empty, but sunlight is streaming through our stained glass windows that illustrate the life of Jesus. You are preparing the bread and wine, the chalices, and the altar for Sunday's Eucharist. We invite you to give it a try. Consider joining on your own, or with a friend or partner. Contact Lynn Felhofer (felhofer.lynn@gmail.com)

## **A Call For Coffee Hour Hosts**

If you enjoy the refreshments and camaraderie of coffee hour, please consider hosting one. Starting this month, the last Sunday of each month will be devoted to those celebrating birthdays. Perhaps you are a member of a committee, group or team that might step up to the plate and provide some sweet and savory items for all to enjoy. Perhaps you want to celebrate your cultural heritage, as I am sure the Irish will come March 17th. Simply bring your plated foods to the kitchen before the 8am or 10 a.m. service and our kitchen assistants will take it from there. No need to worry about drinks, as the church supplies coffee, tea and juice. A few committees have already signed up to host.

If interested, please email Mary Ann Nanassy to check for available open dates for hosting.  
man1951@charter.net



# JOB OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE PARISH

## Seeking a Wedding Coordinator for Grace Church Weddings

As the Wedding Coordinator at Grace Church Weddings, you will play a pivotal role in ensuring that their wedding ceremony reflects the couple's vision. Your primary responsibility will be managing and supervising rehearsals and ceremonies while adhering to the Grace Church Wedding Handbook guidelines. This is not just an administrative role; it's an opportunity to help create unforgettable memories for our wedding couples.

Responsibilities of the wedding coordinator include:

- Meet with the couple before the wedding day to review the ceremony details.
- Preparing the building for rehearsals and ceremonies, including opening the doors.
- Assisting the officiant and orchestrating the rehearsal flow so the couple feels prepared.
- Lining up the wedding party and ensuring the procession runs smoothly.
- Troubleshooting any mishaps or challenges on the wedding day.
- Helping the facilities assistant with the cleanup after the wedding.

The coordinator's job requires working on Thursdays and Fridays for rehearsals and Fridays and Saturdays for weddings. This is a part-time position. Two wedding coordinators share the scheduled weddings, and training will be provided.

The wedding coordinator will be a subcontractor and report to Pat Werk, the owner of Koru Ceremony LLC. The compensation for each wedding is a \$250 flat fee. The work involves approximately 6-8 hours spread over three different interactions with the couple. (meeting, rehearsal, wedding day)

If you are interested in applying for this position, please contact Pat Werk at 608-213-7558 or [patwerk@gmail.com](mailto:patwerk@gmail.com).

## We're Hiring Nursery Staff for Spring and Summer

Grace is hiring nursery staff who can provide quality nursery care for children ages infant through 4 during Sunday morning worship, usually twice a month, and other times as requested and available.

Duties primarily include hanging out with awesome toddlers and ensuring a clean and safe environment.

Time Commitment:  
Sunday mornings, a, approximately 8:45 am to 12 noon, plus other times of congregational need, if availability allows (e.g. Christmas Eve, special events).

Compensation: \$25.00/hr

If this person sounds like you, or someone you know, then email Erin at [assistantadmin@gracechurchmadison.org](mailto:assistantadmin@gracechurchmadison.org)

# REFLECTIONS FROM THE CLERGY:

## *Thinking About Reunion*

BY REV. DR. D. JONATHAN GRIESER

When I became an Episcopalian in 1992, I had little knowledge of the history and culture of the Episcopal Church. I was already familiar with the Book of Common Prayer, I had had several classmates in Divinity School who were preparing for the priesthood, and of course I knew a great deal about the emergence of the Church of England during the sixteenth century. But I had only the vaguest conception of the denomination, how dioceses were formed, the culture of the denomination, or the significant differences in the church in different regions of the country.

That all changed when we began teaching at the University of the South (Sewanee), which is owned by the southern dioceses of the Episcopal Church, includes a School of Theology where I taught for a year, and has a distinctive theological and liturgical ethos. Eventually, we would move to South Carolina where the Episcopal Church has its own idiosyncrasies. Over the years, I would hear priests joke about the “biretta belt”—by which they were referring to unspecified dioceses in the Midwest that included Northern Indiana, Chicago, and the dioceses of Wisconsin. By then I also knew about Nashotah House, the seminary in Wisconsin but my impression of it was shaped by the long battles over the ordination of women and the full inclusion of LGBTQ+ people in the life of the church. I had a vague sense of the Anglo-Catholic culture of the Diocese of Fond du Lac. The bishop who ordained me, Dorsey Henderson, had been Dean of the Cathedral of Fond du Lac and was very Anglo-Catholic, and at some point I had heard something about the Fond du Lac Circus (google it if you’re curious).

. Surprisingly, none of that really changed when I became Rector of Grace in 2009. I’ve only ever been on the campus of Nashotah House once in my fifteen years in Wisconsin. I don’t think I had met any clergy from either the diocese of Fond du Lac or Eau Claire except Bishop Gunther who was on the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Council of Churches when I began serving. I did know about the failed attempt at the reunification of the Dioceses of Eau Claire and Fond du Lac in 2011 and there were comments from time to time from clergy and Bishop about the future of the Diocese of Eau Claire.

When the Trialogue was announced in 2021, I was surprised at the initiative and somewhat excited about the project. I volunteered to help with the Trialogue and was assigned to the Task Force on Parish and Regional Engagement. We were assigned to hear from congregations, laypeople, and clergy across the state but it was also an opportunity to develop relationships with clergy and lay leaders from the other two dioceses. Two joint clergy conferences in 2022 and 2024 have also helped deepen those relationships.

It's easy to forget that we are part of a larger church, a diocese, the Episcopal Church USA, and the Anglican Communion. Many of us come to the Episcopal Church as adults. We are drawn to the liturgy, looking for a Christian community that shares our values and where we can experience the presence of God in Christ. The larger church rarely enters our consciousness except at times of conflict.



Even if we have heard of the Trialogue and of the upcoming vote on reunification, we may not care about it. It seems not to affect our parish life or our own spiritual lives. In addition, the Diocese of Milwaukee hasn't had a permanent bishop since 2020 and Bishop Lee, who served as our Bishop Provisional, retired (again) last year. Our primary experience of the church is the local congregation and that's not likely to change.

There is another important matter to consider. We have heard a great deal about the decline of mainline Christianity in the US and then more recently about the decline of Christianity across the board. Increasing percentages of Americans claim no religious affiliation at all and all denominations are reporting declines in attendance and membership. These trends were accelerated by the pandemic. In such an environment, what does the future of the Episcopal Church look like?

Unlike nondenominational churches that have no structural connection to other congregations or churches that have a polity (structure) based on congregational autonomy, we belong to the Episcopal Church. We are not independent. When I was ordained, I vowed obedience to the Bishop who was ordaining me and when I was installed as Rector of Grace Church, I reiterated those vows. We believe that our bishops are in the apostolic succession, an unbroken line of women and men ordained by the laying on of hands going back to St. Peter and to Christ. Bishops are a visible symbol of our participation in the church universal, the Body of Christ that consists of all Christians, living and dead, united by one common faith and baptism.

Still, does it matter whether there are one, or two, or three dioceses in the State of Wisconsin? Perhaps not in the larger scheme of things. At the same time, it's important to remember that dioceses are required to do certain things canonically—to oversee the ordination process, to have and pay for a bishop. And there are also programmatic things: communications, outreach, congregational development. With limited financial and human resources, the three dioceses of Wisconsin are stretched thin as they try to conduct the business of the church. Reunification might free up some of those resources for new ministries and programs. We might be able to offer stronger support to small congregations that feel isolated. The proposal to have ministry regions and for the bishop to be in residence in each of those regions for several weeks each year might create opportunities for collaboration and connection on a local level that could spark new ideas and programs.

Christianity is undergoing a historical transformation in this country and the Episcopal Church is experiencing that transformation. What the Episcopal Church will look like in fifty years is anyone's guess. Whether dioceses will even exist or whether the denominational structure that currently exists will survive in any recognizable fashion are open questions. What we can be certain of is that Christians will continue to gather in community to read and study scripture and to celebrate the Eucharist. Most of all, we can be certain that Jesus Christ will be present in those communities and that people will continue to experience the grace, love, and power of the Risen Christ. Those local communities are and will be a part of a larger reality, the Body of Christ, that unites us across space and time with all faithful Christians living and dead and strengthens us with the love of Christ that binds us all together as one.

# GETTING TO KNOW THE PARISH

## Meet the Wegrzynowiczs

ERIN SCHUURMANS

Do you know who sits at the other end of your pew? Join us over the next several months as get to know our fellow pew mates.

This month we sit down and chat with Clay and Andrea Wegrzynowicz.

Where did you both grow up, and where did you meet?

*Clay grew up in rural southwestern Pennsylvania, and Andrea in the Saratoga/Adirondacks region of New York. We met at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania.*

What do you do for work/and or school?

*Andrea is about to defend her PhD in Biochemistry and begin a postdoctoral fellowship in reproductive endocrinology research. Clay is an auto insurance claims supervisor.*

What brought you to Madison?

*Andrea moved in 2019 to attend graduate school at the UW. Clay moved to live with Andrea.*

Do you have any child/ren/pets? And if so, how many, what kind, and their age? (Photos are always appreciated!!)

*We have two very friendly, large and fluffy cats named Mac (7 years old) and Chips (almost 1 year). We adopted Mac in 2020 and Chips last fall.*

*They love cuddles, playing in boxes, and watching birds. Chips has two extra toes on each paw.*



What is your ideal Saturday in January? What about July?

*Our ideal Saturday pretty much looks the same regardless of season--We'd sleep in late, head for breakfast at C's diner in Middleton, and play some video games or get some stuff done around the house. After lunch, we'd head off somewhere in the Driftless area or maybe an Ice Age Trail segment for a hike. Then come home, get changed, and go to dinner with friends somewhere downtown and drinks after!*

What is one thing that if you see it in the store, you can't resist buying?

*Andrea: Bubble bath.*

*Clay: Something discounted at Kwik Trip's hot food bar. I can't resist a deal. Or Kwik Trip.*



Tell me about your religious backgrounds, did you grow up in the Episcopal Church?

*Nope! We both grew up in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and attended a PCUSA church in college. We joined Grace in 2021, wanting to try out a different tradition.*

What is one thing that you hope you can give to Grace church?

*Our time and enthusiasm for working with kids and teens.*

What is one thing that you hope you can receive from the church?

*Support and friendship from a multigenerational community.*

Is there anything you would like the church as an institution to change in the next 20 years?

*Andrea: I would love to see greater communion with other major denominations, hopefully leading to a more inclusive church altogether.*

*Clay: Continued support for youth formation in all aspects of church life.*

What is your favorite season of the church, and why?

*Both of us: Advent. We love the liturgical traditions of advent, the music, and the anticipation of Christmas!*

*And last but not least - Who would win in a fight - and why - Marvel's Black Widow, or Disney's Elsa?*

*Seriously? No question. Natasha Romanoff is a highly trained world-class assassin with years of experience and Elsa makes things cold sometimes.*



# FROM THE NATIONAL CHURCH

## *Five chosen to stand for election as 28th presiding bishop.*

### OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Episcopal Church's Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop announced the names of the bishops it will nominate to succeed Presiding Bishop Michael Curry.

Its nominees are:

#### **The Rt. Rev. Sean W. Rowe**

The Rt. Rev. Sean W. Rowe was ordained bishop of the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania in 2007 and became bishop provisional of Western New York in 2019. He previously served as bishop provisional of the Diocese of Bethlehem from 2014 until 2018. Born in Sharon, Pennsylvania, the bishop graduated from Grove City College in 1997 with a B. A. in history. "I grew up in western Pennsylvania, and came to know and to love that culture," he said in a 2019 interview. "I come from a family of primarily steel and mill workers. That part of the world is resilient, but it was in the process of becoming what we now call the Rust Belt."

The bishop graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary in 2000 and returned to the diocese. "I came back to serve a church, a congregation in a small town in western Pennsylvania, and had a tremendous relationship with the community — the church more than doubled in size in a declining demographic," he said. "I was doing ministry in a place I know and love."

Rowe was 32 in May 2007, when he was elected bishop on the first ballot. For almost 12 years, he was the youngest bishop in the church.

"When I became diocesan bishop, I saw that Western New York shares a culture with the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania," he said, and was heartened to learn that the Rt. Rev. R. William Franklin, former bishop of Western New York, was open to exploring the current partnership.

The bishop is known for his research and work on organizational learning and adaptive performance in the church. He earned a Ph.D. in organizational learning and leadership at Gannon University in Erie in 2014. He serves as parliamentarian for the House of Bishops and the Episcopal Church Executive Council; chair of the Episcopal Church Building Fund; and as a member of the Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, and Constitution and Canons. He also serves on the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. In 2018, he became the first bishop to serve on the House of Deputies Committee on the State of the Church, a position he held until 2023. He is married to Carly Rowe, a Christian educator, and they have a eleven-year-old daughter, Lauren.





## **The Rt. Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe**

The Rt. Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe was elected on August 6, 2016, and consecrated as the 11th Bishop of Central New York on December 3, 2016. The Diocese of Central New York comprises nearly 80 parishes and stretches from Canada in the north to Pennsylvania in the south and from Utica in the east to Elmira in the West. Bishop DeDe is a person of deep faith for whom contemplative prayer and meditation are essential. Her ministry is rooted in encouraging others to grow in faith, actively supporting diocesan clergy to live into the fullness of their vocations, working collaboratively to ensure a safe and sustainable culture of mutual respect in the diocese and promoting and celebrating vitality among small church communities. Curiosity and learning are core values for Bishop DeDe and as a former educator, she is particularly gifted in and passionate about faith formation and offering tools and information that support people developing a sustaining relationship with God. To that end, in 2023, she launched "Speaking of Faith," a podcast which aims to create a safe space for people to consider their faith and grow in confidence to speak about faith in their lives.

Since 2019, Bishop DeDe has served as President of Province II and a member of the Presiding Bishop's Council of Advice. In 2018, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry appointed her to chair the planning committee facilitating the House of Bishop's Service of Lament and Repentance for sexual abuse, exploitation, and harassment that was held during the 2018 General Convention. She has served on various committees, including as co-Chair of the General Convention task force for Building Community Across Difference and currently as Chair of the Committee for Safety, Wellness & Mental Health.

Before entering ordained ministry, Bishop DeDe had a successful career in education and business. As an educator, she taught in public and private schools, including two years working with inner-city at-risk youth in Los Angeles, California, and as adjunct faculty at the Virginia Theological Seminary from 2013-2016. In 1994, she and her husband co-founded a consulting firm, CA AeroComm Corporation, where she continues to serve as Vice President.

She holds a bachelor's degree in education from Stephen F. Austin State University, a master's degree in psychology from Pepperdine University, a Master of Divinity degree from The General Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in theology from The Graduate Theological Foundation, completed at Oxford University. She and her husband, Chris Probe, have three college-aged children. Bishop DeDe enjoys golfing, hiking, music, snowshoeing, tennis, pickleball, and the culinary arts.



## **The Rt. Rev. Bishop J. Scott Barker**

Bishop J. Scott Barker serves as the chief pastor of the 53 Episcopal worshipping communities planted across Nebraska's 77,000 square miles. He is a passionate follower of Jesus, committed to evangelism and personal patterns of discipleship that help nurture a deep life in Christ. Ordained as bishop in 2011, Bishop Barker "came home" to Nebraska after serving for ten years in the Diocese of New York. Born and raised in Omaha, Bishop Barker received a B.A. in Religious Studies from Yale College and an MDiv from Berkeley Divinity School at Yale. Upon ordination to the priesthood in 1992, he served in Omaha for the first ten years of his ministry.

In addition to his work as Bishop, Scott serves on the House of Bishops Planning Committee, the College for Bishops Board, the board of Dominican Development Group, and the board of the Bishop Kemper School for Ministry. He has previously served on the Virginia Theological Seminary Board, the Bishop's Court of Appeals, and the General Convention Program, Budget and Finance Committee. He is a board member of the River City Mixed Chorus, Nebraska's largest LGBTQ+ choir.

Bishop Barker is the co-author of several pieces of sacred music, an avid reader, a runner, a loving spouse, father, and (new!) grandfather.



## **The Rt. Rev. Daniel G. P. Gutiérrez**

Bishop Gutiérrez is calling for a different kind of church, where everyone feels welcome and at home. The diocese has achieved many goals, including incorporating the diocese and improving financial reporting. The diocesan offices have been relocated to better serve the community. Under Bishop Gutiérrez's leadership, ineffective programs have been discarded and new ministries have been initiated. The diocese is experiencing a resurgence in unity, ministry, communications, and service. Bishop Gutiérrez believes in the global ministry of the Anglican Communion and has formed partnerships with dioceses around the world. He sees the church as the foundation of a moral and loving nation. Before becoming a bishop, Gutiérrez had a successful career in The Episcopal Church and in public service, where he focused on rebuilding and growing churches. He also taught political consulting and marketing at the University of New Mexico.

## **The Rt. Rev. Daniel G. P. Gutiérrez -- Continued**

Throughout his career, Gutiérrez has served on numerous national boards and committees. He currently holds positions in various organizations that support the work of the Anglican Communion. He is also involved in social justice initiatives and serves on the boards of several charitable organizations.

Gutiérrez is proud of his native heritage and takes pride in his Indigenous and Mexican ancestry. He holds a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree in Public Administration. He also holds a diocesan certificate in Anglican Studies and a Master's degree in Theological Studies.

Aside from his work, Gutiérrez's greatest responsibility is being a father to his son Jude. He is happily married to his wife Suzanne Fletcher Gutiérrez, and they share their home with a variety of pets.

Bishop Gutiérrez invites everyone to join the diocese in their revolutionary mission to know Jesus and change the world.



## **The Rt. Rev. Robert Christopher Wright**

The Rt. Rev. Robert Christopher Wright is the 10th bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta. He was elected on June 2, 2012. His ordination and consecration as bishop took place on Saturday, October 13th of that year at The Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel on the campus of Morehouse College. He is the first African-American to become bishop of the Diocese of Atlanta which is comprised of 120 worshipping communities throughout middle and north Georgia.

Wright was born in a Roman Catholic orphanage in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and adopted at the age of nine months. After graduating high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served as helicopter crew-chief and search and rescue diver before attending Howard University in Washington, D.C. Wright graduated with a degree in history and political science and began working for the Children's Defense Fund and later for two mayors of Washington, D.C. as a child advocate.

He holds a master of divinity degree from the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria and was ordained a deacon in June 1998 at the Washington National Cathedral and later priest in February 1999 at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. He holds certificates from Ridley Hall, Cambridge University, Oxford University and The Harvard Kennedy School of Public Policy. He has also been awarded honorary doctorates from Virginia Theological Seminary, the School of Theology at Sewanee, The University of the South and the General Theological Seminary.

At the time of his election as bishop he was rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Atlanta, Georgia, where he served for 10 years.



## The Rt. Rev. Robert Christopher Wright -- Continued

Presently, Wright is a lecturer at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University, serves on the boards of Habitat for Humanity International, the Board of Trustees at the University of the South and is a Georgia Supreme Court appointee to a committee that reviews law and policies facing the youth of the state of Georgia.

He has previously served as a board member of St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire, The Rabun Gap Nacoochee School, The National Association of Episcopal Schools and was the former chair of the board of The General Theological Seminary.

Begun in 2020, Bishop Wright's podcast, For People, has listeners in 100 countries, over 5,000 cities, and has over 300k downloads. Wright has been named among the 100 most influential Georgians by Georgia Trend magazine and among the 500 most powerful leaders in Atlanta by Atlanta magazine.

He is married to Beth-Sarah Wright and they are the parents of five children.



The 81st General Convention will take place June 23 - 28, 2024 in Louisville, Kentucky at the Kentucky International Convention Center - at which point a new Presiding Bishop will be chosen.



# COMMUNITY NOTES

Being a part of Grace church means that we get to make a difference in the world - either through our participation with the MOSES and WISDOM project or caring for UW college students during the holidays, we strive always to bring Christ from the nave into the streets around us.

## Off the Square Club

Grace has the pleasure of welcoming the Off the Square Club into the space formerly used by the men's shelter.

Lutheran Social Services (LSS) - Off the Square Club is a daytime resource center for anyone living with a mental illness.

Professional staff, peer-support specialists and volunteers provide emotional support, vocational assistance and recreational opportunities to help change lives for the people they serve. At Off the Square Club you can receive a hot meal or access a computer to connect you with resources, recovery support or urgent crisis stabilization. Off the Square Club is trauma-informed and recovery-oriented, and many staff members are state-certified peer specialists who are in recovery from mental illness themselves.

The club is open Monday - Thursday, from 9 AM - 2 PM

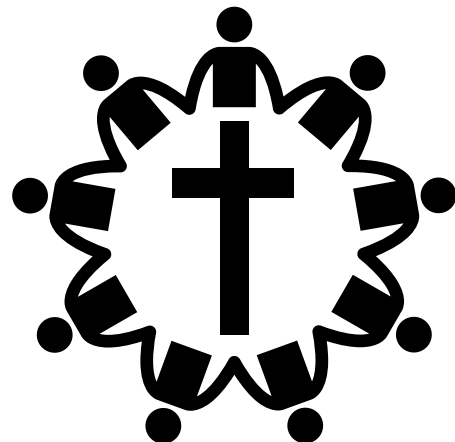
## Land Acknowledgement to the Ho-Chunk People

We honor and acknowledge the Ho-Chunk people, the traditional custodians of this land, and pay our respects to the Ho-Chunk elders, past, present, and future, who call this land on which we gather their home. We appreciate their wisdom, their culture, and their presence among us today as the host people of this land. We lament the injustices done to the original inhabitants and the injustices done to this land in the centuries since. We seek the courage and wisdom to heal the wounds of the past and build a better future together, in deep solidarity.



**The February/March MOSES newsletter is now available here.** There are also copies on the literature table at the back of the church along with the latest MOSES yearbook. The newsletter contains a profile of the newest MOSES member: The Crossing Student Ministry, located on University Avenue. You can also read news about the lockdowns at several Wisconsin prisons and a move to end life sentences without possibility of parole for juveniles.

If you would like to learn more about MOSES, get in touch with Margaret Irwin [mbirwin@charter.net](mailto:mbirwin@charter.net) or Thomas Smith [papalevi@yahoo.com](mailto:papalevi@yahoo.com).



# COMMUNITY NOTES

## *Creating a More Just Society*

REV. MARGARET IRWIN

### **Creating a More Just Community working group, part of the Lenten Appeal for Mission and Outreach.**

In 2013, an advocacy group for children of color produced a report called Race to Equity on the effect of racial disparities in Dane County. Many white people were shocked by the findings, although I'm sure people of color were not.

The report came to the attention of the Rector's Guild here at Grace. At the end of a discussion, Jane Henning demanded: What are we going to do about it? Her question was answered in part by the formation of the Creating a More Just Community working group.

Some of the activities this group has sponsored are:

- a series of lectures on the issue of racism in Madison
- sending Christmas cards to jail residents
- collecting winter jackets for those released from jail in cold weather
- an interactive educational series entitled: When the Diagnosis is Racism

We also joined MOSES, a faith-based advocacy group in Madison. MOSES focuses on ending mass incarceration and supervision and the racial disparities in our community that contribute to over-incarceration. Much of the work of MOSES is outside the spotlight, since it involves making systemic changes rather than giving direct aid - for example, attending school board meetings, county board meetings, testifying at committee hearings in the state legislature, and making calls to legislators. You can learn more about MOSES's work from the yearbook and the latest newsletter available on the literature table or digitally. Also see MOSES News in this issue.

Last year, an updated Race to Equity 10-Year Report for Dane County was issued. Although some areas of improvement were noted, there is still much work to be done. In the Creating a More Just Community group we are reading and discussing the three themes of the report: economic well-being, health, and education, with a view to finding where we can make a difference.

We would appreciate your financial support for the CMJC. We're also looking for new members. If you would like to learn more, speak to the Rector or Margaret Irwin.

## *March MOSES News - MOSES Project*

### **Quality Literacy Curricula for Children**

The Racial Justice for All Children task force has been focusing on improving reading ability for all children. As part of this, it has called on MOSES members to support high-quality literacy programs based on the science of reading in a letter-writing campaign to the Wisconsin legislature's Joint Finance committee. This nationwide movement--which has received bipartisan legislative support--arises from the widespread use of scientifically discredited teaching methods that are especially harmful for children from disadvantaged backgrounds. Support letters reaffirmed last year's decision to mandate high-quality curricula only, rather than a more expansive "minimum standards" list offered by the Department of Public Instruction. You can read more about this issue [here](#).

### **Treatment Instead of Prisons for Mentally Ill People**

Wisconsin law currently supports diversion from jail or prison to treatment programs for people with Substance Abuse Disorder, but not other mental illnesses. WISDOM and MOSES have advocated for expanding eligibility for diversion to other mental illnesses. This advocacy had overwhelming bipartisan support in the Wisconsin legislature, but speaker Vos blocked a vote on the bill. Advocacy continues. You can read more [here](#).

### **End the Lockdown**

MOSES and WISDOM members continue to advocate for an end to the inhumane lockdown in Wisconsin prisons due to staff shortages. A 14-minute interview with WISDOM staffer Mark Rice provides a great deal of information. [Capitol Chats with WISDOM re Prison Lockdowns](#)

You can read [Gamaliel's Annual Report for 2023](#). Gamaliel is the nationwide parent organization of MOSES and WISDOM.

Please contact Margaret Irwin  
[mbirwin@charter.net](mailto:mbirwin@charter.net) or Thomas Smith  
[papalevi@yahoo.com](mailto:papalevi@yahoo.com) if you would like to learn more about MOSES.



**MOSES Spring “Lunch and Learn” Fundraiser**

**Wednesday, May 15, 2024**

***Registration Deadline May 10th***

***[Registration Link](#)***

**“How Jails and Prison Fail Women: What Is a SAFE House?” Presented by Delilah McKinney of EXPO**

**11:15 am-1:30 pm**

**Box Lunch and Presentation**

**\$35 Registration fee**

**Location: Lake Edge Lutheran Church**

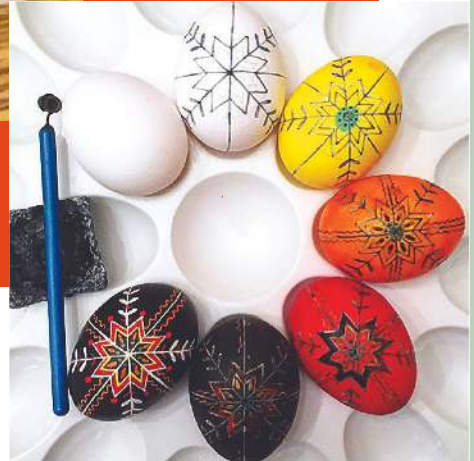
**4032 Monona Dr., Madison**

*Delilah Mckinney will speak about aspects of women’s incarceration and how these issues need to be addressed and resolved. She will explain how a grant was received for a SAFE House and why a SAFE House is an important resource for women returning from jail or prison. She will describe what makes a SAFE House successful. There will be a very brief video tour of the new home. Delilah will share her experience as a peer support specialist and as a woman of the Oneida nation.*



***Registration QR Code***





## Parish Life Committee Hosts Ukrainian Egg Workshop: A Celebration of Tradition and Craftsmanship

On Saturday, March 16, the Parish Life Committee hosted a captivating two-hour Ukrainian Egg Workshop led by Alice Pollock, a former art teacher and St. Aidan's Episcopal Church member. The workshop immersed participants in the ancient art of decorating Easter eggs using a wax-resist method.



ARTICLE BY PAT WERK  
PHOTOS BY MARY PRIOR AND PAT WERK



The fourteen workshop participants were engrossed in the process, discovering a new appreciation for the craftsmanship and intricate designs on the Ukrainian eggs. While many agreed that creating these eggs would take practice over time, they also found joy and satisfaction in the experience.



The intricate process involves applying melted wax to the raw or blown eggs in delicate designs and then dipping the egg into different colored dyes, layer by layer. With each new layer of pigment, the vibrant colors build up, creating a stunning effect. Once the final dye layer is applied, the wax is gently melted off to reveal the intricate design underneath.







Pat Werk, a committee member, brought several sample Ukrainian eggs from her egg collection to showcase the beauty and complexity of the craft. With their meticulous designs and vibrant colors, these eggs inspired and were a testament to the skill and patience required to master this art form.

The workshop was a fun and creative activity during this Lent season, celebrating the tradition and beauty of Ukrainian culture.



# Parish Life Committee Goes to Overprint at the Bartell Theater

On March 10th, 16 members from Grace Church attended a sold out performance of Overprint at the Bartell Theatre. The play was a modern workplace story of a talented book editor in a failing department. It was a Rom-Com with a touch of embezzlement thrown in. It featured an ensemble cast including Sarah Whelan, who recently presented to the Rector's Guild.



The show was very entertaining and well acted. Following the play, 5 of us went to SASS for fellowship and dinner. This was a truly lovely way to spend the afternoon, seeing a play and getting to know each other better.

ARTICLE BY OLWEN HANSEN-BLAKE

# Insightful and Fun Day at the Introduction to the Enneagram Workshop

The Parish Life committee teamed up with Christ Presbyterian, another downtown church, to host an Introduction to the Enneagram workshop on April 20. Certified Enneagram trainer Rich Henderson guided us through an interactive day, teaching us about the 9 Enneagram types and how they influence our motivations and behaviors. This fun and insightful workshop helped us better understand ourselves and navigate our relationships with friends and family.



ARTICLE BY PAT WERK

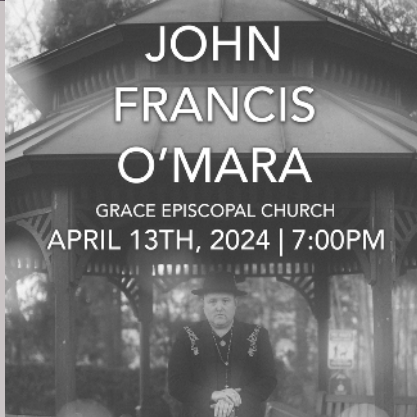




John Francis  
O'Mara: Local  
Priest and  
Internationally  
Known Singer  
Songwriter Plays  
at Grace



"A RARE WRITER OF  
GREAT SONGS ABOUT  
REAL STUFF. RARE  
ENOUGH TO FIND  
THESE DAYS."  
ARLO GUTHRIE



"RIPE WITH THE  
HONEST QUESTIONS  
WE USED TO OCUNT  
ON GUYS LIKE BOB  
DYLAN AND JOHN  
PRINE TO SERVE UP"  
THE PHILADELPHIA  
INQUIRER



PHOTOS BY KENN  
JESCHONEK





# A Mother's Day Concert

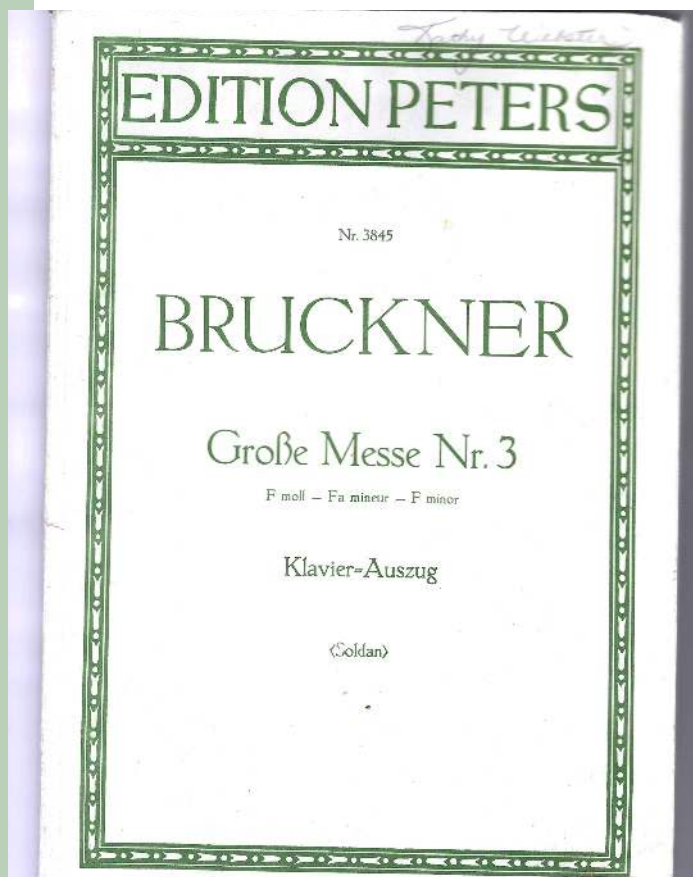
In 1964 Jim Kriewald was the choirmaster and organist at Grace. He was pursuing a PhD in historical musicology at UW Madison. Each September he scanned the incoming classes (I was in the Glee Club) and recruited folks to join the Grace choir. In those days the choir sat behind the altar and was relatively hidden from the congregation, which allowed for a lot of non-church behaviors.

The sound of choir and as Jim used to say, "balance, blend, precision, intonation, and diction were very much like it is now, i.e., a great sound. It was a fun group to be part of. Jim demanded and received a quality level of performance from the musicians with whom he was engaged. He felt we were concert-ready and he decided to put on Mother's Day concerts. In the latter 1/2 of the 60s. We performed four works over several Mother's Day Sundays (which also aligned with Whitsuntide).

The works included three masses, Mozart #39 in C Minor, Bruckner's F Minor, Schubert's E Flat Major and the Gloria by Francis Poulenc. The choir was accompanied by a small orchestra, again, consisting of music UW School of Music majors. Most of the singers were amateurs except for the soloists, who were section leaders in the choir.

Vinyl records were made and distributed. I have lugged those records with me (they look like I have led a rough life). I have had the ambition to digitize them for a number of years. Gregory Taylor was able to digitize and clean them and Berkley dressed them up and made links to the choir's website. Now we are able to make them available to you and I am able to tick a box that has been on my To Do list for a long time.

Below are links to three very beautiful pieces of music performed by the Grace Church choir. We certainly hope you enjoy them and that you continue to share the music with others.



[Grace Episcopal Madison WI Bruckner Mass No3 In F Minor.mp4](#)

[Grace Episcopal Madison WI Poulenc Gloria.mp4](#)

[Grace Episcopal Madison WI Schubert Mass No6 In Eb Major v2.mp4](#)

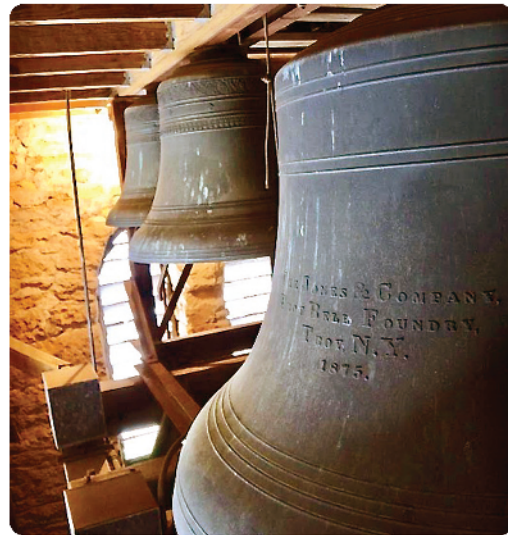
ARTICLE BY STEPHEN WEBSTER

# UPCOMING PARISH LIFE EVENTS

Join us at coffee hour

Sunday, June 16

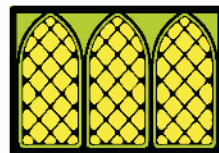
## Ice Cream Sundaes and a Tower Bell Concert



Our Bell Tower houses a 23-bell carillon. They peal after services, special feast days, and in celebration at weddings. They toll the age of the deceased at funerals and play hymns during the farmer's market in summer.

Now the Parish Life Committee is excited to sponsor a Bell Tower Concert on Sunday, June 16, following the 10:00 a.m. service. Renowned Grace organist Mark Brampton Smith will perform.

Everyone is invited to the Guild Hall for a “make your own ice cream sundae” before heading outside to enjoy the bell concert. Attendees are encouraged to bring folding camp chairs from home for seating during the performance.



Parish Life  
Event

# UPCOMING PARISH LIFE EVENTS

**Join us Saturday, June 15**

**Breese Stevens Field, 917 E Mifflin St.**

## Madison Forward Soccer Game

Forward Madison FC is Madison's professional soccer team. Since 2019 they've played home games at Breese Stevens Field and their current roster of players are from twelve countries. If you haven't seen them play, here's your chance!



We will join the Pre-Game Party at 5:30, with unlimited food, soft drinks, and yard games. Then on to grandstand seating to enjoy the game at 7:00. Kids under five are free, 5-17 are \$10 (subsidized by Parish Life), and adults are \$35 (\$41 with beer).

**Save the date!**

**More information coming soon.**



**Parish Life  
Event**

# A WORD FROM THE PRESIDING BISHOP

## *On 10,000+ dead in Gaza: Stop the killing*

PRESIDING BISHOP CURRY

November 7, 2023

You may know me as the pastor who is always talking about love, and I am. But today I am mindful that the urgency of love—true, sacrificial love that respects all of humanity—is not just a good feeling, and it is not easy. We are called to a love that demands much from us. We are called to a love that tells the truth.

Today I raise my voice for love because more than 10,000 people have died in Gaza, including more than 4,000 children. The violence is horrific, and the geopolitics are complex, but my call to love is simple: Stop the killing. Stop all of it. Stop it today.

We will not be silent while an entire population is denied food, water, electricity, and fuel needed to run hospitals. We cannot stand by while thousands of civilians die. Our partners in the region tell us they live in terror—that they feel they have died even while alive. They feel that the international community is tacitly sanctioning the killing of civilians and the bombing of schools, hospitals, and refugee camps. Staying quiet in this moment would be a stain upon our souls and would deepen our complicity. U.S. leadership must tell Israel to stop bombing civilian areas and allow access for full humanitarian aid to flow freely into Gaza.

Every human child of God—Palestinian and Israeli—deserves safety and security. We need to stop the killing. Today.

Vengeance will not bring back the dead. Retaliation will not repair the harms and the hurt. We are called to love, even and especially when it seems impossible.

We must stop the next 10,000 from being killed. As Episcopalians, we must call upon our leaders—President Biden, members of Congress, and others—to be unequivocal that we need to stop the killing. Today. This is clearly what love demands of us.

*Editor's Note: As of April 25th there have been a reported 42,510 Palestinian deaths, including at least 15,700 children. There have been a reported 72,7600 injuries. The Gaza Strip has 1.7 million Palestine refugees. - <https://www.unrwa.org/where-we-work/gaza-strip>, <https://reliefweb.int/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/200-days-military-attack-gaza-horrific-death-toll-amid-intl-failure-stop-israels-genocide-palestinians-enar#:~:text=The%20Israeli%20army%20has%20killed,missing%20and%20are%20presumed%20dead>.*

The following is an ongoing list of Episcopal Church resources relating to the ongoing conflict in Gaza. It will be updated as further information and resources become available.

Call for a Ceasefire Now -

<https://www.votervoice.net/EPISCOPAL/Campaigns/108728/Respond>

We urge you to lift your voices and strongly urge the President and your representatives in Congress call for a humanitarian truce, as voted for by the United Nations General Assembly.

Help Save Lives in the Holy Land - We condemn in the strongest possible terms Hamas's brutal and unjustified attack against Israeli civilians, and now we note with grave concern the catastrophic and worsening situation in Gaza. Please urge your members of Congress to push for the creation of a humanitarian corridor into Gaza to allow urgently needed food, water, medical supplies, and fuel to vulnerable people.

<https://www.votervoice.net/EPISCOPAL/Campaigns/108223/Respond>