

DIRECTORY

GRACE CHURCH

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Grace Notes Articles
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VESTRY

Wardens:

Bill Hogan, Class of 2015
Kathryn Calame, Class of 2015

Clerk:

Pam Freeman, Class of 2016

Treasurer:

Cathy Shanks, Class of 2014

Members:

Lynda Boissey, Class of 2015
Evelyn Garzetta, Class of 2016
Jean Hayes, Class of 2014
Lynn Kasin, Class of 2014
John Lacey, Class of 2014
Richard Lucal, Class of 2016
Beth Willis, Class of 2016

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Matthew Calkins,
Rector

calkins@gracemillbrook.org

Cindy Schmoke, Secretary

Dr. Peter Muir, Organist and
Director of Music

David Swift, Facilities Manager

John Lacey, Lisa Lacey, and
Betty Rae Nittiskie, Sunday
School Coordinators

Evelyn Garzetta, Director,
Grace Latino Outreach (GLO)

Abby Nathanson, Director
Engaging people in Change
(EPIC)

TASK FORCES AND PROGRAMS

Outreach:

Chair: Robin Capers

Latino Outreach:

Chair: Evelyn Garzetta,
Kathryn Calame, Walter Car-
dette

Fundraising:

Robin Capers, Brenda
deMartine, Pam Freeman,
Janelle Styles

Lay Server Schedulers:

Joan McGilvray, Evelyn
Garzetta

Hospitality Committee:

Lynda Boissey, Evelyn
Garzetta, Jean Hayes,
Katherine Mustello, Betty Rae
Nittiskie, Hollie Sturges

Finance Committee:

Barney Calame, Larry
Graham, Cathy Shanks

Stewardship Committee: Lin-
da Hogan, Lynn Kasin, Beth
Willis

Buildings & Grounds:

Denis Freeman, Bill Hogan,
Ron Mustello, John Rudy, Joe
Garzetta

ALTAR GUILD

Jean Hayes,
Directress

Susan Quigley,
Flower Chairperson

Betty Rae Nittiskie,
Secretary

Grace Notes



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Grace Church, Millbrook, NY

RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS

THE REV. DR. MATTHEW CALKINS

Everyday Epiphanies

Happy New Year. But don't forget it's still Christmas through January 5th. Christmas season officially ends on Twelfth Night—a good excuse for a last Christmas party, complete with Figgie Pudding and a chorus of “We Three Kings.” Then comes Epiphany on January 6th—the beginning of a new liturgical season that lasts until Lent, which start this year with Ash Wednesday on March 1.

Epiphany means a showing (*phanos*) from above (*epi*). Like the star that led the magi to Bethlehem. Like the voice from above that spoke to Jesus as he rose from the water of Jordan River. Picture God speaking in a deep baritone as light breaks through the clouds.

But, it seems to me, God more commonly speaks through smaller epiphanies and a range of voices. Jesus himself was one such different voice of God, the voice of a brother and friend rather than father and sovereign. He sang in a different key than the law and the prophets. Throughout the Epiphany season selections from the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) will be read as our gospel portions. Listen with fresh ears to the familiar words this year. Where and when will this “kingdom of heaven” of which Jesus speaks come to earth?

(Continued on page 2)



In signs and seeds it is already among and within us. Look and listen for “God-sightings” in your day-to-day encounters. “Moments of Grace”: episodes, encounters which speak of a better world than the one which pure self-interest serves to create. A world in which the better angels of our nature reveal through ordinary acts of kindness and generosity what the kingdom of heaven is like (they work like parables). Consider sharing those during our “moments of Grace” time in church. Conspire to inspire.

Consider training yourself to get better at listening and looking for such signs of God’s kingdom. As with any other skill, practice helps. We are all novices when it comes to prayer. Learn from others and from the ancient masters by coming to discussion groups between services, Wednesday evening classes, or through guided study—I am happy to help. The Bible can be daunting read alone—but read it through this year in the Bible Challenge (see biblechallenge.org for more information) and share online or in class with others. Tradition calls the Bible the Word of God for a reason—it is inspired and continues to inspire through the Holy Spirit.

And finally, go out and practice being a Christian in the world. What does it mean to be a Christian anyway? Find out by doing. Adopt for this new year the high and noble resolution to consciously follow the Way of Jesus, the way of self-giving love. This is counter-cultural in a world where doing so is far from obvious or expected or even welcome; indeed you may at times be met with bafflement or scorn. Rejoice then. For that’s just what happened to Jesus. Ah, now I see the light.

See you on Sunday,
Matthew+



Beginning January 8th – the 7:30 service will move to 8 am

Annual Meeting January 29th, 2017 11:15 am Parish Hall

Mark Your Calendars for our Annual Meeting on January 29th, 2017. This is an important meeting during which we will say thank you to outgoing vestry members, vote on new vestry members, take a look back at the past year and look at the coming year as well as the budget.



Next Presentation:

January 22nd - Needlework Guild/Altar Guild Presentation 12 noon

- Barbara Lindsley, Connie Kinsey, Robin Capers, Jean Hayes, speakers
- Church

Future Presentations:

February 19th - Rectors and Wardens 12 noon

- Rev. Elliott Lindsley, speaker
- Parish Hall

March 19th - Race and Grace 12 noon

- David Greenwood, speaker
- History of slavery in this area; there is a file on the Abraham Lincoln window;
- Present information on Charlie Johnson and Jonathan Daniels
- Parish Hall

April 23rd - Music and Grace 12 noon

- Peter Muir, speaker

- To highlight history of organ and music program
- Church and Choir Room

May 21st - Past and Prologue 12 noon

- Rev. Matt Calkins, speaker
- Parish Hall

June 11th - Episcopal Visitation and Benediction 10 a.m.

- Visit from Bishop and Confirmation
- Church and Parish Hall
- Refreshments

Stewardship at Grace

Thanks to all those parishioners who participated in our pledge activities this past Fall. And, thank you to those who generously filled out and submitted their pledge cards giving us a better idea of what financial resources are available to Grace Church in 2017.

There is still time to pledge your support for our upcoming new year. You will find pledge cards in the back of the church. If you have any questions about pledging or how your financial support helps Grace Church, please speak to Fr. Matt.

Stewardship Committee:

Linda Hogan, Chair
 Lynn Kasin
 Beth Willis
 Fr. Matt Calkins

A Changing of the Guard

Our beloved Parish Secretary Maria Galli is retiring after 29 years of faithful service. She has been a graceful presence to all who have called or walked through the office door. This will be the last time she prepares our Christmas leaflets, orders our supplies, enters the accounts, sets the office in order. So sometime this December make it a point to stop by the office and tell her how much you appreciate her quiet contribution to this place and people. Without her, it won't be the same. Thank you, Maria, with all our heart, for your faithful service!

Since nobody can replace Maria, we are reconfiguring the parish administration position. The new part-time position of office manager/communications coordinator will handle administration, communication and worship preparation responsibilities. Financial administration will be handled by our Facilities and Financial Administrator David Swift.

Our new office manager and communications coordinator is Cindy Schmoke. Cindy may be familiar to you from her work as office manager for local dentists, Drs Nicoletti and Feit. She will take those organizational skills and add them to her prior experience of running a large religious education program at St Martin de Porres. She loves small children and dogs—good thing for Zoe! Cindy will be working with maria for a week or two in December and then taking over the reins in January. Let's all make her feel welcome.

Retirement Open House

There will be a Retirement Open House for Maria Galli on Saturday, January 14th in the Parish House from 4 to 6 pm. All are invited.

Please RSVP to Robin Capers at somerscapers@aol.com so we have some idea how many people to expect!

Office email: The new email address for the Parish Office is office@gracemillbrook.org

Cindy's Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 am—2 pm

RenewalWorks

On January 10th a team of 12 members of Grace will join teams from other congregations in our diocese to learn more about a spiritual vitality program called RenewalWorks. Developed out of the experience of thousands of congregations from many denominations, and tailored for the Episcopal Church by the Rev. Jay Sidebotham, the RenewalWorks program offers participating congregations a well-tested tool for analyzing and improving the spiritual vitality of a congregation.

The analysis is based on a Spiritual Life Inventory—an online survey that be made available beginning the week of January 22 and remain open for 3 weeks. We hope a high percentage of our members will take the 45 minutes or so necessary to fill out the SLI. This will enable the RenewalWorks staff, a part of Forward Movement, to provide an accurate and in-depth analysis of our current state of spiritual practices—such things as worship, prayer, Bible study, volunteer work—and how we understand ourselves in our journey to follow Jesus and grow closer to the heart of God.

The team from Grace, led by Kathryn Calame and Evelyn Garzetta, will spend the next few months meeting in four workshops that unpack the research behind RenewalWorks, look at our congregation's profile resulting from the SLI, and then propose next steps to deepen and grow our community's life of faith and service.

Please join the team in filling out the Spiritual Life Inventory when a link is sent to you by email, and pray for Holy Spirit to inspire and renew our faith us so that we may grow in Christ. If you would like to learn more and be part of the core team, please contact Fr. Matt or Kathryn Calame.

Calendar and Prayer Cycle

January 2017



Sunday Service Schedule:

8:00 Holy Eucharist
 8:45 - 9:00 Rector's Forum
 10:00 Family Service & Holy Eucharist
 - Sunday School 11 am - 11:35 am

Weekday Services:

Healing Service: Wednesdays at 10 am
 Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:45 am
 Caregivers Support : Thursdays at 1 pm
 ESL: Thursdays in Parish Hall / Fridays
 in Choir Room: 6 – 9 pm

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
New Years Day 1 <i>DeFrank</i>	2	3	4	5 6 pm ESL	6 3-5 pm Food Pantry 6 pm ESL	7
8 am New Service Time 8 <i>Fellows</i>	9	10	11 7-8:30 pm Adult Ed	12 6 pm ESL	13 3-5 pm Food Pantry 6 pm ESL	14 4-6 pm Maria's Retirement Open House
15 <i>Graham</i>	16	17	18 7-8:30 pm Adult Ed	19 6 pm ESL	20 3-5 pm Food Pantry 6 pm ESL	21 <i>Hammond</i>
Noon Needlework/Altar Guild Presentation 22 <i>Hayes</i>	23	24	25 6:30 pm Women of Grace	26 6 pm ESL	27 3-5 pm Food Pantry 6 pm ESL	28 <i>C. Kinsey</i>
11:30 am - 3 Lunch Box 29 <i>R. Kinsey</i>	30	31				
	<i>Kolessar</i>	<i>Kolts</i>				

EPIC

Hey Grace family! As we begin 2017, I'm so grateful to be a part of EPIC and other ministries here at Grace Church that are so life-giving and transformational. Never a dull moment, and usually quite exciting and meaningful ones. This month, we have a letter from Joelle about what being in the EPIC group means to her. To get in touch with Joelle and other EPIC members, please call (845) 420-4280. Thank you! peace, Abby

Hi, my name is Joelle and I am one of the founding members of EPIC (Engaging People In Change). I came to EPIC from RMM (Rural Migrant Ministries), another great organization that leads people to get involved in the community.

When members share their first moments at EPIC, everyone always says how their parents dragged them out the house to a youth leadership program in Millbrook and that they ended up loving it. I can't say it was the same for me. From the start of 9th grade, I've always wanted to be a part of something bigger and effect change. EPIC has allowed me to be aware of social injustices in my community with a very diverse group of people that I don't think I would have met outside of EPIC. I'm always grateful when I get to try new things and I'm happy that we're starting our second year!! So, I guess I've always loved the idea of EPIC and am proud to represent it in the things I do.

New Adult Education Class

Behold the Beauty of the Lord: An Introduction to Praying with Icons
Taught by the Rev. Dr. Matthew Calkins
2 Wednesday evenings: January 11 and 18, 7 to 8:30 pm in the Parish Hall

Used for centuries as an aid to contemplative prayer and devotion, religious icons have been called "windows into eternity." They are a foundational element of worship in the Orthodox tradition, with roots in the Egyptian desert fathers and mothers, the monks of Mount Athos in Greece, and a flowering in imperial Russia. We will also consider some modern, non-traditional icons, such as those on display in the Parish Hall by Fr. John Guiliani that feature familiar roles but use Native American models. A book by Henri Nouwen, *Behold the Beauty of the Lord* will be provided as a resource. Join Fr. Matt for this two-week introduction to an art of spiritual transcendence.

Support Needed

Please Support One of Our Pre-School Families who are experiencing a devastating illness while trying to care for a young child. It is a call at this time for extra hands, not financial support, although both would be appreciated. Please see and share the link below, and direct any questions Maureen Sarma at maureenatgrace@gmail.com.

The Guarnieri-Holohan Family Fund by Betsy Howie - GoFundMe
https://www.gofundme.com/gk6c946w?viewupdates=1&utm_source=internal&utm_medium=email&utm_content=body_photo&utm_campaign=upd_n

Grace Latino Outreach (GLO)

ESL CLASSES:

ESL classes in Amenia and Millbrook are in need of bilingual volunteer instructor(s) for basic level classes; and non-bilingual for advanced students. Please contact Evelyn Garzetta at evelynelizabethgarzetta@gmail.com if you or someone you know wishes to volunteer. The commitment days are Thursdays and Fridays from 6:00 PM until 9:00 PM.

GRANTS:

GLO applied for the Basic Human Grant through Episcopal Charities. We have had a visit from an advisory board member. Results and amount of the awarded grant should be announced in January of 2017.

The Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation Grant Northeast Dutchess Fund contract with GLO is historically signed each January.

EVENTS:

The 'Grace Latino Outreach 2016 Fourth Annual Thanksgiving Celebration Dinner' was an amazing event. It was held the Monday of Thanksgiving week (as is the tradition now). Cecile Acerbo, GLO Coordinator her daughter Samantha and I were in the kitchen at 8:30AM cooking and setting-up for the event. There were 10 turkeys, yams, roasted potatoes, broccoli, green beans, stuffing, soft drinks, pies and a turkey decaled sheet cakes were enjoyed by all. This year we had 90 people in attendance. We had volunteer servers for which we are very grateful!!! The clean-up crews which consisted of many helping hands were wonderful and allowed us to leave before 10:30 PM!!

Our speaker this year was Maffy Malaver of ABCLatino/GET presenting how to start your own business. We've had many inquiries regarding this presentation from the Latino Community.

Respectfully,
Evelyn E. Garzetta
Director
Grace Latino Outreach

Masjid Al Noor

As part of Grace Church's renewed involvement with Dutchess Interfaith Council, and to promote better understanding between religious groups, Grace Church, together with Masjid Al Noor in Wappingers Falls, is sponsoring an opportunity to tour their mosque, followed by a question and answer period. This will be a unique opportunity to view another beautiful house of worship, as well as learning about their traditions. Please plan on joining us for this special event on Sunday February 19th at 1:00 pm.

If you are interested in attending, please sign up so we can let them know how many attendees to expect. Sign-up sheets will be posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex, as well as in the Parish. Transportation and carpooling can be provided if interested (plan on leaving Grace Church at 12:15).

Out of respect for their religious tradition, it would be best for women to wear pants, or long skirts, and to have a scarf covering your head while we are inside the prayer rooms in the mosque.

Mid-Hudson Islamic Association
Masjid Al Noor
125 All Angels Hill Road
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Reminders:

Caregivers Support Group – Every Thursday from 1 to 2 pm in the Parish Hall.

Lunch Box – Last Sunday of each month (except December). Let John Lacey know if you are willing to serve, email lacey_clan@msn.com.

Sunday School News

“Children are not the church’s future, they are its present.” Father Matt

We began December 2016, by participating in the Millbrook Parade of Lights. While we were a small group, we were mighty....especially with Father Matt and Zoe!

For the month of December, we practiced for the pageant, which was on December 18th. What a great time; heartwarming and a great way to remember what Christmas is really all about. Many thanks to Dawn Galente, The Lacey Family, Jonathan Shanks and the Youth Group and all the children and parents who have assisted in the preparations! After the pageant, we had a lively hot chocolate and sweet treats hour for the children and parish members.

We are looking forward to resuming Sunday School Classes on January 8th, which will also be our first Family Sunday of 2017!

Betty Rae Nittiskie

Let Go Thy Fretting

A poem by Dorothy Knapp

I will not fear the future
Nor be consumed with care
My Father goes before me
He is already there

So, soul, let go thy fretting
Raise heartfelt praise instead
Allow the Spirit's Presence
To renew you heart and head.





January 2017 Service Schedule (Revised)

If you are unable to serve, you are responsible for finding your own replacement. Schedule changes after the 15th will not be in Grace Notes. For any questions regarding the schedule, please call the Lay Server Schedulers, Joan McGilvray at 635-3021 (email bmcgilvray4@gmail.com) for the 7:30 service or Evelyn Garzetta at 518-789-0793 (email evelynelizabethgarzetta@gmail.com) for the 10:00 service. Thank You!

	<u>January 1</u>	<u>January 8</u>	<u>January 15</u>	<u>January 22</u>	<u>January 29</u>
<u>7:30 am Service</u>					
Usher		Kyle Van De Water	Maurice Neville	Betty Rae Nittiskie	Jean Hayes
Reader		Elliot Lindsley	Valerie LaRobardier	Kathryn Calame	Elliot Lindsley
Chalice		Beth Willis	Brenda deMartine	Valerie LaRobardier	Beth Willis
Coffee Hour		Cathy Shank	Karen Whitton	Brenda deMartine	Betty Rae Nittiskie
<hr/>					
<u>10:00 am Service</u>					
Usher 1	Lori Whiteley	Susan Quigley	The Rudy Family	The Garzetta Family	The Ball Family
Usher 2	Emily Grasseler	Paula Wilson			
Reader	Lori Whiteley	Marian Thompson	Paula Wilson	Lynda Boissey	Jane Meigs
Acolyte	Steve Bryant, Ben Lacey	Sally Ball	Samantha Muller	Graeme Styles	Sophie Lucal
Chalice 1	Lisa Lacey	ML Ball	John Lacey	Jane Meigs	Lynda Boissey
Chalice 2	Barbara Rudy	John Lacey	Ida Lueng	Lisa Lacey	ML Ball
Server 1					
Server 2					
Coffee Hour	The Rudy Family	The Kasin Family	Grace Latino Outreach	The Thompson Family	The Garzetta Family
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<u>Readings</u>					
First Reading	Numbers 6:22-27	Isaiah 42:1-9	Isaiah 49:1-7	Isaiah 9:1-4	Micah 6:1-8
Psalms	Psalm 8	Psalm 29	Psalm 40:1-12	Psalm 27:1, 5-13	Psalm 15
Epistle	Galatians 4:4-7	Acts 10:34-43	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	1 Corinthians 1:10-18	1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Gospel	Luke 2:15-21	Matthew 3:13-17	John 1:29-42	Matthew 4:12-23	Matthew 5:1-12



February 2017 Service Schedule

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	<u>February 5</u>	<u>February 12</u>	<u>February 19</u>	<u>February 26</u>
<u>7:30 am Service</u>				
Usher	Kyle Van De Water	Maurice Neville	Betty Rae Nittiskie	Jean Hayes
Reader	Elliot Lindsley	Katherine Calame	Valerie LaRobardier	Beth Willis
Chalice	Brenda de Martine	Valerie La Robardier	Beth Willis	Brenda de Martine
Coffee Hour	The Calames	Cathy Shank	Karen Whitton	Betty Rae Nittiskie
<hr/>				
<u>10:00 am Service</u>				
Usher 1	The Ball Family	The Garzetta Family	The Mustello Family	Susan Quigley, Paula Wilson
Usher 2	Ben Conklin			
Reader	ML Ball	Lynda Boisse	Dawn Galente	Joe Garzetta
Acolyte	Gus and Sally Ball	Steven Bryant	Ben Lacey	Bella Lucal
Chalice 1	Lynda Boisse	Lisa Lacey	Ida Leung	Jane Miags
Chalice 2	Barbara Rudy	John Lacey	ML Ball	Lynda Boisse
Server 1				
Server 2				
Coffee Hour	The Garzetta Family	The Kasin Family	Grace Latino Outreach	Sandy Podmanicz
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<u>Readings</u>				
First Reading	Isaiah 58:1-9a, [9b-12]	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	Leviticus 19:1-2,9-18	Exodus 24:12-18
Psalms	Psalms 112:1-9, (10)	Psalms 119:1-8	Psalms 119:33-40	Psalms 2
Epistle	1 Corinthians 2:1-12, [13-16]	1 Corinthians 3:1-9	1 Corinthians 3:10-11,16-23	2 Peter 1:16-21
Gospel	Matthew 5:13-20	Matthew 5:21-37	Matthew 5:38-48	Matthew 17:1-9