

Grace Church Chronicle

February 2020

Volume 34, Issue 2

To My Family of Grace,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May His light and love fill us all with such grace and peace that we will be able to reach out to all in His name.

Wow. What a year. Merger, growing in love and numbers, the Red Door getting going, losing some really great people.....it all added up to a year that just flew by. It was a whirlwind and our emotions were up and down the entire year it seems.

This letter will be very short because I really only have a few things to say:

I AM SO VERY THANKFUL TO GOD ALMIGHTY FOR EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU! I GIVE THANKS FOR EACH OF YOU IN MY DAILY PRAYERS.

There are times I get the enviable task of just standing back and watching while a lot of really good people from Grace “do their thing.” It is truly a blessing for me, and for anyone who also takes the time to witness such joyful exuberance in the name of our Lord Jesus. From the merger, to the pantry, to the Church School: Confirmation, concerts, fashion shows. Large turnout for the saying goodbye to beloved family members of Grace. Packed services and donations to help replace our organ. An incredible ECW and Altar

Guild. Outreach, Choir, Vestry, Strategic Planning, Ushers, Greeters, Readers, Acolytes, Ministers of Communion..... I could go on but I think you get how appreciative and in awe I am of EVERYONE in this incredible Family of Grace..

It would take about 5 sheets double-sided to list everyone who was such and continues to be such an inspiration. So let it suffice to say:

**THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH MY FAMILY OF GRACE!!
YOU ARE TRULY INSPIRATIONAL.
THANK YOU.**

Fr. Chip

Fr. Chip

The Danger of a Single Story

Please come and enjoy a showing of Chimimanda Ngozi Adichi's engaging and poignant TED talk, *The Danger of a Single Story* on **Wednesday, February 19 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** in the Great Hall. Ms. Ngozi Adichi is an award-winning novelist, short story writer, writing teacher and popular speaker. (Her fall 2019 in-person presentation as part of West Hartford Reads was sold out.) This talk, viewed by some fifteen million people, is one of the top ten TED talks in the country. In it, she shares some of her personal experiences of growing up in Nigeria and coming to the United States for College. With humor and wit, she looks at how biases develop when we have incomplete information and how power is used to limit our knowledge of others.

Ms. Ngozi Adichi graduated from Eastern Connecticut State University and then earned master's degrees from John Hopkins and Yale Universities. She divides her time between Nigeria and the United States. She has published numerous books, *Americanah*, about a Nigerian woman's experiences encountering issues of race in the United States, was listed as one of the ten best books of 2013 by the New York Times. In 2017, she was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

We will follow the 20-minute film with reflection, discussion, and refreshments.

For questions and to rsvp, please called the church office (860-688-1232) or email bonnie@gracewindsor.org

*The Racial Healing and Reconciliation Committee
Of Grace Episcopal Church*

ECW Quiet Day

Up to 20 People

Saturday, February 22
9 AM - 2 PM



Topic: *Retreat and Advance*

Speaker: Fr. Chip Elliott

Please contact: Joanne Roach to register at jrtoothfairy@aol.com or 860-688-8091.

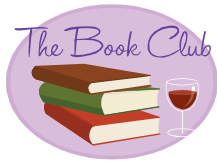
FundIt

You can buy FundIt gift cards through Carol Flanagan on Sunday mornings at Coffee hour or call her at 860-688-1141. There are a wide variety of cards to choose from.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

If you were born in February and your name is not on our list, please notify the Church Office, 688-1232.

Connie Hegarty, Yvette Ali, Tammy Girard, Pat Ould, Ken Roach, Jenny Hawran, Miriam Rogers, Chip LaClair, Linda Rickard, Muff Fowler, Bob Keating, Liam Blais, Pat Loucks



Grace Church Book Discussion Group

Date: February 25
Time: 1:00 PM
Place: LPH
Host: Ruth Kuziak
Book: *An American Marriage*
Author: Tayori Jones

Newlyweds Celestial and Roy are the embodiment of both the American Dream and the New South. He is a young executive, and she is an artist on the brink of an exciting career. But as they settle into the routine of their life together, they are ripped apart by circumstances neither could have imagined. Roy is arrested and sentenced to twelve years for a crime Celestial knows he didn't commit. Though fiercely independent, Celestial finds herself bereft and unmoored, taking comfort in Andre, her childhood friend, and best man at their wedding. As Roy's time in prison passes, she is unable to hold on to the love that has been her center. After five years, Roy's conviction is suddenly overturned, and he returns to Atlanta ready to resume their life together.

This stirring love story is a profoundly insightful look into the hearts and minds of three people who are at once bound and separated by forces beyond their control. *An American Marriage* is a masterpiece of storytelling, an intimate look deep into the souls of people who must reckon with the past while moving forward—with hope and pain—into the future.



Wednesday, February 26

Ashes to Go 12-1

Ash Wednesday service –

7 PM

Tip from the Planned Giving Committee

If you are 70½ and older, you might consider making any monetary contributions to the church in 2019 by direct payment from a traditional IRA to Grace Episcopal Church as part of your RMD (Required Minimum Distribution). By doing this, your gift may become a QCD (Qualified Minimum Distribution) and as such will not be taxed, even if you take the standard deduction rather than itemizing deductions. We recommend you check with your tax advisor, financial planner or IRA custodian before taking this step.

Katrina Woodhouse

(860) 966-3482

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Windsor, Connecticut
December 10, 2019
Vestry Minutes

Call to Order

Attendance

Present: Fr. Chip, Larry Young, Andrew Hutchinson, Karen Tiemann, Ken Roach, Bill Harvey, Allison Kelly, Marcia Hinckley, Deacon Denise, JoAnne McLeod, Mary Wyse, Carol Blais, Carol Devine, John Devine, Carole Worm, Susan Burgdorf, Deb Hutchinson, Robert Dynak, Lois D'Emmanuele, and Steve Bethke,

Absent: Ian Rickard, Max Kuziak, Chuck Drake, Lou Lamphear, Gail Ladany, Dixie Lamphear and Gabby Hutchinson.

1. **Opening Prayers**

The December 10, 2019 Vestry Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by The Reverend Harry (Chip) Elliott with an Opening Prayer.

2. **Additions/Deletions to Agenda**

No additions or deletions were made to the agenda.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the minutes, as written, from the November 12, 2019 Vestry meeting.

4. **Wardens' Reports**

No Wardens' reports were given at this time.

5. **Committee Reports as Needed**

a. Buildings and Grounds

i. Tuttle House Roof

Father Chip had nothing to report regarding the roof at this time.

b. Strategic Planning

Ken Roach reported that both subcommittees have met and have been assigned tasks to complete. Ken noted that there will always be tension between strategy and tactics. He said that the genesis of the Strategic Planning Committee came from Sister Lorraine's report. Ken stated that parishioners should concentrate on the sub goals because, in many respects, the broad goals can be misleading. We need to look deeper as we examine the goals.

c. Outreach

Deacon Denise stated that the ECW Holiday Craft and Bake Sale will take place on Sunday, December 15th. Project Santa will take place in the Great Hall from Dec. 12-17.

d. Stewardship

Father Chip presented Connie Hegarty's Stewardship report. She reported that we have reached the maximum return on pledge cards; 118 were sent and 84 were received with every previous pledger contacted. The Church gained 18 new pledgers: 14 from previous Broad Brook members and 4 new from Windsor members. The total amount now pledged is \$205,922. For the 2019 campaign, we had 71 pledges made for a total of \$189,687. Connie stated, 'We are grateful for this strong response reflecting a committed, enlarged Grace family.' The vestry heartily thanked Connie who, with the assistance of Miriam Rogers, planned and executed such a successful stewardship drive.

6. **Financial Reports**

Treasurer Larry Young distributed the financial reports. He stated that the Fund Balance Analysis and Cash Reconciliation Report shows the integrated monies obtained from the Grace Broad Brook merger. Larry stated that it is imperative that the vestry, in conjunction with the Finance Committee, have rules in place for the handling of the money going forward. Larry stated that the current members of the Finance Committee are Father Chip, Max Kuziak, Sam Hinckley, Bill Harvey and Larry. Carole Worm and John Devine said that they would like to join the committee.

Larry reported that the operating fund is up to \$19,000. However, that is because \$7000 was added from the Broad Brook checking account. Discounting that amount, the fund is currently down \$2000. Larry stated that the other Church funds are in good shape. He explained that the Food Pantry and the Rector's Discretionary Fund had not been included in the income portion of the report because they stand alone and do not receive budgeted money from the Church. Larry explained that the Church income is currently behind the budget. Several issues occurred that contributed to the shortfall including the rental of the Tuttle House and personnel issues.

Carole Worm discussed keeping the Broad Brook checking account active for the time being.

7. **Old Business**

a. Tuttle House

Father Chip reported that the Church School move will take place on January 4-5 with a snow date of January 11-12. He also stated that the house has been beautifully cleaned. The upstairs of the house has been painted and repaired. However, the downstairs of the house continues to need repairs; it was more damaged than the upstairs. The insurance claim has been submitted and the outcome looks positive. We could possibly recoup \$7000 which would include the damage to furniture and the rental of the dumpster. Larry stated that when we close the books on the Tuttle House rental, the Church should come out even.

b. Diversity Training

Marcia Hinckley said that the current committee consists of Marcia, Wendy Beebe, Max Kuziak, and Deb Hutchinson. All are welcome to join. The committee is planning an event to coincide with Martin Luther King's birthday. Wendy Beebe is working on a 'Diversi-tree' that will be on display and provide various resources for folks. Grace Church is collaborating with the Human Relations Committee of First Church and will be sharing expenses for a program that will be occurring on Sunday, Dec. 15th. The two committees will be meeting on Thursday to discuss plans and goals. A discussion took place about money to help with any expenses. Father Chip stated that any money for Diversity Training will be taken from the Ministry Budget.

c. Food Pantry Report

Carol Blais reported that the Pantry served 427 clients in November. This equated to 1107 household members receiving 9207 lbs. of food which made 7612 meals. The Pantry served 20 new people: 20 from Windsor, Hartford-6, West Hartford-1, and Bloomfield-2.

Carol also reported on the Thanksgiving Turkey Distribution totals. The Pantry distributed 105 turkeys/chickens and side dishes to 105 families. This equated to 1063 pounds of food which made 1635 meals. Carol noted that no Food Pantry money was used for this endeavor. All of the food distributed was free to the Pantry from Food Share. The Academy of Aerospace and Engineering

donated 6 huge turkey dinners for larger families. Members of the community donated three additional turkey dinners. The Pantry also distributed 15 turkey meals given by Representative Bobby Gibson to some of his needy constituents. The Pantry also provided support to the Windsor Police Department as they used the Grace Church kitchen to prepare Thanksgiving meals for 65 people living alone or in housing authority sites.

Carol stated that the Church School raised \$70 for the Pantry during Coffee Hour on December 1st; that brings the total donation by the children to \$120. The Church School has also put together bags of candy that will be distributed at the Pantry on Dec. 23rd. Geri Harvey's knitting/prayer group, Knit Together (Colossians 2:2) is donating over 100 sets of hats, gloves and scarves to Food Pantry clients for Christmas and Windsor Social Services has donated over 50 hats and scarves for distribution. Parishioners have also donated many warm clothing items for Pantry clients.

The Food Pantry will be open Monday, December 23rd and closed on Wednesday, December 25th and January 1st. The vestry thanked Carol, Geri Harvey and the Pantry volunteers for their tireless work in this valuable outreach ministry that is helping so many.

d. Condition Assessment/Accessibility Study

Father Chip stated that there is nothing new to report at this time.

e. Tabled Motion: Gravel

Because of the recent snowfall, gravel cannot be put down at this time. A motion was made to table the discussion concerning gravel to the January vestry meeting. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously. A discussion took place regarding possible landscaping of the back area.

f. Sweet Tooth

Father Chip reported that the Health Department examined the Church kitchen concerning the request by Nyeemah Hightower to use the kitchen for commercial baking. The department denied the request because the Church kitchen does not meet commercial standards.

g. Organ

Father Chip reported that the organ has been ordered and it could arrive by Friday. Mark Child has begun dismantling the old organ. The cost of the organ will be \$5489 which includes shipping costs. As of December 10, parishioner donations for the organ total \$5300. Currently, the Church is responsible for \$189 for the organ and the \$1000 payment to Mark for his time and work. Father Chip expressed his thanks to the generous parishioners of Grace Church.

8. **New Business**

a. Grace Broad Brook Minutes

A motion was made and seconded for former Grace Broad Brook vestry members to approve the Broad Brook minutes from the October 2019 meeting. The motion was voted on and it passed unanimously.

b. Thank you to ECW

Father Chip stated that the ECW graciously donated \$500 toward the cleaning of the Tuttle House. This amount covered half of the cleaning costs. The vestry is grateful for this generous donation by the ECW. Their continued support is deeply appreciated.

9. **Questions and/or Comments**

- Father Chip stated that the Holiday Potluck Luncheon was an incredible success. Over 100 folks attended the luncheon and 118 parishioners attended the Church service.
- The Annual Meeting will take place on January 19, 2020.
- The current vestry will remain the same for 2020.
- Father Chip spoke about the number of hours that Treasurer Larry Young spends working on the Church's finances. The vestry gave Larry a heartfelt round of applause in recognition of the countless hours that he spends on Grace Church business. We are all grateful for his tireless support and dedication to Grace Church.
- The Christmas Pageant will take place during the December 22nd service. There will be one service on Christmas Eve at 8:00 p.m. and no service on Christmas Day. A Service of Healing will take place at noon on Wednesday, December 18th.

10. Closing Prayer and Adjournment

With no further business before the vestry, Father Chip made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried, and Father Chip led the vestry saying the closing prayer and devotion.

JoAnne McLeod, Clerk

Red Door of Grace Food Pantry news...

The Food Pantry has received a request for skin/hand lotion and toothpaste.

We thank everyone who donated winter hats, scarves, sweaters and coats for our patrons, but we don't need any more donations at this time.

Due to the new software program required by FOODSHARE, our reporting system will be changing. Reports will be in the Bulletin once a month, and in the monthly Chronicle, and will include the previous month's totals. The biggest change is that each individual is counted only once per month, even if they come to the pantry four times that month. All totals in the future will be Year-to-Date totals. We began this system January 1, 2020.

Thank you,
Geri Harvey

January Food Pantry Totals:

Adults – 244

Kids Under 18 – 138

Seniors 65+ - 81

Total number of families – 244

Total Number of Meals – 6,763

Total Number of Pounds – 8,116



Volunteers are needed to help in the Food Pantry. Please see Geri Harvey or Carol Blais for more information or to volunteer.

February 2020

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|----------------------|---|---|--|--|---|--|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Rite II, 10 AM | 3 AA, LPH, 8 PM | 4 Lacrosse, 7 PM, LPH Scottish Dancers, GH, 7 PM | 5 Food Pantry, 3:30-6 PM | 6 Ballet, Gr. Hall, 4:30 PM Choir, Music Rm., 7 PM | 7 Grace Talk Discussion Group, Catacombs, 10 AM | 8 |
| 9 Rite II, 10 AM | 10 AA, LPH, 8 PM | 11 Vestry, LPH, 7 PM Scottish Dancers, GH, 7 PM | 12 Food Pantry, 3:30-6 PM | 13 Ballet, Gr. Hall, 4:30 PM Choir, Music Rm., 7 PM | 14 Grace Talk Discussion Group, Catacombs, 10 AM | 15 |
| 16 Rite II, 10 AM | 17 President's Day, office closed AA, LPH, 8 PM | 18 Scottish Dancers, GH, 7 PM | 19 Food Pantry, 3:30-6 PM The Danger of a Single Story - 6:30-8:30 PM - GH | 20 Ballet, Gr. Hall, 4:30 PM Choir, Music Rm., 7 PM | 21 Grace Talk Discussion Group, Catacombs, 10 AM | 22 ECW Quiet Day, 9-2 |
| 23 Rite II, 10 AM | 24 AA, LPH, 8 PM | 25 Book Disc., LPH, - 1 PM B&G Sub Comm. - 6:30-MR Lacrosse, 7 PM, LPH Scottish Dancers, GH, 7 PM | 26 Ash Wednesday: Ashes to Go - 12-1 Ash Weds service - 7 PM Food Pantry, 3:30-6 PM | 27 Ballet, Gr. Hall, 4:30 PM Choir, Music Rm., 7 PM Lacrosse, 7 PM, LPH | 28 Grace Talk Discussion Group, Catacombs, 10 AM | 29 Hall Rental - LPH - Sandstrom - 11 AM - 3 PM |
| | | LPH - Lower Parish Hall | GH - Great Hall | | | |

March 2020

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|--|------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1 Rite II, 10 AM | 2 DFAW - 2-4 PM - LPH AA, LPH, 8 PM | 3 Lacrosse, 7 PM, LPH Scottish Dancers, GH, 7 PM | 4 Food Pantry, 3:30-6 PM | 5 Ballet, Gr. Hall, 4:30 PM Choir, Music Rm., 7 PM | 6 Grace Talk Discussion Group, Catacombs, 10 AM | 7 Hall Rental - LPH - Ramsuy - 12 PM - 4 PM |
| 8 Rite II, 10 AM | 9 AA, LPH, 8 PM | 10 Vestry, LPH, 7 PM Scottish Dancers, GH, 7 PM | 11 Food Pantry, 3:30-6 PM | 12 Ballet, Gr. Hall, 4:30 PM Choir, Music Rm., 7 PM | 13 Grace Talk Discussion Group, Catacombs, 10 AM Toastmasters - GH - 5:30 - 9 PM | 14 |
| 15 Rite II, 10 AM Baptism of Sadie Fink | 16 AA, LPH, 8 PM | 17 Scottish Dancers, GH, 7 PM | 18 Food Pantry, 3:30-6 PM | 19 Ballet, Gr. Hall, 4:30 PM Choir, Music Rm., 7 PM | 20 Grace Talk Disc. Group, Catacombs, 10 AM Windsor Club, 6-9 PM, LPH | 21 |
| 22 Rite II, 10 AM | 23 AA, LPH, 8 PM | 24 Book Discussion, LPH, 1 PM Scottish Dancers, GH, 7 PM | 25 Food Pantry, 3:30-6 PM | 26 Ballet, Gr. Hall, 4:30 PM Choir, Music Rm., 7 PM | 27 Grace Talk Discussion Group, Catacombs, 10 AM | 28 South Park Inn |
| 29 Rite II, 10 AM | 30 AA, LPH, 8 PM | 31 Scottish Dancers, GH, 7 PM | | | | |
| | | LPH - Lower Parish Hall | GH - Great Hall | | | |



Grace Episcopal Church
311 Broad St.
Windsor, CT 06095

Grace Episcopal Church

www.gracechurchonthegreen.org
gracechurch@gracewindsor.org

Rector: Fr. Harry "Chip" Elliott
frchip@gracewindsor.org

Parish Administrator: Bonnie Yosky
bonnie@gracewindsor.org

*To share and extend to others
our experience of God's love
through worship, education,
fellowship and service.*

Sunday Worship 10 AM

Sunday School 9:45 AM

860-688-1232

Dates to Remember

- Tuesday, February 11 – Vestry, LPH, 7 PM
- Monday, February 17 – President's Day, office closed
- Saturday, February 22 – Quiet Day, 9 AM – 2 PM
- Tuesday, Book Discussion, February 25, LPH, 1 PM
- Wednesday, February 26 – Ashes to Go on the Green 12-1; Ash Wednesday service, 7 PM

If there is news you feel should be included in the Chronicle, please let Carol know by e-mailing your announcement to: carol@gracewindsor.org

Please submit any information for the Chronicle by the 15th of the month.