

# Grace Notes – January 2017

## Grace Episcopal Church, Woodlawn

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**The Rev. Robyn E. Arnold, Rector**  
**The Rev. Judy Neil, Deacon**

### CALENDAR

**January 1: The Holy Name**

*January 6: The Epiphany*

**January 8: The First Sunday after Epiphany**

**January 15: The Second Sunday after Epiphany**

**January 22: The Third Sunday after Epiphany**

**January 29: The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

#### Every Week at Grace Church

**Christian Formation** -Sunday at 9:00 am  
**Principal Mass** -Sunday at 10:30 am  
**Low Mass** -Tuesday at 7:30 am  
**Evening Prayer** -Wednesday at 5:30 pm  
**Confessions** -Saturday at 9:30 am  
-By appt. with the Rector

#### Every Month at Grace Church

**Vestry** -Second Sunday at 12:30 pm  
*Jan 8 this month*

**Episcopal Church Women** -Fourth Sunday at 12:00 pm  
*Jan 22 this month*

### ONGOING ACTIVITIES

**English as a Second Language Class** meets each Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm in the church library. All are welcome, including native English speakers.

**Nar-Anon Family Group** meets every Monday at 4:45 pm. Meetings are open: all family members or close friends of an addict are welcome.

**“Seekers” Lunch Group** meets every fourth Sunday (Jan 22 this month) at 1:00 pm. See below for details.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, January 15: Annual Parish Meeting.**

**Sunday, January 15: The Catechumenate** will begin with a short introductory session in the Grace Library at 2:00 pm. Subsequent sessions will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Any newcomers who are curious about the history, polity, liturgy and theology of the Episcopal Church are encouraged to attend; however, everyone is welcome. - *For questions, please contact the Rector.*

*Note: Because the season of Epiphany is so long this year, we will be able to schedule around the Seekers Lunch and still fit in all of the Catechumenate sessions.*

**Sunday, January 22: Seekers Lunch Group** will meet at The Abbey at 1:00 pm. The topic will be, “The Bible in the 21st Century: Are Biblical texts relevant in a modern context and, if so, how?” All are welcome!

*Note: We continue to meet at The Abbey because of the quiet atmosphere. Most restaurants are too noisy for serious discussion; however, suggestions for other suitable venues are welcome. Please contact the Rector.*

**Friday-Saturday, February 17-18: The Diocesan Convention** will be held at the Sheraton downtown. Volunteers are needed to help with registration, welcome and hospitality, and with set-up of the meeting and worship spaces. - *If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Rector.*

### UPDATES

**Advent Quiet Day:** An enthusiastic group of parishioners met at the Birmingham Museum of Art on December 10 for Grace’s fifth annual Advent Quiet Day. Thanks to Joyce Bennington, attendees enjoyed a very special gallery tour and talk on "Changing Depictions in Christian Sacred Art: An Historical Explanation." Lunch followed at Rojo on Highland Avenue.

**Grace by Day Christmas Party** was held on December 14 in Branscomb Commons. Thank you to all of the members of Grace who baked cookies for the party. A special thank you to those who set-up on the day of the event, prepared and serviced the refreshment tables, and cleaned up after the party (Rheagan Alexander, Nate Darville, Suzanne Lee, and Tessa Smith and four members of her staff). - *Joyce Bennington.*

### REMINDERS

If you have not yet returned your **Pledge Card for 2017**, please do so as soon as possible. Planning for the year is much easier if we have an accurate budget.



#### Grace Church Vestry Members

John Carpenter, *Senior Warden*  
Kay Williams, *Junior Warden*

Tessa Smith - Bettie LeGrande  
Greg Brinks - Don Evans  
Magaly Reyes - Mary Holt  
Eric Nalvarte