

# GRACE CHURCH IN NEW YORK

## THE WEEKLY EPISTLE

### Epiphany II at Grace~ 17 January 2010



Dear Friends,

Earlier this week as *The Tonight Show* debacle was unfolding, Conan O'Brien expressed his justifiable anger in a letter that he addressed to the "People of Earth." O'Brien's letter is both well done and amusing, the latter of which comes through in his overstated salutation. Clearly, the professional trials of a late night comedian do not warrant the "People of Earth's" attention. But every so often a situation occurs that does call for the "People of Earth" to take notice. As you all well know, last Tuesday an earthquake of 7.0 magnitude leveled Port-au-Prince, the capital city of Haiti. Haiti was already the poorest country in the Western hemisphere with a fragile infrastructure supporting its population. Now even what was there is crumbled, fifty-thousand are likely dead, hundreds of thousands more wounded, and perhaps millions are homeless. It is a nightmare of staggering proportions.

As you may recall, we have a Grace Church connection to Haiti. On November 8, 1874, James Theodore Holly was the first African-American to be consecrated bishop in the Episcopal Church. The service occurred in Grace Church, and Bishop Holly served the missionary district of Haiti for the remainder of his fruitful ministry. The diocese that he helped establish is the same one that will now be called upon to bury the dead, comfort those who mourn, and help people rebuild their lives.

People of Earth - People of Grace Church - they need our help. Please pay attention to the announcements below and the flyer at the end of the Weekly Epistle. Episcopal Relief and Development will be the agency we work with to send assistance to Haiti. We will also have special ERD envelopes in the bulletin on Sunday for a collection. Please be generous.

The Rev. J. Donald Waring,  
Rector

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#### 9:00 a.m.

##### The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

##### Sermon: The Rev. Linda Bartholomew

Music: The Parish Choir

Nursery care for children ages 0-3

Sunday School for children at 9:00 a.m.

#### 11:00 a.m.

##### Morning Prayer and Sermon

##### Sermon: The Rev. Linda Bartholomew

Music: The Adult Choir

Nursery care for children ages 0-3

Sunday School for children during the sermon

#### 6:00 p.m.

##### The Holy Eucharist, Rite II in the Chantry

Sermon: The Rev. Linda Bartholomew

Music: Hymns with piano, instrumentalists

#### SUNDAY:

**SENDING HELP TO HAITI** - Please note the bulletin insert (at the end of this email) from Episcopal Relief and Development. ERD is the Episcopal Church's arm for sending emergency assistance around the globe. It is highly effective and operates with very little overhead. Please consider a generous gift, according to the instructions on the insert. In coming weeks we will also have a specially marked bin in the narthex to receive non-perishable food items to send to the collection center in the Diocese of New York.

**MORNING ADULT EDUCATION** - The Rev. Linda Bartholomew, our preacher of the day, will lead a Bible Study and discussion based on the Scripture lessons we will hear in worship (Isaiah 62:1-5, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, and John 2:1-11). 10 am in the Reception Room. Coffee is served. Come join us.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** - All children ages 4-8 are welcome to attend. At 9 am, parents should drop their children off at the classrooms near Tuttle Hall. Children then rejoin their parents in time to receive Communion together. At 11 am, parents and children begin together in the church, and children follow the crucifer to their classes during the sermon. 11 am Children will return to the church this week in time to receive Communion with their parents.

**NEWCOMERS** - Newcomers meet each week in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room at 10 a.m. If you are new to Grace and looking for a way to learn more about the Episcopal Church and connect with other parishioners and clergy, these conversations will be an excellent way to do so.

**CENTERING PRAYER GROUP** meets at 5 pm in the Third Floor Conference Room.

**EVENING ADULT EDUCATION** - Tonight we continue the sessions entitled *Conversations with Scripture*.

Immediately following the 6 p.m. Eucharist, we meet in the Reception Room for refreshments. Then from 7:30 - 8:00 p.m. the preacher of the evening will facilitate a deeper look at the Scripture lessons that we heard in worship.

#### THIS WEEK:

**BACH AT NOON** - The organ compositions of Johann Sebastian Bach are played between 12:20 - 12:50 p.m. every Tuesday through Friday.

**CHORAL EVENSONG** with the Junior Choristers on Tuesdays, 6 pm, when Grace Church School is in session. Resumes this week, January 19.

**THE WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** meets each week at 10:15 am in the Reception Room. Newcomers are always welcome.

**WEDNESDAY SMALL GROUPS** - The next round of Small Group Bible Studies will begin on Wednesday, February 3. Small Groups are an excellent way to connect with other people at Grace Church, and connect with Christ himself, who promises to be in the midst of two or three who gather in his name. For more information, contact the Rev. Benjamin Thomas at [bthomas@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:bthomas@gracechurchnyc.org).

#### FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES:

##### **INTRODUCING THE GRACE CHURCH YOUTH COUNCIL**

- We are currently forming a group of high school youth who have fresh ideas for Grace Church's youth group. This is a committee of youth, for youth. If you are a high schooler looking for a way to get more involved at Grace, this is a great opportunity to lend yourself to the community! We will meet the last Saturday of every month. Our first meeting is Saturday January 30th at 12pm in Maura's office. Lunch will be provided. Talk to Maura for more information!

([mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org) 212- 254-2000, ext. 113

##### **CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING**

- The first Children & Youth Committee meeting of the year will take place on Sunday January 24th at 12:30pm in the 3rd floor conference room. We will be discussing spring programming and ways we can continue to strengthen Grace's family ministry. If you are interested in the committee, please contact Maura Hooper for more information.

## **YOU CAN STILL SEE OUR CHRISTMAS**

**PAGEANT** that was live-streamed on the Episcopal Church Center's website on Christmas Eve. Go to: [www.episcopalchurch.org/advent2009](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/advent2009) and enjoy the friendly beasts, the spinning angels, and the birth of Jesus all over again.

## **PARISH LIFE:**

**KINGSLEY ERVIN** - A memorial service for Kingsley Ervin, Headmaster of Grace Church School from 1977-1994 and parishioner of Grace Church will be held in the church on Friday, January 29, 2010.

**VESTRY NOMINATIONS** - The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following slate of persons to be voted on at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 7. For a second of three two-year terms as Junior Warden: SARAH COGAN. For a second three-year term: WENDY PELLE-BEER. For a first three-year term: KATHLEEN MURPHY, COLBERT CANON, AND DOROTHY MITCHELL (Dorothy is currently filling an unexpired term). Many thanks to the Nominating Committee, to those who made suggestions, and to those who have agreed to stand for election.

**THE 202<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING** of Grace Church will be held in Tuttle Hall on Sunday, February 7 immediately following the 11 a.m. service. A delicious lunch (for which there is a \$5.00 per person suggested donation) will be served. Reports will be given by the Nominating Committee, the Treasurer, the Head of Grace Church School, the Senior Warden, and the Rector.

**20s/30s SUPER BOWL PARTY**- Join us on Sunday February 7th at 6pm to watch Super Bowl XLIV at the Blind Pig! Meet us at the sports bar, located at 233 East 14th St between 2nd and 3rd Ave, for food, drink, and football. The 1st Sunday brunch will be moved to the following Sunday, February 14th, due to the parish meeting on February 7th. For more information on the Super Bowl party and other 20s/30s activities, contact Maura Hooper at [mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org) or 212-254-2000, ext. 113.

**GIVE TO GRACE ONLINE** - Our website is now capable of receiving online donations through all major credit cards. Make payments on your annual pledge, adopt a pipe, support outreach and music, put flowers on the altar, help restore the building all through our secure connection. Go to [www.gracechurchnyc.org](http://www.gracechurchnyc.org) follow the links.

## **2010 ANNUAL PLEDGE CAMPAIGN**

### **WHAT DOES YOUR FINANCIAL PLEDGE DO?**

Consider the following. Your annual pledge: Says a tangible "thank you" to God for all the blessings of your life, Supports the GO Project, a tutoring and social service program for 300 at-risk, public school students and their families, Keeps the church building open seven days a week for anyone who wants to come inside, warm-up, pray, rest, or meditate, Grows a resilient and reasonable faith in people of all ages through our ambitious music program and Christian education classes for children and adults, Spreads the good news of Jesus Christ through our presence and worship services, and Employs 12 full-time and 5 part-time people.

**MANY THANKS** to everyone who has so far made a financial pledge in support of the Lord's work through Grace Church in the year 2010. So far 202 households have pledged for a total of \$755,632. Unfortunately, we have fallen behind where we need to be. The Vestry has passed a budget for 2010 in confidence that we will reach our goal of \$900,000 in pledges (last year was \$912,000). Drawing down the endowment is not an option, and will not occur. If you haven't yet made a financial pledge, now is the time to do so in order to avoid further, painful cuts to an already austere budget. If you make a pledge, remember: you can pay it off in 52-weekly installments, and you can now give to Grace Church online. Please contact Joe Manzella at [jmanzella@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:jmanzella@gracechurchnyc.org) for more information.

**THANKS FROM THE GO PROJECT** - The GO Project gives thanks to Grace Church for 41 wonderful years of support. Thanks to the generosity of Grace Church, the GO Project has grown to serve over 300 children year round and provides them with the opportunities to succeed. We are proud to report that: On average, GO students gained 4 months in reading and math over the course of the summer program. 98% of students passed the New York State Math and Reading tests- students all tracked to fail when they entered our program. Over 90% of graduating GO fifth graders attended their top choice middle school. Thank you to Grace Church for your commitment to the GO Project. Together we are creating a brighter future for our community's children.

**ADOPT A PIPE!** - You can help build the new Grace Church organ by "adopting" a pipe to commemorate or honor a loved one, or celebrate a significant occasion in your life. A special parchment suitable for framing will be sent to the person you designate, and a permanent record will be kept at the church that this particular part of the instrument bears the name you choose. Brochures are available

**SCALE MODEL** - A magnificent model (1/20 scale) of the Grace Church chancel, showing the Bicentennial Organ, will be on view in the Honor Room. Stop by and peer into the future of Grace Church!

**SCAFFOLDING** - The scaffolding in the south transept represents the next phase of restoring the interiors of Grace Church. Over the next few months workers will be assessing the condition of plaster, stained glass, and stone, and making necessary repairs. This work is possible thanks to all those who have contributed to the Bicentennial Capital Campaign.

**A CALL FOR HOSPITALITY** - The baked goods and other delicious nibbles that bless our after-service fellowship times are the gift of parishioners who volunteer to bring them. For anyone who wishes to participate in this much needed ministry of hospitality, please visit bulletin board to the left of the ladies room door. please visit the board and sign up for the service of your choice and the hospitality committee will be in touch with you shortly!

**BAPTISM** - The next date for Baptism is Saturday evening, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Easter Vigil, and Sunday, May 23, at the 11 am service. Please arrange your family plans around one of these times, and contact Ted Pardoe at [tpardoe@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:tpardoe@gracechurchnyc.org).

## **OUTREACH:**

**FIRST-MONDAY OUTREACH:** On the first Monday of each month, the Outreach Committee is seeking to build a community of people concerned about those who are homeless and hungry. The next meeting is Monday, February 1, at 6:30 pm we will begin in the church for a brief prayer service, and then move to Tuttle Hall for a light supper and sharing of options for serving the poor in New York City and beyond. Please use the Parish House entrance and arrive by 6:30 pm. Bring some cans of food for our food collection if you can do so. Call Linda Bartholomew for more information 212-254-2000, ext 114 or RSVP to [outreach@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:outreach@gracechurchnyc.org)

## **ODDS AND ENDS:**

**ARE YOU OUT OF WORK?** Or do you know someone who is looking for work? The US Census Bureau has asked us to remind people that they are currently interviewing for temporary full and part time positions with hourly rates between \$13 and \$20. Call 866 861-2010 for more information, or go to [www.2010censusjobs.gov](http://www.2010censusjobs.gov) to take a practice test.

**PRAYER LIST** - If you would like to have a name added to the prayer list, please email Bill Nave: [bnave@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:bnave@gracechurchnyc.org) or 212-254-2000, ext 100 by Tuesday. Names will be read during the services for four weeks unless notified otherwise.