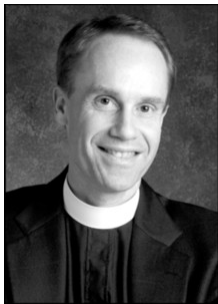


## The Weekly Epistle

### The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany + January 31, 2010



Dear Friends,

It's Friday morning as I write this. In just a few hours a large number of people will gather in the church to give thanks for the life of Kingsley Ervin. Kingsley was a parishioner of Grace Church, a member of the Vestry, and most notably the Headmaster of Grace Church School from 1977-1994. Although he retired ten years before I came as Rector, I did have the pleasure of meeting him once, and I know that it was during his tenure that the school component of Grace became amazing. Can you guess what one of the hymns will be at the service?

In order for us to have the service, certain workers in the church will need to take a break from their doings. This week in the north transept the finishing touches to the Harold Barrett memorial are being added. Harold was the Rector of Grace Church from 1980-1991. I remember Harold well because he was the Rector was I was a seminarian here during the academic year of 1988-89. He was always willing to take however long it took to talk through a sermon idea, or review one that I'd given. It was a great gift to me. The stone panel with his name and favorite Scripture verse inscribed is designed to match two other memorials also in the north transept. The new panel looks very white compared to the others, and that is because the others are very dirty. We plan to have the others cleaned as part of the overall restoration to the interior of the church.

Wherever you are today, I hope you will pause and give thanks to God for these two bright lights of Grace Church, who served the Lord in their day with wisdom and skill: Kingsley Ervin and Harold Barrett. Pray that their example of Christian witness might inspire your own.

I hope to see you Sunday.

The Rev. J. Donald Waring, Rector

**9:00 a.m.**

**The Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

**Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring**

**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. J. Donald Waring**

**Music: The Girls Choir with Adults**

*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. J. Donald Waring**

**Music: Hymns with piano, instrumentalists**

#### **SUNDAY:**

**MORNING ADULT EDUCATION** – “Proclaiming the Gospel in a Changing Church” is the title of a two-part series that will be led by our seminarians, Matt Holcombe and Josh Saxe. Matt and Josh are co-producers of a DVD that examines the new methods that various churches are using to proclaim the Gospel in a time of sweeping cultural change. The class will include clips from the DVD and discussion. 10 am in the Reception Room. Coffee is served. Come join us for Part Two.

**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. Parents collect their children in Tuttle Hall during the coffee hour.

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

**EVENING ADULT EDUCATION** – 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 EVENSING** with the Junior Choristers on Tuesdays, 6 pm, when Grace Church School is in session.

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

#### **SMALL GROUPS FORMING**

The next round of Small Group Bible Studies will begin on Wednesday, February 3 with an introduction to the Gospel of Luke. 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).

**WHY DID LUKE WRITE A GOSPEL?** The Rev. Benjamin Thomas will answer this and many other questions about the Gospel according to Luke on February 3. Anyone interested in learning more about Luke's unique theological perspective is invited to attend an introductory lecture which will be held in Tuttle Hall from 7:00-8:00 p.m. At the end of the lecture, there will be an opportunity to join a small group which will continue the conversation about Luke in the following weeks. Questions? Contact [bthomas@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:bthomas@gracechurchnyc.org)

#### **FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES:**

**PARENTS' NIGHT OUT** - The first Parent's Night Out of 2010 is on Friday February 5th at 6:30pm. Bring your child to Tuttle Hall for games and dinner while you take the night off to enjoy yourself! RSVP to Maura Hooper at [mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org) or 212-254-2000, ext. 113.

**YOUTH ICE SKATING TRIP** - Join us on Saturday February 6th for a youth group ice skating trip to Rockefeller Center! If you're in 7th-12th grade, come along for an afternoon of skating fun before the winter's over! We will meet at the 802 entrance to the church at 11am. Bring money for skate rental!

#### **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!

**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.

## **PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION:**

**YOUTH** - Registration for youth confirmation is now open. Classes will meet on Wednesdays beginning on February 17th. Confirmation this year will take place on Sunday May 9, 2010. If you are interested in being confirmed, contact Maura Hooper for more information at [mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org) or 212-254-2000, ext.113

**ADULTS** — Any adult wishing to delve more deeply into the Christian faith is welcome to attend an inquirer's class beginning Sunday, February 21, 10:00 am in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room. The class will be discussion based and led by the Grace Church clergy. For those wishing to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church when the Bishop visits on May 9<sup>th</sup>, this is the class to attend. For more information, contact Ted Pardoe at [tpardoe@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:tpardoe@gracechurchnyc.org) or Benjamin Thomas at [bthomas@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:bthomas@gracechurchnyc.org).

## **PARISH LIFE:**

### **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 CANNON, 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 202nd 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

## **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

Save the date of Tuesday February 16th! Celebrate Mardi Gras with us at our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 16th at 6:30pm in the Grace Church School Dining Room. There will be crafts, music, dancing, and of course some good cookin'! If you can volunteer to set up, cook, or clean up talk to Maura Hooper at [mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org) or (212) 254-2000 x.113. See you there!

### **SECOND ANNUAL JUNIOR CHORISTERS CONCERT**

On Sunday afternoon February 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m. the combined Junior Choristers of the Boys' and Girls' Choirs will offer their second annual concert. Dr. Barry Rose will be the guest conductor for this exciting afternoon of music for soprano voices. Come support the juniors and their families as they offer some of their favorite selections. There is no cost to attend this concert.

### **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 211 households have pledged for a total of \$806,613. 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.

**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 3rd 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:**

**SENDING HELP TO HAITI** – Information flyers and envelopes from Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) are available outside the parish office, in the narthex of the church, and in the chantry. 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. Make checks payable to Episcopal Relief and Development, mark "Haiti" in the memo line, and mail it in using the envelope.

**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 tomorrow, 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)

**NEW ORLEANS RELIEF** - Our annual New Orleans Katrina relief mission is scheduled for May 1-May 8, 2010. We have room for 25 volunteers in our reserved housing, and plane reservations have already been booked. The slots are filling quickly, but there is still room for people who are willing to spend the week helping New Orleans residents try to rebuild their lives. All of the Grace parishioners who have volunteered for this mission in the past have expressed that the trip is extremely enriching and rewarding. We would like to give everyone a chance. For more information, contact Mike Watson at [mwatson@michaeltwatson.com](mailto:mwatson@michaeltwatson.com). You can also attend an informational meeting this Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 pm in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room.

### **ODDS AND ENDS:**

**ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES** are once again available for the 11 a.m. service. Ask an usher and he or she will be glad to assist you.

**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.