

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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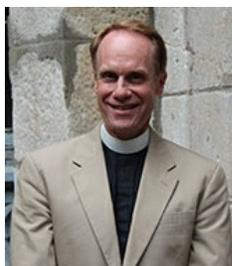
The NEXT Epistle E-news will be the September 10th Welcome Back Sunday issue.

LIFT UP THINE EYES:

**STRENGTHENING
GRACE CHURCH
FOR FUTURE
GENERATIONS**

Thank you to all who have

AUGUST 2017



Dear Friends,

If all has gone according to plan, this edition of the Grace Church Epistle has arrived in your inbox on August 1st, and I will be on vacation. Over the next few weeks we'll be doing some traveling to visit family and friends. On Sundays I look forward to being a visitor in churches wherever we find ourselves, sitting with Stacie, James, and Luke in a pew, and being a liturgical civilian. Then at the end of the month we'll be packing up James and taking him to Lafayette College in Easton, PA, where he plans to study mechanical engineering. Even though I will be away, my thoughts will not be far from Grace Church and all the good things that are happening in our household of faith. Let me review some of the many moving pieces.

First, the capital campaign - *Lift Up Thine Eyes* - has been a tremendous success. If you recall, when we began working with the Episcopal Church Foundation to explore a campaign, the feasibility study indicated that an appropriate goal for us would be \$2.6 million. Our consultant added that we might mention a stretch goal of \$3 million, but the risk of doing so would be the potential discouragement of not reaching it. Conventional wisdom suggested that we emphasize the base goal. Well, over the years I have discovered that the people of Grace Church love a challenge! The fact is we blew right past our base goal and as of today the campaign stands at \$2,950,000. We are inches away from the finish line, with many of our households still considering their commitment. Last week we sent a final appeal to all of our

made a pledge to our capital campaign. We are amazed by the outpouring of support from the congregation for this important work. Because of your generosity, we are now closer than ever to our stretch goal of \$3 million **with only \$50,000 left to raise.**

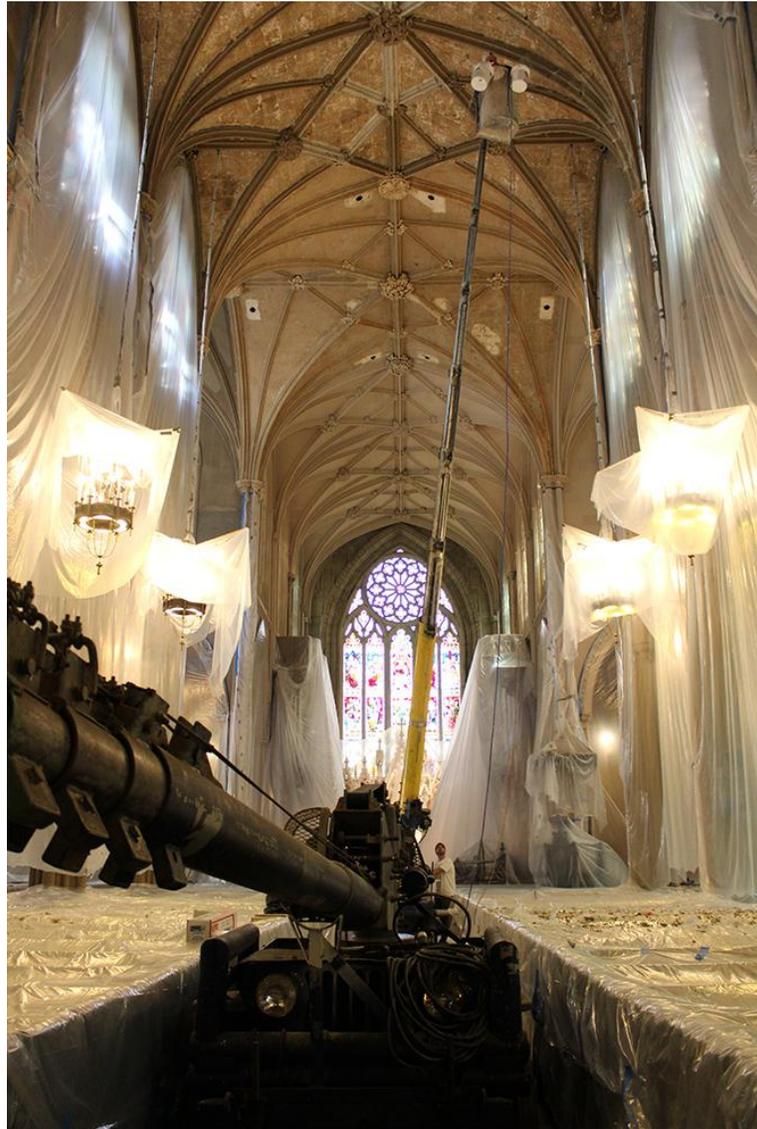
So far, we've heard from 118 households who have made a meaningful commitment to the *Lift Up Thine Eyes* campaign. We're encouraging the entire congregation to prayerfully consider a pledge to secure the continued vitality of Grace Church and her ministries. Every gift of every size is welcome.

Help do your part. Contact James Romanik [here](#), or at 212-254-2005, with any questions. Please click [HERE](#) to watch a video and learn more, or

[Donate HERE.](#)

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY & GRACE CHURCH...
UPDATE! House to be finished by end of August!**

parishioners who have yet to respond. If everyone participates with a generous gift we will do more than meet the challenge goal. We will surpass it. If you haven't made a pledge or a gift to the campaign, you don't need to wait for the conventional mail. Click [here](#) and do so online.



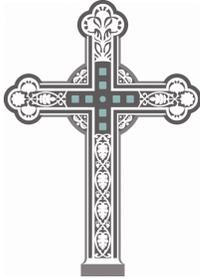
Second, the work in the church. As you know, the purpose of the campaign is to fund two critical pieces of restoration: the church ceiling and the endowment. The plan called for a budget of \$2 million for ceiling repair, and whatever we could raise above that figure would go back into the endowment as a partial repayment of what we borrowed from ourselves five years ago to install the Bicentennial Organ.

Earlier this year, as we were working out the scope of how much restoration we could compress into one summer, we suffered the sudden death of our Facilities Manager, Peter Hogden, who was himself the point person for these details. Unfortunately, in our shock and sadness, one portion



AUG 12, AUG 26
NEXT BUILD DATES
DETAILS AT RIGHT...

*Please pray
for...*



those who suffer

John Hill
Mark Jennings
Partap Basdeo
Kristin Whitehurst
Josephine Ferraiuolo

*and those who have
died*

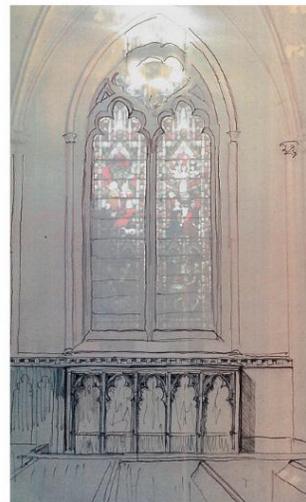
David Morgan

of the scope that had been cut remained in our thinking and indeed made it into the campaign materials. It was an oversight that many eyes, including my own, should have caught, but did not. Specifically, I refer to the scraping and painting of the north transept ceiling. While we have stabilized the plaster there so that all is secure, the only thing we won't be able to accomplish in this one section alone is the final visible touch. To press on and do so now would cause us to miss two important goals that we must achieve: reopening the church on time, and making a meaningful repayment to the endowment. We are choosing to stay on time and on budget. So come September, what you will see is the full length of the high ceiling fully restored and painted: from east to west, from the altar to the Broadway door. But what you will also see is that the north transept ceiling still awaits scraping and painting. It will be another project for another day - or another summer, as the case may be.



The north transept ceiling is to the right.

Finally, something else you will see when the church reopens is the columbarium. In the July Epistle I wrote about the columbarium, so you can learn more about it by clicking [here](#). Also, we've included some early architectural sketches of how it will look in the west aisle of the south transept next to the small door that leads into the chantry. The good news on this front is that not only will the unit containing the niches be installed by late September, the surrounding plaster of the transept aisle will be restored and painted as well. The benefit here is that at some point in the future, when we have the will and the way to take on another phase of interior restoration, this one section will already be done.



That's enough for now. I wish for you a blessed and restful remainder of the summer. See you in September!

[The Rev. J. Donald Waring](#)

Rector

This Sunday

August 6th

The Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ

9 a.m., 11 a.m., & 6 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Martha S. Korienek

To find additional service information,

*please visit www.gracechurchnyc.org,
updated weekly.*

ALL SUNDAY SERVICES – HELD IN THE CHANTRY FOR THE SUMMER – Due to the restoration of the church ceiling, the 9 and 11 am services will relocate until September 10. For consistency's sake, all services will be Holy Eucharist. Morning Prayer will return to the 11 am service on September 10.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is on recess for August, returning on September 10.

TIME TO REGISTER FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL! Children ages 4–12 (grades PreK–7) are invited to join our faith formation program on Sunday mornings beginning September 10. If you have a new or continuing student, please request a registration form from Father Chase [HERE](#). More details under "EVERY SUNDAY," below.

THE REV. DEACON RICHARD LIMATO, a longtime member of Grace Church and newly ordained deacon in the Diocese of New York, will be joining our summer clergy team during the months of July and August.

Coming Soon

AUG 12, AUG 26 – UPDATE! HABITAT FOR HUMANITY "HOUSE THAT GRACE BUILT" – NEARLY COMPLETED!

Our rehabilitated house in Queens is slated for completion by the end of August 2017! Please join us for one of the last 2 Saturday build days on this project: Aug 12, Aug 26. On Aug 26th younger volunteers (aged 14+) may sign up to participate in finishing touches such as painting. Please visit the [website](#) [HERE](#) to sign up. And check back often for updates on our next Habitat project, located in Manhattan and starting in September

2017.

SEPT – ORGAN SCHOLAR NEWS – Mary Pan has served Grace Church as organ scholar for the past academic season and received her Master of Sacred Music Degree from the Yale Institute of Sacred Music in May. Her last Sunday with us is 3 September! Thank you Mary, for all your hard work. **NEW ORGAN SCHOLAR FOR 2017/2018** – On Sunday 10 September we welcome our new organ scholar, Mr. Jacob Reed. Jacob will be starting his Master of Sacred Music Degree at the Yale Institute of Sacred Music in September.

SEPT 9 – ECW-HOSTED CHURCH CLEANUP DAY! Everyone is invited! After our summer in the Chantry, we will tidy up the church and make sure that it's ready for our joyous return the next morning. Mark your calendars for Saturday, Sept. 9th, 10 am to 1 pm. Lunch will be served, so [RSVP to Martha](#).

SEPT 10 – WELCOME BACK SUNDAY UNDER THE NEWLY RESTORED CEILING! – The Combined Grace Church Choirs (Choir of Men and Boys, Girls' Choir, Parish Choir and Adult Choir) will sing at the 11 am service as we return to the main church and "lift up our eyes" to behold the restored ceiling. Join us for a festive fellowship hour afterwards! (After the 6 pm service, stay for fellowship and refreshments in Huntington Close.)

SEPT 17, 24, 27 – ACOLYTE TRAINING FOR NEW AND RETURNING VOLUNTEERS – Adults and children in grades 3 and up are invited to serve as acolytes. Acolytes carry the processional cross and torches, help with the collection and at the altar during Holy Communion, and are a vital part of the sacred pageantry of our worship. If you are interested in serving, or if you are a returning acolyte, please attend one of our three trainings in September: Sunday, Sept 17, from 12:45–1:30 pm; Sunday, Sept 24, from 12:45–1:30 pm; or Wednesday, Sept 27, from 4:30–5:15 pm.

SEPT 21–OCT 26 – *THE BOOK OF JOY*

FALL DISCUSSION SERIES – Chase and Martha are leading a weekly discussion group this fall on *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu. We will meet on Thursday evenings between Sept 21st and Oct 26th, 6:30 to 8pm in the Reception Room. Feel free to eat dinner beforehand or bring dinner with you. [RSVP by Sept 17th to Martha.](#)

OCT 8 – NEWCOMERS CLASS – New people to Grace are warmly invited to join us on Sunday, October 8th in the reception room at 12:30pm. Each session will discuss how to become a member of Grace, as well as this session we will be talking about *Church History*. We recommend that you attend at least three classes throughout the year, as a way to get acquainted with the clergy, with other new members, and to grow in your faith. *Lunch will be provided, so [RSVP to Martha.](#)*

NOV 17–19 – PARISH RETREAT @HOLY CROSS MONASTERY – Join others from Grace Church as we spend the weekend at the Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, NY. Cost is \$190/person, which includes lodging, food, and group sessions led by one of the brothers. *Sign-up by October 1st by [emailing Martha.](#)*

*The next **Epistle E-news,**
for September 10th – Welcome Back
Sunday,
will arrive in your inbox on
Friday, September 8th.*

*To find service information,
you may visit www.gracechurchnyc.org, updated weekly.*

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www.gracechurchnyc.org