

THE WEEKLY EPISTLE

SEPTEMBER 18, 2011 † PENTECOST FOURTEEN

Dear Friends,

One of my goals every summer is to go off and do fascinating things that I can tell you about all year long. This year, one of the highlights of a 3,600-mile road trip through fifteen states with Stacie, James, and Luke was a visit to Staunton, VA, where we visited the workshop of Taylor and Boody Organ Builders. As you may know, it is here that the new Grace Church organ is under construction, and I was keen to see the progress.

George Taylor and John Boody themselves showed us everything involved in the craft of organ building. They and their tight-knit staff do it all: selecting the timber, carving and curing the oak, melting and mixing the metal alloys, forming the pipes, making them sing, fitting it all together. When it begins arriving at Grace Church less than a year from now, it will be not only a majestic musical instrument, but a work of art and a marvel of engineering. You can see something of it yourself at www.taylorandboody.com. For me, it was like seeing the first glimmer of dawn in the night sky. I will keep the image in mind as we work our way through the current difficult phase of scaffolding and restoration.

On another note, do make a point of coming to one of the services this weekend as we say thank you to our many volunteers. All the good work that goes on in the name of Grace Church depends on people like you sharing your gifts of time and talent. At the 11 am fellowship hour we are going to roll out a big cake and offer a toast in your honor.

See you on Sunday!

The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Rector



Here I am standing between two “open woods,” what will be among the largest pipes in the organ.



George Taylor demonstrates for Luke Waring the workings of a recently completed rank of pipes.

WORSHIP, MUSIC, AND PREACHING SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

9:00 am

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 ages 3-8 at 9:00 am

11:00 am

Morning Prayer, Rite I and Sermon

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music: The Choir of Men and Boys

Nursery care for children ages 0-3

Sunday School for children ages 3-8 during the sermon

6:00 pm

Holy Eucharist, Rite II in the Chantry

Sermon: The Rev. Ted Pardoe

Music: Hymns with instrumentalists

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SUNDAY Today we recognize and celebrate the many good souls who give generously of their time and talents to help make possible all that we do at Grace Church. *Join us at coffee hour after the 11 am service for cake and a toast to our volunteers!*

SUNDAY SCHOOL for children ages 3-8 takes place at both the 9 and 11 am services. At 9 am, parents may drop children off at the classrooms near Tuttle Hall. Children then rejoin their parents in time to receive Communion. At 11 am, parents and children begin together in the church, and children follow the crucifer to their classes during the sermon. On 11 am Holy Eucharist Sundays, children in 11am Sunday school return to church for Communion. On all other Sundays, children may be picked up from their classrooms after the service. **NURSERY CARE** is available for children ages 0-3 during both the 9 and 11 am services. Take the Parish House elevator to the basement level. For more information, contact Maura Hooper at (212) 254-2000 x113 or mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org.

SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM – THE ELECTION OF A BISHOP – Later this fall delegates to a special convention of the Diocese of New York will elect the next Bishop of New York, who will serve alongside Bishop Sisk for a few years until he retires. A committee of the diocese has been working for nearly a year to present a slate of candidates before the diocese. You can read all about them at www.diocesenyc.org. On Sunday our Grace Church delegation to the Convention (Don Waring, Linda Bartholomew, Ted Pardoe, Charlie Johnston, Sarah Cogan, and Paul Demartini) will give an overview of the process, share their preliminary views of the candidates, and listen to your feedback. The Sunday Forum has moved to Tuttle Hall. Join us there for coffee and conversation.

THE REV. MARY CAT YOUNG is the new Episcopal Chaplain for downtown campus ministry. During the announcement time at the 11 am service she will speak briefly about the program. She will also be present during the fellowship hour to meet anyone interested in helping Grace Church reach out to the surrounding universities.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP AFTER CHURCH before you go on your way. After the 9 am service, come to the Reception Room. After the 11 am service, come to Tuttle Hall. **LIKE TO HELP?** Our small group of 11 am Hospitality volunteers would love to welcome new helpers! To donate bite-sized (savory or sweet) treats or to assist with serving, please sign up on the bulletin board (near the ladies room) or e-mail (Dana) danafoote1@me.com or (Charlotte) charbarnard@yahoo.com.

HARVEST HOEDOWN TICKETS AVAILABLE starting today at 11 am coffee hour. The event takes place on Sat., Oct 15th. (Please see below for the full description.) Tickets are \$20 for adults, free for children 12 and under.

20s30s SUNDAY BRUNCH - Parishioners in their 20s and 30s are invited to join our first brunch of the fall on Sunday September 18th after the 11am service at Chat 'N Chew, located at 10 E 16th Street at Union Square West.

Michelle Urcuyo will be gathering the group during coffee hour and leading the walk to the restaurant. (You can identify her in Tuttle Hall by the large red flower pin she'll be wearing.) RSVP to Maura Hooper at mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org if you can join us!

CENTERING PRAYER 5 PM Christian meditation takes place each Sunday in the 3rd Floor Conference Room.

THE WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

MONDAY—FRIDAY

The church is open 12 noon — 5 pm enter, rest, pray.

TUESDAY

THE DAILY OFFICE OF MORNING PRAYER is celebrated each Tuesday from 7:15 – 8 am in the 3rd floor conference room. Newcomers are always welcome.

BACH AT NOON Featuring the keyboard works of Johann Sebastian Bach, these informal meditations take place each Tuesday through Friday from 12:20 to 12:50 pm in the chantry. Music is offered on the 2007 Taylor and Boody Chamber Organ and features Bach's works without pedals. (The program may occasionally move into the main church.)

WEDNESDAY

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets in the Reception Room from 10-11:30am. Bibles are provided. Come, bring a friend, and make new ones as we study God's word together.

BACH AT NOON – 12:20-12:50 pm in the Chantry

HOLY EUCHARIST at 6 pm – Celebrate in the Chantry with hymns and homily. This week the Rev. Sarah Wood will preach.

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY at 7 pm – 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19 & 10/26

THURSDAY

BACH AT NOON – 12:20-12:50 pm in the Chantry

FRIDAY

BACH AT NOON – 12:20-12:50 pm in the Chantry

SATURDAY

WEEKEND ORGAN MEDITATIONS These informal meditations feature diverse programs of music celebrating the great repertoire of the organ. Saturdays (and Sundays), from 4-4:45 pm in the church (subject to special programs or services).

COMING SOON

FALL PARISH GARDEN PARTY – SEPTEMBER 22

Please join us in the Rector's garden on Thursday, September 22nd. Adult parishioners are invited to enjoy fellowship, drinks, and light hors d'oeuvres from 6-8 pm. Admission is free but you must *RSVP by Monday, Sept 19th* to gracechurchsvp@gmail.com to be added to the guest list.

FAMILY COMMUNION CLASS – SEPTEMBER 25

At 10:15 am in the Chantry, The Rev. Linda Bartholomew will lead another session of our Family Communion Class. Children will be given the chance to ask their own questions about the sacrament of Communion and learn more about the liturgy. Parents are encouraged to attend. The class is free and newcomers are welcome! Contact Maura Hooper for more information at mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org.

NEW 9-12 YEAR OLD SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS – STARTS SEPTEMBER 25

Class will take place on the 4th Sunday of every month during the 11am service in the McKittrick Room, located across from the current Sunday School classrooms. The curriculum will employ age-appropriate discussion and activities that foster a deeper understanding of one's personal relationship with God. For more information, please contact Maura Hooper at mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org.

20s30s 4th SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP – SEPTEMBER 25

On the 4th Sunday of every month following the 6pm service, connect with other 20s30s parishioners over dinner at a local restaurant. On September 25th, join us at Piola, located at 48 E 12th St at Broadway. RSVP to Maura Hooper at mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org.

OPEN DOOR VOLUNTEER CELEBRATION/OPEN HOUSE – SEPTEMBER 27

The Open Door Ministry coordinates volunteers who greet visitors, answer questions, and offer walking tours of Grace Church. Volunteers are asked to help just 2 hours per month. Come learn more about our fun and wonderful volunteer opportunities, as we celebrate 1 year since relaunch. Hosted by the Rev. Linda Bartholomew on Tuesday, September 27 at 7pm. RSVP by Friday, September 23rd to Singleton Cox (singleton.cox@gmail.com), or contact her for additional details.

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY – STARTS SEPTEMBER 28

Get acquainted with a couple of minor prophets – Hosea & Amos – in Small Group Bible study, Wednesdays at 7 pm (directly after 6 pm Holy Eucharist) on 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19 & 10/26.

OUTREACH MONDAY – OCTOBER 3

Join us in Tuttle Hall from 6:30-8 pm as we share a delicious potluck dinner and news of new and exciting outreach opportunities. There will be a special report on our new outreach to McDowell County, WV.

HARVEST HOEDOWN – OCTOBER 15

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 15th, 5-8 pm for Grace Church's Harvest Hoedown! All are welcome to join us for dinner, drinks, and square dancing with a professional caller. Tickets are \$20 for adults, free for children 12 and under, and can be purchased starting September 18th at coffee hour or by contacting Maura Hooper at mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW) AT GRACE CHURCH – OCTOBER DATE TBD

This fall we wish to launch a parish chapter of the ECW of New York here at Grace Church. The ECW Mission Statement says “the purpose of the Association is to unite women of the Episcopal Diocese of New York in a program of worship, study, service, gifts and fellowship which will deepen and strengthen their own spiritual lives and lead them into service as the Church in the parish, the community, the diocese, the nation and the world”. If you are interested in growing into the life of the church through women’s fellowship and ministries, please contact Elana Foundos at elanafoundos@gmail.com for information.

PARISH LIFE

NEW STAFF MEMBERS AND SEMINARIANS – We welcome two new staff members to Grace Church. Brian Hagan is the new Director of Development. Brian arrived last month from Philadelphia and is already getting our data base in shape, investigating grants, and laying plans for the annual campaign. The Rev. Sarah Wood joins our clergy staff on a part-time basis. Sarah is also the Chaplain of Grace Church School, and looks forward to creative opportunities to link church and school. Sarah’s office is at the school, and you can reach her at swood@gcschool.org. We also welcome as seminarians Kimberly Rowles and Rebecca Morse, both second-year (middle) students at the General Theological Seminary studying for the priesthood in the Episcopal Church.

PHASE 3 OF THE RESTORATION CONTINUES, and we appreciate your flexibility and support as we continue our worship and programs without interruption despite the mess! Phase 3, as you know, includes the removal and total rebuild of our stately Te Deum window above the altar, in addition to the restoration of eight other stained glass windows, plaster and stonework. Projected completion of the phase is early 2012. If you have any questions about the work, or about how you can help, please contact the Rector at dwaring@gracechurchnyc.org.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE IN OUR ONGOING RESTORATION EFFORTS, please place your check made out to “Saving Grace” in the collection plate or in the mail to Grace Church, 802 Broadway, New York, NY 10003. You may also give online at www.gracechurchnyc.org (click GIVE, scroll down to SAVING GRACE). Please be as generous as you can!

FOLLOW GRACE CHURCH on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/gracechurchnyc>) and Twitter (@GraceChurchNYC) thanks to our terrific volunteer tech team: David Verchere, Amanda Cochran and Andrea Nielsen!

FLOWERS DURING THE RESTORATION on either side of the temporary altar table do much to brighten what could otherwise look like a construction zone. Please consider donating! To sponsor altar flowers for a particular Sunday, or simply to make a contribution to the flower fund, please contact Jennifer Metz at jmetz@gracechurchnyc.org or 212-254-2000 x100.

TO ADD A NAME TO THE PRAYER LIST please contact Jennifer Metz at jmetz@gracechurchnyc.org or 212-254-2000 x100 by Wednesday at 5 pm. Names will be read during the services for four weeks unless otherwise specified.

OUTREACH

COME VOLUNTEER WITH THE GO PROJECT! The GO Project is looking for volunteers to serve as tutors on Saturdays from Oct-April (9:30-12:30pm). With the guidance of a teacher, volunteers work with small groups of students on reading, writing and math activities. If the Saturday morning program doesn't fit into your schedule, there are many short-term projects to work on! Please contact Olivia Nunez at onunez@goprojectnyc.org or 212-533-3744 for more information on all opportunities. We all have gifts and talents to share, by working together, we can enrich our community.

YOUR FOOD DONATIONS this year will go to the emergency food pantry at The Church of the Village on West 13th St., a ministry offering hunger relief, information and life-affirming hospitality to the community. Please continue to remember your neighbors in crisis when you shop each week. Collection baskets are in the narthex. Thank you.