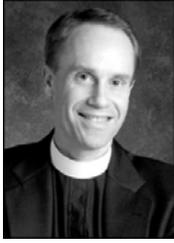


THE WEEKLY EPISTLE
The Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 6, 2012
GRACE CHURCH IN NEW YORK



Dear Friends,

We are just about there. Next Sunday - not this Sunday - is Commitment Sunday in the Power of Grace capital campaign. Throughout the past months we have tried to raise awareness of the need for the campaign, to highlight how the restored interior and new organ will empower the ministries of Grace Church, and to lay the spiritual foundations of gratitude, prayer, and faith that will hopefully undergird the commitments we make. Between now and May 13th I hope that you will be saying your prayers and having the necessary conversations with member of your family towards a gift.

It's important that you know I will never ask you to do anything I am not willing to do myself. Thus I can share with you that Stacie and I have been talking together about the campaign. We have been praying about it through the devotional guide that we've been reading with our sons each evening at supper. We are ready to make a gift, and I want to tell you what we are going to do.

Many of you know that the Power of Grace Campaign comes on the heels of the Bicentennial Campaign that we conducted four years ago. Halfway into the Bicentennial Campaign the economy collapsed and we were never able to reach the potential to support God's work that is in this congregation. The Power of Grace Campaign is God's calling to us to finish the job. But the truth is many parishioners already made generous, sacrificial gifts to the Bicentennial Campaign, and we have said that this current campaign is primarily intended to reach those who were either not here at the time or unable to participate four years ago. Stacie and I are among those who gave to the Bicentennial Campaign. We made a gift that was a stretch for us with the intention of fulfilling it over five years. The commitment was a sacrifice that meant we were unable to do some things we might otherwise have done. Nevertheless, we made the decision gratefully, with joy that we were able to support the church above and beyond our annual tithe. What is more, we were able to pay off our five-year commitment in four years.

Now comes another campaign with a request for a gift that can be spread out over three years. What we have decided to do is to extend our Bicentennial gift for another three years. Again, it will stretch us, and cause us to put off certain things we otherwise might have done. But it's a gift that makes us glad because we love Grace Church. If you gave to the Bicentennial Campaign as we did, I invite you to consider doing the same. If the economy back then caused you to under reach, now is the time to stretch. If you are new to Grace Church in the past four years, I invite you to join the family of givers that has made this place possible for the past 17 decades.

Whatever you do, if your decision is based in gratitude, prayer, and faith, God will smile on your gift.

The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Rector

Schedule of Services

9:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music: The Parish Choir

11:00 am

Morning Prayer, Rite I and Sermon

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music: The Girls' Choir with Adults

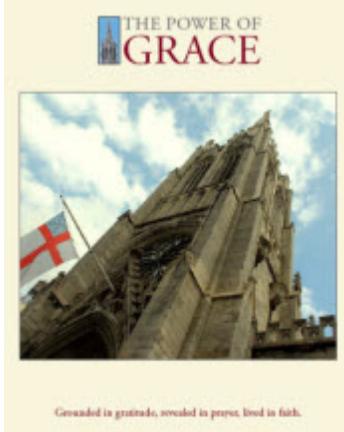
6:00 pm

Holy Eucharist, Rite II in the Chantry

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music: Hymns with instrumentalists

The Power of Grace - Capital Campaign



During the first half of 2012 we are involved in a capital campaign to raise faith and funds towards the completion of the current phase of interior restoration and the installation of the new pipe organ.

Read *Frequently Asked Questions* (about the interior restoration) and *The Power of Grace* (about the campaign) by clicking on the image of the brochure at left.

If you have any questions about the campaign, please contact Brian Hagan, Director of Development, at 212-254-2000 x119 or bhagan@gracechurchnyc.org.

Announcements

SUNDAY MAY 6

THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM - T.S. Eliot's *Burnt Norton* led by Nicholas Birns, PhD, Associate Professor, The New School. The first of T. S. Eliot's famed *Four Quartets*, speaks of "the Word in the desert" withstanding "voices of temptation." We will read aloud and discuss Eliot's meditation on how to live a Christian life within the "turning world." **MAY 13 - SEVENTEENTH CENTURY MEDITATION: FORMAL AND HOMELY** with Diana Benet, Ph.D. **MAY 20 - A LOOK AT OUR DIOCESE** with the Rev. Canon Andrew M. L. Dietsche.

RSVP TODAY FOR "THE POWER OF GRACE" CELEBRATION, (NOTE: new location is the Rectory yard on the north side of the church) on Thursday, May 10, from 7- 9 p.m. You are invited to an evening of cocktails and refreshments, capped by the premiere of a short film "The Power of Grace," celebrating God's grace in the lives of the Grace Church community. *All in the Grace Church community are invited and welcome, however you must RSVP by Monday, May 7 to gracechurchrsvp@gmail.com to be added to the guest list.* If you haven't already responded, you can do so today by visiting the table so marked in Tuttle Hall.

COMING SOON

MAY 7 - OUTREACH MONDAY POTLUCK SUPPER will take place on Monday, May 7th. We will meet in the Reception Room (come through the 802 door) from 6:30-8:00 pm. Please bring a dish to share if you care to, otherwise just your concern for the poor and the homeless of the city. Contact Linda Bartholomew lbartholomew@gracechurchnyc.org for more information.

MAY 9, 16, 23 - SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY Come join the conversation about Jesus' Last Discourse in John's Gospel (chapters 14-17). Three Wednesday evenings at 7 pm (directly after Wednesday 6 pm Holy Eucharist) in the Reception Room. May 9, 16 & 23. Led by the Rev. Ted Pardoe

MAY 10 - "THE POWER OF GRACE" CELEBRATION - See details in announcement, above.

MAY 12 - LISA CHRONISTER ORDINATION - On Saturday, May 12, 10:30 pm at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine Bishop Sisk will ordain Lisa Chronister to the sacred order of deacons. Lisa, Aaron, and their young son Eli Mooney were parishioners here until a few years ago when they moved to Oklahoma. Lisa had entered the discernment process at the time, and continued in it through the Diocese of New York. May 12 will mark the culmination of a long journey, and the whole parish is invited to attend.

MAY 13 - 20s30s SECOND SUNDAY BRUNCH at French Roast at 11th Street and 6th Ave, following the 11am service. RSVP to Maura Hooper at mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org for more information.

MAY 20 - BISHOP DIETSCHKE TO VISIT - The Rt. Rev. Andrew Dietschke, Bishop Coadjutor of New York, will be with us at Grace Church for Confirmation at the 11 am service. Bishop Dietschke will also be the speaker at the Sunday Forum at 10 am in the Reception Room.

JUNE 1 - NEW! WEEKLY JUNG DISCUSSION GROUP "...giving an interpretation to each according to his dream." --Genesis 41:12 In this modern time and in both the sacred and secular worlds, Carl Jung introduced some illuminating ideas, incorporating reflection on dreams and seeming "coincidence" to help us understand ourselves. Synchronicity, the collective unconscious, and dream reflection are just a few of the manners by which Jung believed people might better bring meaningful interpretation and expression to their daily lives. Beginning on Friday, June 1st, this new group will meet weekly for discussion, reflection and prayer from 8:30-9:30 am, in the Reception room. If you are interested, please attend our first gathering on June 1st or contact either The Rev. Sarah Wood at swood@gcschool.org or Dr. Krystyna Sanderson at Dr.KrystynaSanderson@gmail.com to discuss your intentions for work with this group.

PARISH LIFE

THE POWER OF GRACE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN AT A GLANCE

- May 10: Parish-wide celebration (NOTE: new location is the Rectory Yard!)
- May 12: Prayer Vigil
- May 13: Commitment Sunday

The goal of the campaign is to raise faith and funds towards the restoration of the church interior and installation of the new organ. More information will follow in this space.

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY SEARCH - The Rector has appointed a search committee to assist in taking over the reins from Maura Hooper. Search Committee members are: Dave Beer, Colbert Cannon, John Carr, Shannon Cave, Dana Foote, Caroline Hubbell, Anastasia Rotheroe. Keep the committee in your prayers as they aim to have someone on board by the beginning of the summer, and ready to go in the fall.

OUTREACH

JULY 14 - JOIN A MISSION TRIP TO WEST VIRGINIA - Grace Church parishioners have made six mission trips to New Orleans, but are now turning their attention to McDowell County, WV, which has been greatly destroyed by flooding in the past decade. McDowell County has a 40% unemployment rate, over 50% of its people exist on income below poverty level, and their students rank last in the state in test scores. In partnership with the Episcopal Diocese of WV, we will work on the rebuilding and repair of homes and schools, work with school children and on other projects, July 14-21. *For more information, or to sign up, please contact Mike Watson at mwatson@gts.edu by May 30. Space is limited, so please act soon!*

THE GO PROJECT WOULD LIKE TO THANK all Grace Church parishioners who supported the GO Project at its annual Benefit on Wednesday, April 25th. Special thanks to Benan Ozakbas, Currie Estreich,

Anjelica Garcia, Jennifer Rudolph, Alexandra Mueller, Micaela Macagnone, Gloriana Macagnone, and Rebecca John for the time and enthusiasm they have shared working with our students. Our work would not be possible without the dedicated members in the community who support us. If you are interested in learning more about the GO Project's partnership with Grace Church or in volunteering your time to work with our students, please contact Olivia Nunez, Volunteer Manager, at onunez@goprojectnyc.org.

ECW/GRACE CHURCH FOOD DRIVE BAGS! In order to promote and encourage offerings to our ongoing food collection at Grace Church, the ECW will sell reusable shopping bags for \$5each at coffee hour after the 11 am service through 5/20 (or until sold out). The ECW hopes that having this handy bag will remind us all to fill it up and bring it to church! You may also arrange to purchase bags by contacting Cathy Minuse at minuse@aol.com.

DID YOU MISS A SERMON?

Click below to read or listen to a sermon

<http://gracechurchnyc.org/online-sermons/>

Contact Information

info@gracechurchnyc.org

www.gracechurchnyc.org