

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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**YOU CAN PLEDGE
RIGHT NOW!**

Sunday, October 28, 2012

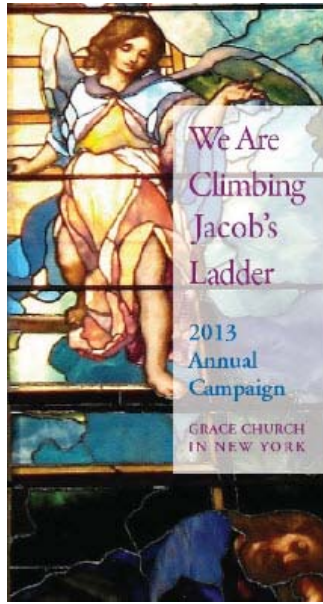
The 22nd Sunday after Pentecost



Dear Friends,

What is it that Grace Church has to offer to people who are intentionally "checking us out," or

who may have come through the doors for the first time, not really knowing why? Yes, we have a stunningly beautiful building in which to worship. We have a great music tradition that will only get even better when the new organ is installed. We have an ongoing history of reaching out to the city's poorest. We have Sunday School, children's ministries, fellowship groups, and classes that engage the mind as well as the heart. People come to Grace Church for all of these reasons and more, but these are not primarily what we have to offer. What we have to offer is a community of people who gather together believing that the Spirit of Christ is in our midst. Ideally, what people should experience of a Christian community is that it is unique from other gatherings. The



by clicking on the image above!

(or by mailing in your pledge envelope if you prefer).

In thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life and to empower the ministries of our church, we urge everyone to commit to a financial gift for the coming year.

Remember that to "make your pledge" is simply to **make a promise** of what you plan to give for the year 2013. You may then **pay** your pledge over the course of the year, on the schedule of your choosing.

E-mail the **Director of Development** with any questions [HERE](#).

Parish Life

SUZANNE PELLER MEMORIAL SERVICE Longtime member of Grace Church and former Director of the Altar Guild, Suzanne Peller, died on Sept 24 after a brief illness. Suzanne had moved to Chicago in recent years to be nearer her son, John. *The memorial service will take place on **Saturday, Nov 17 at 1:30 pm** at Grace Church.*

Spirit of Jesus should be evident in the way we notice each other, care for each other, and welcome the stranger.

What happens, though, when newcomers give us a try and find that our community is not so different from any other gathering of people? If no one says hello, if no one extends an invitation to come to coffee hour, odds are that person will move on and keep searching. Worst of all is when a newcomer actually does brave coffee hour on his or her own and winds up standing there alone. All the programs we put out there, even the architecture itself rings hollow unless the community itself is striving to reflect the Spirit of Jesus in our midst.

Here's a simple challenge: the next time you are at Grace Church, introduce yourself to someone you don't know. You have absolutely nothing to lose, and perhaps a brother or sister in Christ to gain.

See you in church

The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Rector

This Sunday, October 28th

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sermon: The Rev. Stephen Holton
Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Morning Prayer, Rite I

Sermon: The Rev. Stephen Holton
Music: The Girls' Choir with Adults

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II, in the Chantry

Sermon: The Rev. Sarah Wood
Music: Hymns with instrumentalists

THE NEW GRACE CHURCH MOBILE APP! Using your smartphone browser, go to www.gracechurchnyc.org, and the new mobile app will automatically open! It's a fast and easy way to check service times, catch up on any missed sermons, and keep up to date with events at Grace.

MUSIC

CALLING ALL ALUMNI OF THE GRACE CHURCH CHOIRS!

Two special Sundays are approaching - we need you! **Nov 18th** is Grace Church School Sunday. Come join the current choirs and help offer the anthems at the 11 am service.

On **Dec 16th** we invite Alumni of the Girls' Choir to come home and sing *Britten's A CEREMONY OF CAROLS* with us again at 4 pm.

For more information:

<http://music.gracechurchnyc.org/alumni/> or contact Patrick Allen at pallen@gracechurchnyc.org.

NOV 4 - CHORAL EVENSONG 4PM

The Adult Choir will offer Choral Evensong featuring the REQUIEM of *Alfred Desenclos* as the primary musical meditation. The Evening Canticles will be those set by *T. Tertius Noble* in a minor and the Prayers those set by *William Byrd*.

THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM - THE CHURCH AND STATE SERIES

continues with **FAITH & FREEDOM, A Film Discussion**. The documentary film "Faith and Freedom: Minority Religious Communities Fight for Equality" goes inside an American mosque and an Egyptian church to see and understand what it's like to practice a minority religion in a culture dominated by a different faith. Film producer-director Cal Skaggs will be joined by a Muslim leader from a Sunni mosque in Paterson, NJ and a Coptic priest/parishioner from a congregation in Brooklyn to engage questions raised in the film, such as: Can an Egyptian Christian be in any way guaranteed freedom of religion in his native land? Is religious freedom more an ideal than a reality, even in the U.S.? Join us for a timely discussion that will address our communal sense of mission and ways to engage in interfaith dialogue. An excerpt of the film will be shown.

Upcoming topics Nov 4: *THE CREEDS*, Nov 11: *DID C.S. LEWIS INTEND ASLAN TO BE GOD INCARNATE?* Nov 18: *GRACE CHURCH SCHOOL SUNDAY, A REPORT ON THE NEW HIGH SCHOOL*. Held in Tuttle Hall, coffee and refreshments will be served.

NEWCOMER CLASS CONTINUES

12:30 PM - It's not too late to join! Everyone new to Grace Church in the past year is encouraged to attend the final newcomer class on Sunday, October 28, at 12:30 pm in the Reception Room. Come to learn more about the history of Grace Church, life at Grace today, and how to connect with other parishioners and ministry opportunities. A light lunch is served. For more information, contact the Rev. Stephen Holton at sholton@gracechurchnyc.org.

20s30s FOURTH SUNDAY DINNER & FELLOWSHIP - Add the 4th Sunday evening of each month to your

calendar! Then come to Grace for the Sunday 6 pm service and stay afterwards to connect with other 20s30s folks over dinner and drinks. This week we will go to The Smith on 3rd Avenue. Send questions to mspindler@gracechurchnyc.org.

THANKSGIVING PIES TO BENEFIT THE CHOIR 'SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND' -

ORDER NOW! The Choir 'Special Projects Fund' supports projects such as last summer's concert tour of the Czech Republic and Austria - and you can help by ordering delicious pies for your Thanksgiving feast! Stop by the "pie box" in the parish house hallway to pick up order forms, and then later drop them off with your payment. You may also find order forms and information at <http://music.gracechurchnyc.org/>.

You may place your order online at www.gracechurchnyc.org

(Click 'Give', then 'Donate,' select Contribution Category 'Holiday Pies' and type your order selections under 'Comments.')

We offer DELIVERY to your home or office for orders of 10 pies or more. Here is a perfect way to say "thank you" to a hostess, teacher, nanny, tutor or loved one, while \$10 from every purchase goes directly to the Special Projects Fund! THANK YOU for all your prayers and support!
Order deadline: Tues. 11/13, Pickup day: Tues. 11/20.

Coming Soon

NOV 4 - THE SUNDAY FORUM

10 AM - THE CREEDS with The Rev. Dr. J. Robert Wright, *Professor Emeritus, General Theological Seminary*. The classical catholic creeds, Apostles' and Nicene, are themselves also official statements that establish for the Episcopal Church the particular way in which scripture is authoritatively interpreted on major points of doctrine. Renowned church

historian J. Robert Wright delineates the evolution of these creeds in the early church and the patristic era and how they operated both as readings of scripture and as affirmations of lived faith.

NOV 4 - ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

During the services on Nov 4 we'll remember all those connected with Grace Church who have died but still remain on the hearts and minds of their loved ones. To include a name on this year's list, *please send the name and the service you plan to attend (9 am, 11 am, or 6 pm), to Jennifer Metz at jmetz@gracechurchnyc.org by Tuesday, Oct 30.* To keep the list manageable, we'll only read the name at the service you specify.

NOV 4 - ALL USHERS ARE ASKED TO ATTEND a brief meeting (45 minutes) to plan the season ahead, exchange ideas and celebrate this important ministry of hospitality and welcome. A light lunch will follow. 12.30pm in the Reception Room. Contact sholton@gracechurchnyc.org for more information.

NOV 5 - OUTREACH MONDAY

- Come to a potluck supper from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Reception Room (Parish House, 802 Broadway). We'll work on a volunteer day with the GO Project, discuss homeless ministries in our neighborhood, and plan for Advent clothing drives.

NOV 6 - CHRISTMAS PAGEANT INTERVIEWS, 2-6 pm IN THE MUSIC ROOM! All children aged 5 and older are welcome to participate in the pageant. Only those interested in

singing a solo, duet, or trio need to sign up for an interview, but all pageant participants need to complete a cast information sheet by Nov. 6th, 6pm. *To schedule your child for an interview, contact Melissa at mspindler@gracechurchnyc.org.* Cast information sheets and a full schedule for the pageant are now available on the bulletin board in the Parish House hallway.

NOV 11 - ECW PARISH WIDE MEETING 12:30 PM All women of Grace Church are invited to join the ECW meeting after the 11 am service in the Reception Room. Over coffee and refreshments, we will hear reports from our Committee Chairs and discuss the Christmas Bake Sale Fundraiser and other upcoming events!

NOV 18 - GRACE CHURCH SCHOOL SUNDAY We'll celebrate the common history and mission shared by Grace Church and Grace Church School. At 10 am George Davison, *Head of GCS*, Hugo Mahibir, *Head of GCS High School*, and Sarah Wood, *GCS Chaplain* will give a Sunday Forum report on the inaugural class of the new High School. At the 11 am service, music will be offered by the Alumni of the Choirs with The Choir of Men and Boys and The Girls' Choir, and the special guest preacher will be the Rev. Timothy Morehouse, *Chaplain of Trinity School* in Manhattan. After the service, please come to Tuttle Hall for a festive reception!

NOV 18 - ALTAR GUILD MEETING - NEWCOMERS WELCOME Please join the Rev. Stephen Holton and AG Co-Chairs Helen DuBois and Jennifer San Cartier after the 11 am service to

review the upcoming season. The Altar Guild meets just twice per year, so why not take advantage of this rare opportunity for fellowship and idea-exchange across services. We always need "many hands" to share this "light work," so members please invite a friend. Newcomers are very welcome to come and learn more (no pressure)! Nov 18th in the Reception Room.

NOV 30, DEC 1 - CHORAL SOCIETY ANNUAL HOLIDAY CONCERTS - The Choral Society and Orchestra of Grace Church, under the musical direction of John Maclay, have at last returned to Grace Church! Performances are on Friday, Nov 30th at 8 pm and Saturday, Dec. 1st at 3 pm and include Mozart's "Coronation" Mass with other festive works as well as an audience carol sing to start off the season. Tickets are now on sale at www.thechoralsociety.org (click on "Concerts" and follow instructions for payment) \$25 general admission, \$150 prime reserved seating. Tickets are expected to sell out, so don't delay!

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