

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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**Coming Next Week to
Grace Church!**
AUTHOR TALK AND
BOOK-SIGNING!

Sunday, October 7, 2012

The 19th Sunday after Pentecost

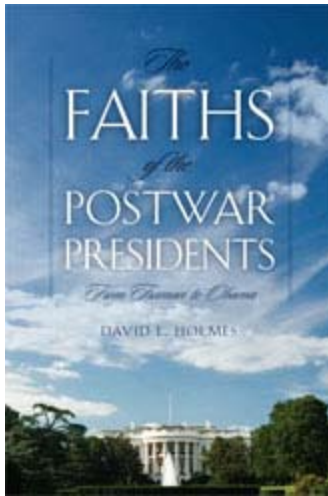


Dear Friends,

In my previous parish we did a big building project, and I distinctly remember enjoying - even envying - the work of the bricklayers. Row upon row they built the walls high, and what a marvel it was that one corner of the new structure would be level with another corner some distance away rising at the same time. I imagined the satisfaction of the bricklayers who at the end of each day could measure their progress and say, "Here is what I accomplished today."

It is not always so for those of us who seek to serve the Lord. We deal with intangibles that often defy measurement. The spread of the gospel, a soul's awareness of God's presence, the sinner's repentance, the church's faithfulness as the Body of Christ - if only we could see that step by step we are building up the kingdom of God. Paul the Apostle would suggest that at the end of the day, the Christian's calling is to trust that God will accept all our offerings and use them for his good purposes, even though we may not see the visible progress. One person plants, another waters, but it's God who gives the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6).

Nevertheless, I must say I have enjoyed watching something tangible take shape at Grace Church this week. For years now we have been talking about the new pipe organ, and yet it has always seemed far off



On Sunday, October 14th at 10 a.m., The Sunday Forum Church and State series returns with author [David L. Holmes](#) who will discuss his latest book [The Faiths of the Postwar Presidents: From Truman to Obama](#).

The book takes an in-depth look at the role of faith in the lives of the twelve presidents who served after World War II. Holmes examines how those beliefs may have influenced policy decisions on controversial issues.

With national interest in the faiths of presidents as strong as ever, Holmes adds a rich and colorful work into this important national topic.

The book will be available for purchase and signing

in the future. To be sure, we have planted and we have watered, but would we ever see the growth? Well, if you come to church this Sunday, you are in for a treat. The organ builders from [Taylor and Boody](#) have been here all week constructing one of two exquisitely carved cases, this one in the south chancel arch. It is majestic, and I have spent too much time sneaking out into the church to marvel at how beautifully it fits into its allotted space. What a joy to behold. We have all done this together. Now, after one more peek at the progress of the organ, it's back to the intangible work of the kingdom. I promise.

See you in church.

The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Rector

This Sunday, October 7th

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

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

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

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

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

Sermon: Rebecca Myers, Seminarian
Music: Hymns with instrumentalists

THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM - is on recess for the holiday weekend, and will resume next week with another installment of the *Church and State* series (see Oct 14 and above).

Coming Soon

OCT 10, 17, 24 - WEDNESDAY NIGHT BOOK STUDY CONTINUES

The Rev. Sarah Wood begins a Wednesday evening book study of *Mysteries of Faith* by Mark McIntosh that will explore the central doctrines of the Christian faith. This will be an excellent way for those new to Christianity to go deeper, as well as for those more schooled in the faith to take a fresh look. 7 pm in the Reception Room on October 3, 10, 17, and 24.

by the author at 10 am
and 12:30 pm!

PARISH LIFE

THE 2013 ANNUAL PLEDGE CAMPAIGN BEGINS God has blessed us with a vibrant parish family, stunning architecture, glorious music, a tradition of reaching out to the least and the last in society, and most of all, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life, and to empower the ministries of the church, each October we ask everyone to give prayerful thought to how they can share in supporting those ministries with a financial gift.

We'll celebrate "**Pledge Sunday**" on **October 21**. Watch this space for details on the campaign.

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."

Hebrews 13:2

JOINING THE HOSPITALITY MINISTRY is a wonderful way to further engage with the Grace Church community!

Our small group of 11 am Hospitality volunteers is in need of more helpers! You may participate in whatever way suits your busy schedule. To donate bite-sized (savory or sweet) treats or to assist

OCT 14 - THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM - THE CHURCH AND STATE SERIES continues with an **AUTHOR TALK AND BOOK-SIGNING!** Details above.

Church and State upcoming topics Oct 21: POLITICAL THEORY AND THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Oct 28: FAITH & FREEDOM film discussion, Nov 4: THE CREEDS. *[The Sunday Forum offers spiritual nourishment, opportunities to get to know one another, and in-depth discussion on issues that are central to both the church and individuals. Each presentation will include time for questions and answers. Held in Tuttle Hall, coffee and refreshments will be served.]*

OCT 14, 21, 28 - NEWCOMER CLASS

Everyone new to Grace Church in the past year is encouraged to attend a newcomer class on 3 Sundays 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 the ministries. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact the Rev. Stephen Holton at sholton@gracechurchnyc.org.

OCT 14 - 20s30s SUNDAY BRUNCH

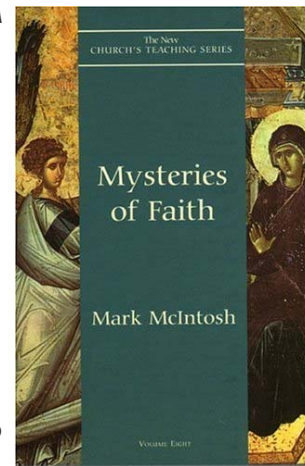
Parishioners in their 20s and 30s are invited to brunch on Sunday Oct 14th after the 11am service at Jo's, 264 Elizabeth Street, just south of Houston. Melissa will gather the group in Tuttle Hall before walking together to the restaurant. *RSVP to Melissa Spindler by Friday Oct 12th at mspindler@gracechurchnyc.org!*

OCT 14 CHORAL EVENSONG

Rejoice in the Lamb by Benjamin Britten will be offered by The Choir of Men and Boys on Sunday, October 14th at 4 pm. The Evening Canticles will be Harold Friedell's Service in F and the Preces and Responses are as set by William Byrd.

OCT 20 - SPEND A DAY OF QUIET

with the Rev. Sarah Wood and the Episcopal Church Women (ECW)
Take the time to visit, rest, delve, pray, and grow! The threads of stillness, engagement, and reflection (both in group discussion and in solitude) sews the fabric of our time together. Meditation on Scripture by way of the Benedictine Lectio Divina and an expansion into Ignatian contemplation will be the focus of the day on Saturday, Oct 20 from 10 am to 3 pm. We will begin in the Reception Room with coffee and light



with serving, please e-mail [Ellen McElduff](mailto:Ellen_McElduff) or [Dana Foote](mailto:Dana_Foote) today!

DID YOU KNOW that the [GO PROJECT](#) serves over 500 elementary and middle school students each year? *GO Project needs fifty new volunteers this school year. Want to be involved? Contact Olivia Nunez at onunez@goprojectnyc.org or 347-377-2317.*

refreshment. Bring a brown bag lunch. *RSVP to Elana Foundos at elanafoundos@gmail.com by Saturday, Oct 13.*

OCT 20 - HARVEST HOEDOWN!

All are welcome to join us on Saturday, Oct 20th, 5-8 pm for dinner, drinks, and square dancing with a professional caller. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for students and \$5 for children 12 and under, and must be purchased in advance at coffee hour through Sunday, Oct 14th or by contacting Melissa Spindler at mspindler@gracechurchnyc.org. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SET UP/CLEAN UP - Contact Melissa if you are able to come early or stay late to lend a hand in exchange for a free ticket!**

OCTOBER 26, 27 - INTIMATE EVENINGS OF CHAMBER MUSIC - THE WILLOW ENSEMBLE

will hold its final set of concerts on Oct 26 & 27 at 8 pm in the Chantry, featuring works by *Mozart* (for Woodwind Quintet), *Haydn* (for String Quartet) and *Beethoven* (Septet for Strings and Winds). Tickets are \$20 at the door, or reserved in advance by contacting Timothy at emerst@gmail.com or (406) 861-8280 (specify name, # of tickets, concert date). These will be the last performances produced by Grace Church member, Polly Holliday. Willow thanks Polly for her tremendous support over the last 13 years.

NOV 6 - CHRISTMAS PAGEANT INTERVIEWS!

Mark your calendars - pageant interviews will be the afternoon of Nov 6th. The full schedule is available on the bulletin board. For more information, email Melissa.

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