

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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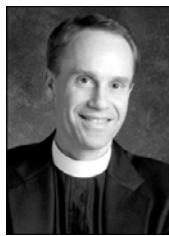
[Did You Miss a Sermon?](#)



ONE MORE WEEK to participate!

Sunday, June 9, 2013

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

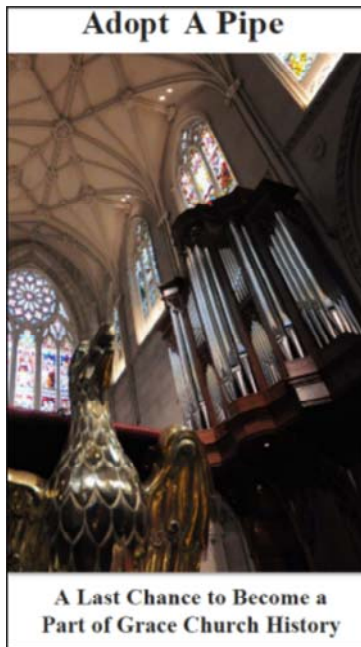


Dear Friends,

One of the rock bands that I remember from my growing up years was a group called *Kansas*. In the late 1970's they released an album with a hit single called "Dust in the Wind," the opening line of which is, *I close my eyes only for a moment, and the moment's gone.*

I've been thinking of the old *Kansas* tune this week because here we are on the brink of another summer. The current program year of the church, which coincides with the academic year at the school, comes to a grand finale on Sunday as the choristers sing for the last time, and then we all enjoy our parish picnic on the lawn of Huntington Close. Where did this year go? I remember last September as if it were yesterday. It seems to me that if I close my eyes for a moment, more than one moment is gone. Nine moments are gone. Or how about nine years?

Nine years ago, in the summer of 2004, the Warings first pulled up to the rectory of Grace Church to begin our life in New York City. Strapped into their seats in the back of the car were two very little boys. James was 5 and Luke was 2. In those first weeks of unpacking and figuring out what to do with toddlers in the city, I remember taking the boys out into the church in the evenings to let them run. By the light of the summer sun streaming through the stained glass windows, I would



Names will be inscribed on special plaques affixed to the organ case.

[Click here today!](#)

to choose from popular giving levels like Donor (\$500), Friend (\$250), and Contributor (\$100). (Deadline for inclusion on the plaque, is Sunday, June 16th!)

DONORS to the Bicentennial, Power of Grace, and Adopt A Pipe campaigns, PLEASE PROOFREAD YOUR NAME(S) [HERE](#).

FAITH & ART @The Morgan Library

sit on the chancel steps and watch my two sons race up and down the long center aisle and around the nave. James' head barely came above the level of the pews, Luke's not at all. Parents of young children tend to be sleep deprived, and Stacie and I were no exception. I recall sitting on the chancel steps, watching them run, thinking that I could close my eyes for just a moment and doze off right there. But be careful of closing your eyes, even if it's only for a moment. The moment will be gone. This morning I was signing 8th grade diplomas for Grace Church School in preparation for the closing exercises next week and - what's this? - one for James Waring is in the stack. Where did the time go?

The song by *Kansas* may be a haunting melody, but it is not in any way hopeful. The passage of time sweeps us away, and "all we are is dust in the wind," or, "just a drop of water in an endless sea." But as Christians we sing a different song. With resurrection faith we trust that the future is in God's hands. We trust that our best days are ahead of us, not behind us. Why? Because the God who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also, and bring us into his eternal presence. Indeed, the exuberant joy of a child on the brink of an eternal summer is a mere shadow of the joy that is ours through the resurrection of Jesus.

See you in church, and at the picnic, too!

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

This Sunday, June 9th

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Sermon
Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Morning Prayer and Sermon
Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Music: The Choir of Men and Boys
with The Girls' Choir

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry
Sermon: The Rev. Stephen Holton
Music: Hymns with instrumentalists



[Illuminating Faith: The Eucharist in Medieval Life and Art](#)

With enough interested participants, the Rev. Stephen Holton will lead a group outing to this nearby exhibit on a Sunday afternoon in August. (Personalized tour with discounted admission.)

Interested? Click [here!](#)

CONGRATULATIONS 8TH GRADE CHORISTERS who graduate today from the Choir Program. Thank you for six years of special musical offerings and service in the Choirs of Grace Church. God bless you. Lily Fremaux, Sasha Herman, Nell Hurley, *Optima*, Genevieve McCarthy, Lydia Paddock, Bennett Slibeck, *Lead*, Catherine Toms, *Lead*, James Waring, *Optimus*.

THE ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC AND CHOIR RECOGNITION SUNDAY - All Grace Church parishioners and friends are welcome! Join us on Huntington Close after the 11 am service as we celebrate the choir ministries of Grace Church and bring our program year to a joyous and festive close. \$10 suggested donation. **It's not too late to volunteer! Help to set up or bake some goodies... Please contact [Miss Melissa](#). Thank you!**



LAST CALL - PLEASE SUPPORT THE CHOIRS' ANNUAL JUNE RAFFLE to benefit the Choir Special Projects Fund! You can still purchase a ticket today at the parish picnic before the winners are selected! Thank you for all your prayers and support this season.

THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM is now on recess until September. Meanwhile, the Adult Education Committee will be meeting through the summer to plan the fall program. If you have topics of Christian interest and concern you'd like to see addressed in a Sunday Forum, send ideas to our co-chairs [Anne Rieselbach](#), or [Emma Presler](#).

COMING SOON

JUNE 12, 19, 26 (WEDNESDAYS) DISCOVER *The Four Quartets* At 7 pm (directly after the 6 pm Eucharist), with the Rev. Sarah Wood. A discovery and discussion of T.S. Eliot's [The Four Quartets](#). These evenings are a wonderful way to not only dig deeply into some terrific poetry, but to make faith connections and get to know one another a little better! All are welcome.

JUNE 26-28 - LAMBS OF GOD: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL *My sheep listen to my voice; I know them,*

and they follow me. (John 10:27) Did you know that sheep and lambs are mentioned in the Bible more than 500 times? Come and join Miss Melissa for sheep-related stories, games and awesome activities exploring the role of sheep in the Bible! Children aged 4-10 may participate for all or any part of VBS, being held from 1-4 pm, June 26-28. To sign up your child (or to help!) please contact Miss Melissa at mspindler@gracechurchnyc.org.

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