

# The Epistle *E-news*

## GRACE CHURCH

### in New York City



#### In This Issue

[How to Suffer Well](#)

[Outreach in WV](#)

[This week](#)

[Coming Soon](#)

#### Quick Links

[GIVE to Grace](#)

[Visit our Website](#)

[More About Us](#)

[Did You Miss a Sermon?](#)

Like us on Facebook 

Join Our  
Mailing List



**THE SUNDAY  
FORUM @10 AM**

## October 27, 2013

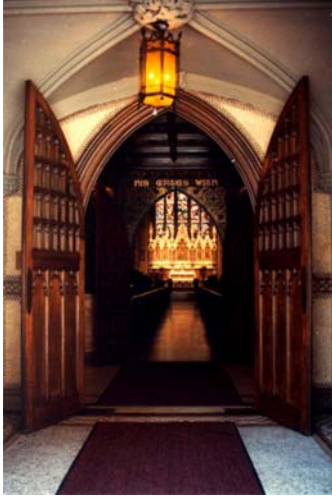
The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost



Dear Friends,

Some of you who have been around the calendar year at Grace Church a few times may be wondering what has happened to the annual pledge campaign. Here we are, coming up on the last Sunday of October, and so far neither an usher nor the postal service has handed you a pledge card. Have you dodged the bullet? Did we simply forget? No, Pledge Sunday is just around the corner. This year it will be on November 10 rather than in October. Every year it seems that we barely lean into fall season when, bang, we start talking about funding for the coming year. The idea with the later date is to give people more time to connect with life at Grace Church before being asked to support it. With a later date for Pledge Sunday, people also might have a slightly better idea of what is possible in 2014.

That being said, let me begin the talk about making a pledge for 2014 with a personal word. My wife, Stacie, and I are tithers. We give 10% of our income to support the work of the Lord through the church. We have always found tithing to be a source of blessing, not a hardship. What are those blessings? In recent days I have sketched out ten reasons why I find tithing to be a blessing. Today I will share five of them. Closer to Pledge Sunday I give you the other five. Here goes:



How to Suffer Well -  
This week, Oct 27

Testimonials...

## THE 2014 ANNUAL PLEDGE CAMPAIGN -

In the weeks leading up to Pledge Sunday, **members of the Vestry will offer brief, personal statements about why they give to God through Grace Church. This week we will hear from Lee Chamberlin at the 11 am service.**

It's not too early to be thinking about your financial pledge to the work of the Lord through Grace Church for the year 2014.

1. Tithing says "thank you" to God for all the blessings of this life.
2. Tithing is a tangible expression of love for God. Imagine trying to maintain a loving relationship without ever showing it. It doesn't work with people, and it doesn't work with God.
3. Tithing frees me from guilt. Most of us receive a barrage of solicitations from worthy humanitarian agencies. Because we tithe to the church it does not mean we don't support other causes too, but we know we are at least doing our part through an organization we trust.
4. Tithing empowers the ministries of the church. In word and deed the church tries to reach out to a broken world with the good news of God's love.
5. Tithing makes me a part of something bigger than myself. Yes, we are made members of God's family through baptism, but annual giving to the church is like a yearly renewal of your baptismal vows.

These first five blessings of tithing are some of the obvious ones I've discovered. In weeks to come I will share in this space the other second five that dig deeper into our walk with Christ. In the meantime, it is not too soon to be praying about what God is asking you to do in 2014.

See you in church.

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

## This Sunday, Oct 27th

### 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring  
Music: The Parish Choir

### 11 a.m. Morning Prayer

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring  
Music: The Choir of Men and Boys

### 6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry

Sermon: The Rev. Mary Cat Young  
Music: Hymns with instrumentalists

We'll celebrate  
**"Pledge Sunday" on  
November 10.**

(Service times are updated  
weekly on the [website](#).)

## WEST VIRGINIA WORK TRIP



This month a group of parishioners from Grace Church visited two families in McDowell County, West Virginia, to work together on home repairs, build relationships, and see what the Holy Spirit could accomplish. To see photos from the trip, ["Like" us on Facebook](#). For an accompanying narrative, [read Fr. Stephen's sermon](#) from 10/20/13. To find out how you can be involved in the next project, email [Outreach at Grace](#).

**HOW TO SUFFER WELL - THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM - Human Suffering: Compassion in Action series.** Krystyna Sanderson will look at emotional and spiritual tools for dealing with suffering, such as the role of prayer in personal and collective suffering; redemption and forgiveness; the possibility of being "co-sufferers" with Christ and with one another; and how the support of the church and of fellow believers can be an antidote. *Parishioner Krystyna Sanderson, Psy.D., NCPsyA, LP is a psychoanalyst and a faculty member at the Blanton-Peale Graduate Institute and the Harlem Family Institute.*

*(Upcoming: 11/3 The Spiritual Life and Legacy of Madeleine L'Engle and more...)*

**NEW TO GRACE?** Everyone new to Grace Church in the past year is encouraged to attend a 3-session newcomer class on Sundays, Oct 27, Nov 3, Nov 10 at 12:30 pm in the Reception Room. Come and have a bite to eat and learn more about the history of Grace Church, life at Grace today, and **how to connect** with other parishioners and ministry opportunities. For more information, [contact the Rev. Stephen Holton](#).

**SPOOKY FUN & GAMES FOR KIDS- THE HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL** Sunday 10/27 in Tuttle Hall from 2:30-4 pm. All children and families are invited for an afternoon of mask-making, crafts, cupcake decorating and more. Lend a hand by donating candy or helping at one of the tables. Drop off or deliver candy/cupcakes to 802 Broadway now through Oct 27<sup>th</sup>.

**HALLOWEEN FUN FOR 20s30s** - You are invited on Sunday, 10/27 from 2:30-4 pm to help with crafts and activities with the kids at the Halloween Carnival. Then from 4:30-6 pm, after the kids go home, the 20s30s will enjoy more grown-up games, snacks and beverages. You may be too old for Trick-or-Treating, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't have a frightfully good time! \$10 per person (free for those who come early to help with the kids).

**COMING SOON**

**NOV 2 - PUT ON YOUR OVEN MITTS!** After a great experience in April of this year (about 60 of our community participated!) we once again will cook and serve a homemade meal to guests of the NYC Rescue Mission. Don't miss this rewarding opportunity to serve together and to make a difference. Look for the signup table after services, or e-mail [outreach@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:outreach@gracechurchnyc.org) for information.

**NOV 2 - GO PROJECT/GRACE CHURCH VOLUNTEER DAY**  
Saturday, Nov 2nd from 9am-12:30pm. Any parishioners who are interested in volunteering in a GO classroom and seeing what the GO Project & Grace Church partnership make possible are encouraged to participate. RSVP and questions: [e-mail Olivia Nunez](mailto:Olivia Nunez) or call 347-377-2317. We hope you can join us!

**NOV 3 - ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY** During the services we'll light candles and 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 it to [Jennifer Metz](mailto:Jennifer Metz) by this Tuesday, Oct 29.*



**NOV 3 - BEING MADELEINE: The Spiritual Life and Legacy of Madeleine L'Engle - THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM.** L'Engle is best known as the author of *A Wrinkle in Time*, the enduring work of fantasy fiction that has enthralled millions of readers over the past fifty years. But to those who knew

her, L'Engle was much more: a larger-than-life persona, an inspiring mentor, a strong-willed matriarch, a spiritual guide, and a rare friend. Renowned literary historian and biographer Leonard S. Marcus joins us to discuss his book *Listening for Madeleine: A Portrait of Madeleine L'Engle in Many Voices*. Marcus, an award-winning author, is one of the world's leading writers about children's books and the people who create them.

*Coming in November - December: Ian Markham, Danielle Ofri and David Holmes, among others.*

**NOV 3 - FAURÉ REQUIEM 4PM** The Adult Choir with The Parish Choir will offer Choral Evensong celebrating the Sunday after All Saints' Day. The primary musical offering will be the beloved REQUIEM of Gabriel Fauré. Bring family and friends on this day when we celebrate the memory of those we love and who have come before - **all are welcome**. Evening Canticles are the Short Service by Thomas Tallis and the Prayers set by William Byrd.

**NOV 4 - OUTREACH MONDAY**-Come to a potluck supper from 6:30-7:45 pm in the Reception Room. We'll enjoy food and fellowship, hear about the recent mission trip to West Virginia, and plan for Advent clothing drives. Please bring a dish to share if you can.

**NOV 5 -CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SIGN-UPS AND INTERVIEWS!** All children aged 5 and older are invited to participate in the annual Pageant, held on Christmas Eve at 4 pm. Only those interested in singing a solo, duet, or trio must sign up for an interview (taking place on Tues, Nov 5 from 2-6 pm IN THE MUSIC ROOM), but *all participants must submit a cast information sheet by Nov 5 at 2 pm*. Cast info sheets and a full schedule for the pageant are now available on the bulletin board in the Parish House hallway. To schedule your child for an interview, [contact Melissa Spindler](#).

**NOV 6, 13, 20 - C.S. LEWIS' THE GREAT DIVORCE - WEDNESDAY NIGHT BOOK STUDY** with the Rev. Sarah Wood. This work of C.S. Lewis' theological imagining sets us right in the midst of **Heaven and Hell**, and very well may change our minds and hearts about exactly what these might be! (Wednesdays, Nov 6, 13, 20 directly after the 6 pm Eucharist.)

**NOV 9-10 GRACE AND THE ARTS AT CHRISTMAS IS COMING SOON!** Come to the wine and cheese reception/opening from 5-7 pm on Saturday, Nov 9, or to Tuttle Hall from 12:30- 5 pm on Sunday, Nov 10 for this festive event sponsored by the ECW. Beautiful art, photography, lots of unique handmade gifts by local craftspeople and a "Treasures Table!" Bring your Christmas shopping list! Proceeds will support ministries of Grace Church.

**A FUN DAY TO VOLUNTEER!** Your help will make this a fun and successful Christmas Fair. Volunteer opportunities are open to all parishioners, including men! [Email Doris for information.](#)

**NOV 17 - GRACE CHURCH SCHOOL SUNDAY & GUEST PREACHER** [The Very Rev. Dr. Ian Markham](#), Dean and President of Virginia Theological Seminary, will join us for our annual celebration of the common history and mission shared by church and school. At 10 am, Dean Markham will lead a Sunday Forum entitled *Conversations with Atheism: Arguments for Faith* (details below). At the 11 am service, Dean Markham will preach, and music will be offered by The Choir of Men and Boys and The Girls' Choir. After the service, **please come to Tuttle Hall for a festive reception!**

**NOV 17 - CONVERSATIONS WITH ATHEISM: ARGUMENTS FOR FAITH** - [the Very Rev. Dr. Ian Markham](#), Dean and President of Virginia Theological Seminary and Professor of Theology and Ethics will lead the above-titled Sunday Forum at 10 am and preach at the 11 am service. Dean Markham is the author and editor of 24 books, including *Against Atheism*, *Understanding Christian Doctrine*, and *Do Morals Matter*. Drawing on science, he argues that the theistic worldview makes more sense of the complexity of human experience than an atheistic worldview. On the way, the issues of cosmology, suffering, and other religions are discussed. Don't miss an extraordinary opportunity to engage with a distinguished and faithful scholar.

**NOV 24 - CHOIR ALUMNI SUNDAY** - At the 11 am service all former members of the Choir of Men and Boys and the Girls' Choir are invited to join the current choir in the chancel and sing the morning anthems including "I Was Glad," by C. Hubert H. Parry. For more details please [contact Patrick Allen.](#)

802 Broadway New York NY 10003 (212) 254-2000  
[www.gracechurchnyc.org](http://www.gracechurchnyc.org)