

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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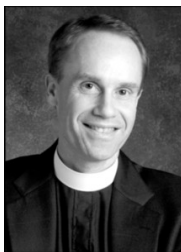
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November 9, 2014

The Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost



Dear Friends,

"Many hands make light work" is an old phrase that has been running through my mind lately. Every year it is something of a spiritual and pastoral discipline of mine to compose and sign individual letters to all the people of Grace Church. If you were to guess that it's pledge campaign time again, you would be correct! Pledge Sunday is not this week, but next: November 16th. The letters will leave the building early next week. You should all receive them with enough time to give prayerful thought to what a generous, sacrificial, and feasible financial gift from you might be in 2015 to support God's work at Grace Church.

When I say that the phrase "many hands make light work" has been running through my mind, it's not that I have been wishing I had help signing the great stack of letters. Actually, I find it a meaningful way to think about and pray for each and every household connected with Grace Church. As I go through the letters - some 500 in all - I give thanks for the lively, diverse, and generous congregation that we are.

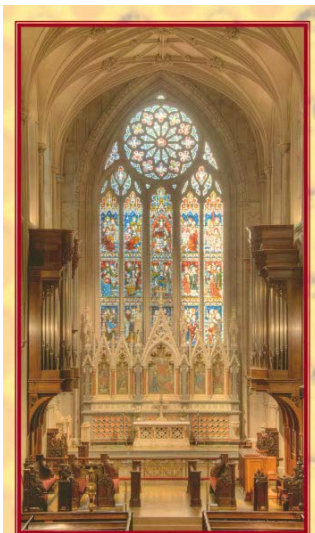
"The willingness to listen

...and connect with a stranger as a mentor is a sacred

experience that we may all be called upon to share." – Jason Slibeck

IN SEARCH OF THE SACRED THIS SUNDAY @10 AM

Introducing the 2015 Annual Campaign!



ENTER INTO GOD'S JOY!

2015 Annual Campaign
Grace Church in New York

EAT PIE



For the Choir Special Projects Fund! (click the pie)

What I mean by the phrase is that we have a challenge before us, but it is one we should be able to reach if we all participate. The challenge is this: to rely less on our endowment. Ideally, we should reserve the endowment for capital improvements and repairs to the facilities. We should draw on the endowment at a 3-4% annual rate to address scheduled maintenance so that this large, old, historically significant, exquisitely beautiful house of God remains here to inspire generations yet unborn. We should not be using the endowment as a plug in our operating shortfall. Over the past five years we have become much more disciplined with the endowment, but we still have a ways to go.

How far do we have to go? Well, if you can measure a distance in terms of dollars, the number is 200,000. When you receive your mailing, you will see in the budget digest of the brochure that we are aiming for a pledge campaign of \$1.2 million. Yes, that will be a 20% increase over last year's campaign which topped out at just over \$1 million. It sounds like a hurdle too high to surmount. But think about it this way: "Many hands make light work." I've signed 500 letters. If everyone responded with a new or an increased pledge of just \$400 we would clear the bar. We would take pressure off the endowment so that it can grow and increasingly care for the building. Meanwhile, our annual giving would enliven the ministries of the church. \$400 is a little more than \$1 per day, or about \$8 per week. Obviously, we are all of different economic means, so I leave to your praying whatever figure is right for you.

When I look at Grace Church, it is not with despairing thoughts that this is unsustainable. Quite the contrary, I think about what a magnificent base for the work of the kingdom has been placed in our care. Remember, many hands make light work. Let's get it done!

See you in church.

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

This Sunday, November 9th

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Sermon: The Rev. Stephen Holton
Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Morning Prayer
Sermon: The Rev. Stephen Holton
Music: The Girls' Choir with Adults

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry
Sermon: The Rev. Mark Hummell
Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

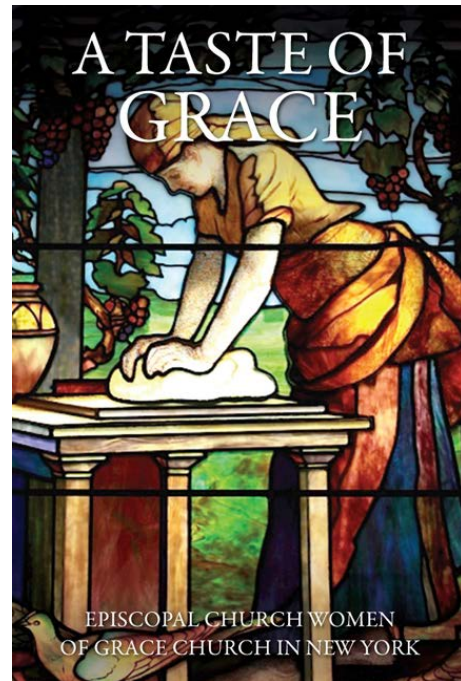
THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM – LISTENING FOR THE SACRED THROUGH MENTORING. For several years, Grace Church has worked with Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing (IAHH) to shepherd their program serving veterans who are in transitional housing due to homelessness. Fellow veterans are sought as mentors to build new relationships upon common shared experiences, and to model new ways of coping with struggles or celebrating accomplishments. The willingness to sacrifice required of all military veterans is a sacred commitment shared by both participants and mentors. The willingness to listen and connect with a stranger as a mentor is a sacred experience that we may all be called upon to share. Jason Slibeck and Gordon Matheson – both veterans, both mentors, and both fellow Grace parishioners – share their experiences with the program, and answer your questions.

ALTAR GUILD SEASONAL MEETING 12:30 pm – Advent will soon be upon us, and so it is time for our semi-annual meeting of the 11 am Altar Guild! Please join the Rev. Stephen Holton and Co-Chair Helen DuBois in the Reception Room after the 11 am service. In this brief meeting we will prepare for the upcoming season and share constructive comments. *The women and men of the Altar Guild are part of an unbroken tradition reaching back to the faithful women who provided for Jesus during his lifetime. New volunteers are always welcome and needed. Please contact Helen Du Bois at hwduub@nyc.rr.com for more information, or simply*

come to the meeting!

PIE TASTING AFTER THE 11 AM SERVICE!
THANKSGIVING PIES TO BENEFIT THE CHOIRS' 'Special Projects Fund' – Come and sample the pies at coffee hour after the 11 am service! The fund supports opportunities for the choirs not covered in the operating budget such as the summer concert tours (We are planning a tour centered in Paris for the Summer of 2015). You can help by ordering delicious pies for your Thanksgiving feast! 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! Place your order at the "pie box" in the Parish House hallway, or by clicking on the image of the pie in this newsletter! *Order deadline: Wednesday 11/19, Pickup day: Tues. 11/25.*

ANNOUNCING...A
TASTE OF GRACE!
This fabulous book of over 330 recipes from the people of Grace Church, compiled, edited and designed by the ECW, will make its debut on Sunday Nov 9 in Tuttle Hall after the 11 am service! Destined to become an heirloom – get your copies today for everyone on your Christmas list! (Note: *You will see that this cookbook will be a treasured piece in*



our homes and we hope you love it. However the costs associated with production of this beautiful book are unavoidably high. We have received about half of these costs from generous parishioners (THANK YOU!). We would gratefully appreciate any additional donations! Contact [Elana](#).

COMING SOON

NOV 15 – GRACE CHURCH/GO PROJECT VOLUNTEER

DAY! (Still in need of a few more volunteers!) GO invites all Grace Church members and friends to participate on Saturday, Nov15th from 9 am-12:30 pm. Come and see this wonderful program in action, meet the students served by the program and pitch in to help! *Sign up by e-mailing Olivia Nunez at onunez@goprojectnyc.org.*

NOV 15, 16 – A FUN AND FESTIVE ANNUAL EVENT!



GRACE & THE ARTS AT CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15 5-7pm

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16 10:00-4pm

ARTISTS AND ARTISANS WILL HAVE THEIR
WORK AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

On Saturday, Nov 15, 5-7 pm come to the Wine & Cheese Reception, admission \$10. Or come after church on Sunday, Nov 16, 10 am-4 pm, admission \$2. This is a fun annual event featuring the work of 25 local artists and craftspeople! Bring your Christmas list! Bagels and baked goods for sale on Sunday. *And the new "A Taste of Grace" Cookbook will be available for purchase!*

NOV 16 – THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM – IN SEARCH OF THE SACRED: A Response to Homelessness in the City. David Beer Vice President, Real Estate Development, The Common Ground Community. Why are there so many homeless people in New York City? How should people of faith respond to the problem? David Beer will discuss his work at a New York City-based homeless services organization. He will give an overview of homelessness in New York City over the last 50 years and describe the current dimensions of the problem. What is supportive housing and how is it effective in addressing homelessness? What are other effective solutions? What can Christians do?

NOV 23 – GRACE CHURCH SCHOOL SUNDAY Please join us for our annual celebration of the common history and mission shared by church and school. At 10 am, The Rev. Mark Hummell will lead a Sunday Forum entitled In Search of the Sacred in Our Students (details below). At the 11 am service, Fr. Hummell will preach, and music will be offered by Alumni of the Choirs with The Choir of Men and Boys and The Girls' Choir. After the service, please come to Tuttle Hall for a festive reception!

NOV 23 – IN SEARCH OF THE SACRED IN OUR STUDENTS The Rev. Mark Hummell, Chaplain for Grace Church School and Interim Chaplain for Canterbury Downtown at Grace Church. Fr. Hummell will discuss the importance of meeting our students where they are along their developmental lines, how to engage with those who seem disengaged, and building bridges between the worlds of academia & the church. He will also discuss his recent ministry at New York University Abu Dhabi, where he developed faith groups, and provided counseling for undergraduate college students, and his new ministry as the Chaplain at Grace Church School.

DEC 5, 6 – THE CHORAL SOCIETY ANNUAL HOLIDAY CONCERTS Tickets are now on sale for Friday, Dec 5 at 8 pm and Saturday, Dec 6 at 3 pm at Grace Church. Featuring Joseph Haydn's Heiligmesse with seasonal works by Handel, Mendelssohn, Lauridsen and the ever popular audience carol sing. Tickets available online at www.thechoralsociety.org click CONCERTS.

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www.gracechurchnyc.org

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