

# The Epistle *E-news*

## GRACE CHURCH

### in New York City



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**THIS SUNDAY!**  
**JUNE 12**

(Details at right.)

## June 12, 2016

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



Dear Friends,

One of the rock bands that was popular when I was growing up was a group called *Boston*. I suppose I should refer to them in the present tense because apparently they are still composing and performing. In any case, in 1976 the group released its first album entitled simply, "*Boston*." One of the tracks on the album is called *Peace of Mind* and includes the refrain, "take a look ahead." The song seems to warn against the world's ways of achieving peace of mind. "Can't you see there'll come a day when it won't matter - come a day when you'll be gone?" asks the singer. "Take a look ahead," he warns.

If the message of "take a look ahead" weren't clear enough, two years later *Boston* released a second album entitled *Don't Look Back*. This title track was an enormous hit that still receives playing time today. This time the singer is optimistic; his counsel is not to look back because a new day is breaking. The road is calling. Today is the day.

Take a look ahead, and don't look back. These are generally wise life orientations from the group *Boston*. They are also easier sung than done, especially on a Sunday like the one at hand. This Sunday is the final week of the program year, the last time we will enjoy the company of the choristers until September. What is more, we will bid farewell to our graduating 8<sup>th</sup> grade choristers. Of course, we hope that they will remain part of the Grace Church family, and perhaps serve as acolytes and sing in the high school choir.

**GRACE CHURCH  
& HABITAT FOR  
HUMANITY**  
**Official Launch  
date July 16th!**



**The "House That  
Grace Built"**

**Join us!**

[Click HERE to register.](#)

But the reality is that this phase of their service will be finished. How can this be? One of these choristers is my own son, Luke. Others I can recall as tiny toddlers. It's hard not to look back, but when you do you will realize how quickly time flies. One of the hymns we'll sing on Sunday includes the familiar phrase: "time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away."

The same hymn, however, encourages us to trust that all of time - past, present, and future - is in God's hands: "O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home." Go ahead, look back and behold how the grace of God was at work in your life. Even more, take a look ahead in hope. Why? Because we trust that with resurrection faith our best days are ahead of us, not behind us. 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.

The Bible often foreshadows heaven as a picnic, so let's have one on Sunday! See you in church.

**Please pray for...**

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



***Those who suffer***

Kevin McCoy  
Philip Kessler  
Jackie Scordino  
Heidi Kreuzsch  
David Colbert  
Bill Nave  
Greg Gillies

**This Sunday**

**The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

**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 Combined Grace Church Choirs

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

Sermon: The Rev. Mary Cat Young

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

Josephine Ferraiuolo  
Howard Small  
Trish Lawrence  
Paul Tillotson

*and those who have  
died*

Elizabeth Rodie  
Jones

**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 and your families. The Choir of Men and Boys: **Luke Waring, Optimus**. The Girls' Choir: **Taylor Cave, Optima, Katherine Overmyer, Emma Slibeck, Katharine Sorensen, Optima, Samantha Zaccaro**.

**THE SUNDAY FORUM @10 AM** is now on recess for the summer. Please plan to join us for **the fall season, entitled "Shakespeare & Christianity."** As this year marks the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death, thus continues a year of worldwide celebrations and an upsurge of academic interest in Shakespeare's relationship to religion, in particular Christianity, as seen in the work of author David Scott Kastan. Our seven-week series will showcase a number of leading scholars in the field, who will join us to discuss how Shakespeare's relationship to Christianity is relevant to us today. Starts after Labor Day. Details will be announced.

#### **THE ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC AND CHOIR**

**RECOGNITION SUNDAY** – Grace Church parishioners and friends are invited to Huntington Close following the 11am service! Join us in celebration of the choir ministries of Grace Church and to help bring our program year to a joyous and festive close. Suggested donation at the door is \$10 per person. **To help, or to make a contribution, contact [the Rev. Chase Danford](#)**. The day's festive spirit will continue with the 6 pm service, after which we'll enjoy fellowship and refreshments outside the Chantry on Huntington Close.

#### **PLEASE SUPPORT THE CHOIRS' ANNUAL JUNE**

**RAFFLE** to benefit the Choir Special Projects Fund! You can **still purchase tickets at the picnic today!** The raffle includes many amazing items such as fine wines, an Apple Watch, Beats headphones, tickets to

Shakespeare in the Park, and also child friendly items. This fund supports activities and opportunities for the choirs that are not covered by the annual budget including such projects such as last year's tour to France. Tickets are \$5 and \$10. Winners will be selected on June 12th at the parish picnic. Thank you for all your prayers and support.

### *Coming Soon*

#### **JUNE 21 – COME JOIN THE OPEN DOOR VOLUNTEERS**

for their summer reception! Open Door volunteers are friendly folks who give 2 hours per month on a weekend afternoon to provide a welcome and answer basic questions for visitors to Grace Church.

Interested? Come and meet current volunteers and learn more! Or sign up to sit with an experienced volunteer during the month of May and give it a try.

Tues, June 21st in the Reception Room 7–9 pm. Dinner will be served. *Please [contact Singleton Cox](#) for more info or to RSVP for the reception.*

#### **JUNE 23 – NEWCOMER COOKOUT –**

Calling all Grace Church newcomers! On Thursday, June 23 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm, we will host a festive celebration to welcome you. The evening will be held in Seymour Close (the courtyard off Tuttle Hall), and will be full of delicious grilled fare and fellowship. We hope to see you there! *If you'd like to RSVP or have any questions, please [contact James V. Romanik](#).*

#### **JUNE 28 – ECW WINE & CHEESE –**

All women of Grace Church are invited to attend the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) for a casual get together before the summer begins in earnest! If you are able, please bring cheese, snacks, wine or seltzer. This is just a casual event so that we may have community time together and meet women who attend other services! Tuesday, June 28, from 6:30 – 8:30 pm in the Reception Room.

*[Contact Teresa Conway](#) to rsvp or for more information.*

**JULY 22-24 – YOUTH TRIP TO HEIFER FARM** – Youth completing grades 6-12 are invited to join a two-night trip to Heifer International's service learning farm in Rutland, MA. Through farm chores, interactive educational activities, and simulated cultural immersion, participants come to understand the complications surrounding hunger and poverty and see their connection in creating change that brings possibility and hope to millions around the world. We will conclude with an outdoor Eucharist on the beautiful farm grounds. Cost per student is \$200. Scholarships are available. Students will be chaperoned by the Rev. Chase Danford and other Youth and Family Ministry leaders. We will depart Friday morning, July 22, and return late Sunday afternoon, July 24. *RSVP by Friday, June 17; registration and payment due Friday, June 24.* [Contact Fr. Chase here](#) or 212-254-2000 ext 113 for further information.

*To find service information,  
you may visit [www.gracechurchnyc.org](http://www.gracechurchnyc.org), updated weekly.*

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