

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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English theologian, Anglican bishop, ... rebel?

Guest speaker the Rev. John Wirenius discusses influential 19th c theologian

June 5, 2016

The Third Sunday after Pentecost



Dear Friends,

June is often a month that is marked by transition, but at Grace Church we will be saying farewell and hello more so than is usual. Last Sunday we said goodbye to Gretchen Ratterree, who has been our Pastoral Resident for the past year. This Sunday we will say

congratulations and well done to Stephen Holton, who has been Associate Rector since 2012. As you know, Stephen has been elected to be the 13th Rector of Christ Church, New Haven, CT, and he will assume his new duties there later this month.

Christ Church is a great parish, and we are proud to send Stephen there, but we will also miss him here. Stephen has done an extraordinarily good job as Associate Rector. He has invigorated our outreach ministries, serving as a GO Project trustee and brokering our new venture with Habitat for Humanity. He has been the "vicar" of the Sunday 6 pm Eucharist, and enlightened us while teaching in various venues: the Sunday Forum, Confirmation and newcomer classes, Advent and Lenten offerings. He has also been a strong preacher and liturgical leader who was put to the test in his very first sermon to us back in the fall of 2012. Those of you who were there will never forget when a person off the street looking much like Jesus strolled up the center aisle, interrupted Stephen's sermon, and announced he had seen John the Baptist. Stephen rolled with the punches, and God was praised.

**Bishop Charles
Gore.**

The Sunday Forum
@10 a.m.

**SAVE THE DATE!
JUNE 12**



(Details under "Coming
Soon" below.)

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



We are thrilled to announce that we can begin work on our very own "House That Grace Built" on Saturday, July 16 in Queens Village!

Even though Stephen will be with us through June 12, it is this Sunday when we will celebrate his ministry at Grace Church, and present him with a token of our gratitude. Believe me, I am impish enough to have considered hiring an actor to portray Jesus-looking character and interrupt Stephen's sermon, but the better angels of my nature have counseled me to enjoy that scenario only in my imagination. Instead, we will roast and toast Stephen at a special coffee hour following the 11 am service. Do join us.

You will also have the pleasure of meeting our new Pastoral Resident, Alissa Anderson. Alissa is a rising senior at General Seminary, and hails from the Diocese of Indianapolis. We have contracted with her to begin this summer working with our newcomer program and Wednesday evening service. By September she will be in full stride.

Finally, I'm hoping that at some point this month I will have news to share with you about a new Associate Rector for Grace Church. We are interviewing a short list of candidates, so stay tuned as the transitions continue.

See you in church.

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

This Sunday

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Stephen C. Holton

Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Stephen C. Holton

Music: The Choir of Men and Boys

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry

Sermon: The Rev. Stephen C. Holton

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

[Click HERE to register now.](#)

Please pray for...



Those who suffer

- Kevin McCoy
- Philip Kessler
- Jackie Scordino
- Heidi Kreuzsch
- David Colbert
- William Susman
- Bill Nave
- Greg Gillies
- Josephine Ferraiuolo
- Howard Small
- Trish Lawrence
- Paul Tillotson

and those who have died.

FAREWELL TO THE REV. STEPHEN HOLTON Join us for a festive coffee hour after the 11 am service to say farewell to the Rev. Stephen Holton, Associate Rector since 2012.

WALKING THE WAY: BISHOP CHARLES GORE, LIBERAL ANGLO-CATHOLICISM, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM. *Led by the Rev. John Wirenius, lawyer, constitutional scholar, Deacon, novelist.* One of the founders of the Second Oxford Movement, Bishop Charles Gore was a passionate defender of free scientific inquiry, individual conscience, and social justice. These views often brought him into conflict with the ecclesiastical authorities of his age but stemmed from his belief that doctrine was secondary to a commitment to a Christian life--what he called walking "the Way," as the Early Church called the Jesus Movement. We explore how Gore's belief in a very traditional Christian life and liturgy led to a lifetime of commitment to social justice. Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served. *(Note: this is the final Forum of the season. The program will resume after Labor Day.)*

YOUTH GROUP – The Rev. Chase Danford invites youth in grades 7-12 to gather for snacks and conversation Sunday, June 5, from 4:30 – 5:45 pm. We'll meet in the Third Floor Conference Room. [Email Fr. Chase](#) with any questions.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE CHOIRS' ANNUAL JUNE RAFFLE to benefit the Choir Special Projects Fund! You can **purchase a raffle ticket at coffee hour after the 11 am service**, or from any choir family or chorister. 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 12 – THE ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC AND CHOIR RECOGNITION SUNDAY – Grace Church parishioners and friends are welcome and encouraged to come 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. *There are many ways to support this event, from food and drink donations to volunteering, so please [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.

JUNE 21 (NEW DATE) – 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.

To find service information, you may visit www.gracechurchnyc.org, updated weekly.

802 Broadway New York NY 10003 (212) 254-2000
www.gracechurchnyc.org

Grace Church in New York, 802 Broadway @10th Street, New York, NY 10003

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