

# The Epistle *E-news*

## GRACE CHURCH

### in New York City



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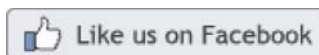
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**Could the text of the Gospel have been changed?**

Join Elizabeth 'Libbie' Schrader, for an intriguing 2-part Sunday forum!  
(Details at right, under "This Sunday.")

**FEB 5 & 12 @10 AM.**

## February 5, 2017

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany



Dear Friends,

This coming Sunday is the day we will hold the Annual Meeting of Grace Church. Following the 11 am service, instead of coffee hour we will enjoy lunch together in Tuttle Hall, then hear reports from various lay leaders

who are overseeing many of our committees. Towards the end of the meeting I'll share my observations, generally referred to as "the state of the parish."

The Annual Meeting is also the time when we pay formal attention to leadership transition. We'll give thanks for the good work of our off-going Vestry members Singleton Cox and Jennifer San Cartier. We'll also elect the incoming class of Vestry members: John Berringer, Lethe Black, and Doug Evans to first terms; Dave Didomenico to a second term, and Brett Pertuz as Warden. Concerning the incoming class, you can see a photo and read a short [bio](#) for each, below.

Perhaps the biggest news we'll share are the results of the feasibility study that many of us participated in last fall. If you recall, the study measured if we had the will and the way to embark on the next phase of interior restoration, as well as restore a portion of what we borrowed from the endowment some years ago. The answer is yes, but I won't spoil the fun by revealing all the details. We look forward to telling you all about how the campaign and the project will unfold, even as the plan develops.

## YOUR VESTRY NOMINEES

For a third two-year term as a Churchwarden: BRETT PERTUZ.



**Brett Pertuz** has been attending Grace for about 12 years and was brought to Grace by his then fiancée (now wife) Henrietta. He began in service to the Church on the 80 Fourth Ave board in 2010, joined the Vestry in 2011 and became a warden in 2013. Brett has found the opportunity to serve in this capacity extremely rewarding and welcomes the opportunity to continue to serve. The Pertuz family are regulars at the 9 AM service and Henrietta is an active member of Altar Guild team 3 (with Brett as an occasional substitute member). Their three children have all been baptized at Grace. Professionally Brett works for a private equity investment firm in New York.

For a second three-year term as a Vestry member. DAVID DIDOMENICO.

The Sunday Forum at 10 am also looks intriguing. It is the first of a two-part presentation on how the Gospel of John may have evolved into its final form. Read below for details, and come learn more.

See you in church.

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

Rector

## HABITAT BUILD DAY TOMORROW 2/4!

**JOIN THE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY/GRACE CHURCH BUILD DAY - Space for a few good helpers - no experience necessary!** Carpool to "the House that Grace Built" from in front of the church at 8 am. Return is usually by 4 pm. [SIGN UP HERE](#) or contact [Martha Korienek](#) with questions.

## This Sunday

### February 5th

#### 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music: The Parish Choir

#### 11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music: The Choir of Men and Boys

#### 6 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Chase Danford

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

**(PART I) COULD THE TEXT OF THE GOSPEL HAVE BEEN CHANGED BY EARLY EDITORS AND SCRIBES? – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM.** Most Christians are not aware the autographs of our Biblical books have not survived. So what happened to the text in between the books' composition, and the earliest manuscripts we have access to? In this lecture,



**David DiDomenico** began attending Grace Church in 2009. All three of his children (Rafe, Charlie and Lucia) were baptized at Grace. All of the children are members of the choir and participate in the Christmas Pageant. His wife, Olivia Douglas, is a Trustee of Grace Church School where all of their children are enrolled. In 2012 David served as chair of the Power of Grace Campaign Committee. Service to the Church has been among his most rewarding experiences, and he is honored to be nominated for the Vestry. Professionally he serves as a general partner in a private investment partnership.

For his own first, three-year term as Vestry member, DOUGLAS EVANS (Doug is currently filling the unexpired term of Caroline Hubbell).



**Douglas H. Evans** and his wife Sarah E. Cogan have attended Grace Church since 1987. Their children, Anne, Thomas and

Elizabeth Schrader gives an introduction to the many different manuscripts and manuscript variations of the New Testament. *Elizabeth 'Libbie' Schrader is a recent graduate of General Theological Seminary. In September, Libbie's M.A. thesis 'Was Martha of Bethany Added to the Fourth Gospel in the Second Century?' was published by the Harvard Theological Review.* Part II of this talk takes place next week.

**THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** will be held in Tuttle Hall immediately following the 11 am service. Reports will be given by the Nominating Committee, the Treasurer, the Head of Grace Church School, the Senior Warden, and the Rector. Lunch will be served \$5 per person suggested donation. *See nominees for the election at left.*

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING – Bring cash to the annual parish meeting** to support Grace Church's food security programs. If you want your team to win the Super Bowl, drop a few bills into the corresponding soup pot. Donations will go to local food pantries and hunger ministries.

**LAST CALL – 2017 OFFERING ENVELOPES – TODAY is the last day to pick up your envelopes after services.** After the 9 and 11 am services, you may find them in Tuttle Hall. After the 6 pm service, they may be found in the Reception Room. If you would like envelopes for 2017 and have not yet made a request, please contact James V. Romanik, Assistant Director of Membership & Communications, [here](#) or at 212-254-2005.

**THE REV. ALISSA ANDERSON** – After being ordained to the diaconate last weekend in her home Diocese of Indianapolis, Alissa is now officially "the Rev" and thus will begin to assume the deacon's role in our liturgies. Congratulations Alissa!

Elizabeth, were baptized at Grace Church, served as choristers, and attended Grace Church School. Sarah spent many years on the Vestry and as Junior and Senior Warden. Douglas is a practicing lawyer. He is chair of the Vestry Development Committee and is currently serving on the Vestry to fill an unexpired term. Douglas has addressed this meeting many times in his twelve years as chair of the board of trustees of Grace Church School and now is honored and humbled to be asked to serve a full term.

For a first three-year term as Vestry member: JOHN BERRINGER,



**John Berringer** and his wife, Bonnie, have worshipped at Grace for nearly 15 years. John is an attorney and Of Counsel at Reed Smith in Manhattan. In the past, John has served as a member of the Outreach and Discernment Committees, the Newcomer Committee and the Open Door ministry. John is currently in his fifth year as a GO Project volunteer, working with 5th Graders. He is also one of the team leaders in charge of lay readers, ushers and altar preparation for one of the 6 p.m. Sunday services. John is a graduate of Williams College and The Law School of the University of Chicago. John and Bonnie are the proud parents of adult children Ben and Katie, who both were baptized at Calvary Church on Park Avenue South, where John and Bonnie formerly served on the

## *Coming Soon*

**FEB 7– 20'S AND 30'S-ish 'SMALL GROUP'** – Join us on Tuesday, Feb. 7th at 7:15 pm for the next meeting of Grace Church's new spiritual formation and fellowship opportunity for young adults. Activities during this time will include reflection on the Sunday scripture readings, short presentations by the clergy, and engagement in various other spiritual practices, such as Christian meditation, lectio divina, and Compline. Contact the Rev. Chase Danford [here](#) for more details.

**FEB 12 – (PART II) WAS MARTHA OF BETHANY ADDED TO THE FOURTH GOSPEL IN THE 2ND CENTURY? – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM.** In part II of her talk begun last week, Libbie Schrader shows us the troubling manuscript variations around Martha in the Fourth Gospel, and based on the oldest manuscript that exists of John 11, she argues that Martha was not present in the earliest circulating version of the text. Would Martha's absence in the Fourth Gospel provide us with new information about the identity of Mary Magdalene?"

**FEB 12 – 20s/30s DODGEBALL**– Grace Church is hosting the 2017 Young Adult Network Dodgeball Tournament. Meet 20's and 30's types from around the city and diocese for some old-school fun. Bring your team or just yourself – everyone who wants to will get to play, or you can just watch the action and cheer! \$5 donation at the door. Snacks and water included. Sunday, February 12, 2:30 – 5 pm. *RSVP to the Rev. Chase Danford [here](#). (This event replaces a brunch, which is rescheduled for March.)*

**FEB 12 – NEWCOMERS' CLASS** – Newcomers to Grace Church are warmly invited to our Newcomer Classes for 2017. The classes are held on the second Sunday

Vestry.

and for a first three-year term:  
LETHE BLACK.



**Lethe Black** and her husband Jaques have been worshipping at Grace Church since 2002. Not raised in the Episcopal Church, Lethe was thrilled to find a wonderful home in the Episcopal denomination, when she was welcomed to the Church 35 years ago. Jaques and Lethe attend the 6 PM service and are part of the altar team. Lethe is a member of ECW where her connections to Grace have grown. They have one grown, married son, Sebastian. Lethe recently retired from a career as a human resource manager with BNP Paribas and previously JP Morgan Chase.

**Many thanks to all who have agreed to stand for election.**

**Please pray for...**



of the month in the Reception Room at 12:30 pm. Each class will discuss how to become a member of Grace Church, as well as a variety of special topics (this month: The Bible). We suggest that you attend at least three classes throughout the year, as a way to get acquainted with the clergy, meet other newcomers, and grow in your faith. Lunch will be provided, so kindly *RSVP to Martha [here](#)*. (And don't miss the Winter Newcomer Reception, on Feb 23, details and RSVP info below!)

**FEB 12 – HELP PROVIDE A HOME COOKED MEAL FOR NYC RESCUE MISSION GUESTS** – On Sunday, Feb 12th we will sponsor a meal for guests at the NYC Rescue Mission. We are seeking volunteers to prepare pot roasts and cupcakes at home and/or to help serve the meal at the Mission. We have a super easy and delicious pot roast recipe for you! Please join us in this rewarding volunteer opportunity which is so appreciated by guests and staff at the mission. You may sign up online here <https://goo.gl/UOG4yY> or by e-mailing Lillie Chance [here](#).

**FEB 18 – "DON'T WALK BY"** – In this annual outreach ministry to the homeless of New York, we will be fielding a team to assist on Saturday, Feb. 18 from 1:30 to 8:30pm. This ministry involves walking a designated area in lower Manhattan, engaging homeless people on the streets, offering them a bed for the night, a hot meal, and medical care. If you would like to learn more, you may go to the website ([dontwalkby.org](http://dontwalkby.org)); if you would like to volunteer, please contact our team leader, Mike Watson ([mwatson@gts.edu](mailto:mwatson@gts.edu)).

**FEB 23 – WINTER NEWCOMER RECEPTION** – Save-the-Date for our winter Newcomer Event! Anyone new to Grace Church who would like to connect with other members and church leaders is invited to join us on Thursday, Feb 23rd at 6:30 pm in the Reception

***Those who suffer***

Susan Pannone  
 Yong Lee  
 Jong Lee  
 Josephine Ferraiuolo  
 Howard Small  
 Trish Lawrence

***and those who have died.***

Room. Guests will be treated to refreshments and a tour of Grace Church led by the Rector. *RSVP to James V. Romanik [here](#).*

**FEB 25 – GRACE CHURCH/GO PROJECT VOLUNTEER DAY** – Join other members of Grace Church as we volunteer together at the GO Project. We will meet Saturday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>, in the front hallway of Grace Church School (86 4<sup>th</sup> Ave.) at 9am for a 30 minutes orientation, and then volunteer until 12:30pm. *RSVP to Martha [here](#).*

**In thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life...**



**COME THOU  
 FOUNT OF  
 EVERY BLESSING**

*Grace Church in New York  
 2017 Annual Campaign*

**Don't forget to [make your pledge!](#)**

**FEB 26 – HOW GRACE ADDRESSES FOOD SECURITY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD AND AROUND THE WORLD – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM.** In February, the Outreach Committee will be raising the issue of food security through various ways within the Grace Community. As part of this, the Sunday Forum on Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> will be a panel of three parishioners who will present how we partner with other organizations to reach the homeless and hungry in our neighborhood and around the world. We will feature our work with Hope for Our Neighbors in Need (feeding program), NYC Rescue Mission (housing and re-establishment programs), and the youth trip to the Heifer International farm (international aid).

**FEB 26 – SHROVE SUNDAY BRUNCH!** Come celebrate Shrovetide this year with a fabulous "Mardi Gras" Sunday brunch of pancakes, bacon, eggs and fruit. Held in Tuttle Hall after the 11 am service. \$15 per person/\$25 per family requested donation at the door. Volunteer help is most appreciated! *To find out how you can help, please contact the Rev. Chase Danford [here](#).*

**MAR 1 – ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES** will be held at 8 am in the Chantry, and 12:10 and 6 pm in the Church. The two earlier services are expected to last for approximately 45 minutes. All services include

homily by the Rev. Martha Korienek, Eucharist, and the imposition of ashes.

**MAR 2 – LENTEN BOOK GROUP** – Members of Grace are invited to read *The Book of Forgiving* together on Thursday evenings in Lent. Written by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and his daughter, the Rev. Mpho Tutu, the book is a journey into the meaning of forgiveness and a guide to forgiveness in our own lives. We will read and do the exercises as a group. Held in the Reception Room at 7 pm on Thursdays, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6<sup>th</sup>. *The group is limited to 12, so please [email Martha here](#) to reserve your place.*

**MAR 5 – 20'S AND 30'S-*ish* SUNDAY BRUNCH**  
(Rescheduled from 2/12) – Young adult parishioners and guests are invited to brunch after the 11 o'clock service and coffee hour on Sunday, March 5. We'll meet in the Rectory Garden by the 802 Broadway gate and walk to a nearby restaurant. Plan to bring \$15–20 in cash. [RSVP to the Rev. Chase Danford here](#).

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

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

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

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