

# The Epistle *E-news*

## GRACE CHURCH

### in New York City



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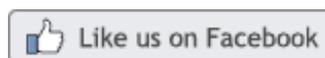
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### LIFT UP THINE EYES! (Update)



We have now received **\$2.7 million in pledges** towards our stretch goal of \$3 million! We will be hosting additional gatherings for the congregation to discuss the progress of the campaign and make a

## June 4, 2017

The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday



Dear Friends,

The Day of Pentecost is often called the birthday of the church. In Sunday's reading from the Book of Acts (2:1-21) we'll hear how the Holy Spirit fell upon the disciples of Jesus. They heard a sound from heaven, like the rush of a mighty wind. They began speaking in different languages. And, perhaps oddest of all, a divided tongue of fire appeared atop the head of each disciple. The disciples and the early church experienced in themselves divine power with a unique, familiar personality: the personality of Jesus. The gift of the Holy Spirit gave birth to the church as a movement. The Spirit launched the church on a mission to reach every part of the earth. Initially, the twelve disciples (minus Judas, but plus Matthias) presided over the church as the first bishops. From earliest times bishops have worn a peculiar hat called a mitre. The origin of the mitre is obscure. Some think it is shaped like the head of a fish, but I've always taken it to suggest the tongues of fire atop the heads of an apostles on the Day of Pentecost. Here is a Spirit-filled person.

In 2008 Grace Church celebrated a significant birthday: our bicentennial. In reading the history of the parish, I learned that among the first actions of our Vestry in January 1809 was the design of an official seal for the corporation. What they settled upon was a bishop's mitre atop a Bible. While I've never seen any early images of the seal, it was apparently central enough to the life of the parish to incorporate into the new (and current) building in 1846. If you look in the south transept you'll find four plaster molds around the large stained glass window. Also, in the rectory I've noticed a small but brilliant stained glass window on the second

pledge in June and July. Please contact [James Romanik](#) with any questions. If you haven't already seen the campaign's video, please click [HERE](#) to watch and learn more.

## FAREWELL TO ALISSA ANDERSON



Dear Grace Church Community,

Thank you for a wonderful year as pastoral resident. I have very much enjoyed getting to know so many of you through worship services and social times, the Women's Bible Study, newcomer events, vestry meetings, and a variety of other wonderful undertakings. I am fortunate to have been involved with such a vital and engaged community. I have had great support and mentorship here, and feel amply prepared to continue my ministerial work.

As I look forward to beginning my work as

floor that depicts the seal. Here you can clearly see the mitre and Bible. Note the balance of the symbolism. As a church we are grounded in the Scriptures, but we are not Biblical literalists. We need the Spirit to guide us into all truth. We need Spirit-filled people to help in the ongoing work of interpreting the Scriptures in every generation.



The gift of the Holy Spirit is hardly meant for bishops alone. God's will is that all of us become Spirit-filled people who experience the same divine power and presence that walked the earth in Jesus. On Sunday the Spirit will come in the water of Baptism, in the bread and wine of the Eucharist, and through our hearing of the Word. The purpose is not merely for our comfort, but to send us into the world in witness to God's love. Sadly, we live in a world that seems more in need of God's love with every passing day. Our mission, by the power of the Spirit, is to bear such witness.

See you in church.

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

***TOMORROW 6/3!***

**We Need YOU to help us build.**



curate at St. John's Episcopal Church in Larchmont, NY this summer, I also look back fondly on my time at Grace, and on all of you who helped to make this experience such a delight. Thank you for this time.

Sincerely,  
The Rev. Alissa Anderson,  
Pastoral Resident

*Please pray  
for...*



*those who suffer*

Elsie Lewis  
Mitties de  
Champlain  
Geno Sparrow  
The people of  
Venezuela  
Kristin Whitehurst  
Josephine Ferraiuolo  
Howard Small  
Trish Lawrence

*and those who  
have died.*

Sign up now to join us at the June 3rd **Habitat for Humanity/Grace Church Build Day!** Come and help us to rehabilitate a condemned house in St. Albans, Queens for a family in need. *Information, registration, and more build dates [here](#) or contact Martha Korienek [here](#).*

## This Sunday

June 4th

**9 a.m. Holy Eucharist**

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music: The Parish Choir

**11 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Baptism**

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music: The Girls' Choir with Adults

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

Sermon: The Rev. Chase Danford

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE CHOIRS' ANNUAL JUNE RAFFLE** to benefit the Choir Special Projects Fund! You can purchase a raffle ticket beginning June 4th 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 and an anticipated tour in the summer of 2018. Tickets are \$5 and \$10. Winners will be selected on June 11th at the parish picnic. Thank you for all your prayers and support.

**FAREWELL TO THE REV. ALISSA ANDERSON**, our Pastoral Resident for the past year, and recent

graduate of the General Theological Seminary. Join us at coffee hour after the 11 am service to wish her well in her new position as Curate of St. John's Church, Larchmont, NY.

**THE SUNDAY FORUM: Q&A with the Rector** – The Sunday Forum concludes for the season with a session of questions and answers with Don Waring. What's the summer going to look like with all services in the chantry? Do we really think that the restoration in the church will happen on time and on budget? How is the capital campaign coming along? How is Grace Church reaching out beyond ourselves? Join us in the Reception Room at 10 am for an informative time. Coffee is served.

### *Coming Soon*

**JUNE 11 – NEWCOMERS' CLASS @10 AM** – Newcomers to Grace Church are warmly invited! Held on the second Sunday of each month, 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. Held in the Reception Room, this month at 10 am. *(Also, don't miss the **Newcomer Cookout** on June 20<sup>th</sup>! See below.)*

**JUNE 11 – THE ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC AND CHOIR RECOGNITION SUNDAY** – Grace Church parishioners and friends are welcome and encouraged to come to Huntington Close following the 11 am 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](#) to find out how you can help.*

**JUNE 15 – ECW MEET AND GREET POTLUCK –**  
ALL WOMEN who attend the 9, 11 and 6:00 services are invited to a "No Pressure" pot luck supper hosted by the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) on Thursday, June 15 from 6:30–8:30 pm in the Reception Room. Let's meet for fun and fellowship! Please bring a dish, a snack or a beverage if you are able! [Contact Teresa Conway here](#) with any questions. See you there!

**JUNE 18 – ALL SUNDAY SERVICES MOVE TO THE CHANTRY –** The restoration of the church ceiling and protection of the organ will begin in earnest starting June 15, requiring the 9 and 11 am services to relocate until September 10. The chantry can seat up to 100 people, so if you normally attend the 11 am service, you might consider trying the 9 am or the 6 pm. Life is an adventure; it will be fun!

**JUNE 18 – ECW TO HOST COFFEE HOUR –** On our first Sunday with the 9am and 11am services being held in the Chantry, the ECW is hosting coffee hour after both services. This is a chance to not only celebrate our new summer worship setting, but also all the fathers of Grace Church on Father's Day. *If you would like to help with coffee hour on June 18<sup>th</sup>, please contact Martha [here](#).*

**JUNE 20 – NEWCOMER COOKOUT –** Calling all Grace Church newcomers! On Tuesday, June 20 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! RSVP to James V. Romanik [here](#).*

**JULY 7–9 YOUTH TRIP TO HEIFER FARM –** Youth completing grades 6–12 are invited to join a trip to Heifer International's educational farm in Rutland, MA. The 270-acre farm is filled with gardens and livestock, including goats, pigs, yaks and more. Through interactive programs and activities,

participants come to understand the complications surrounding hunger and poverty and to see their connection in creating change. We will conclude with an outdoor Eucharist on the beautiful farm grounds. Friday morning, July 7 to Sunday afternoon, July 9. *RSVP by Sunday, June 4 to Fr. Chase [here](#) or 212-254-2000 ext 113.*

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

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