

# The Epistle *E-news*

## GRACE CHURCH

### in New York City



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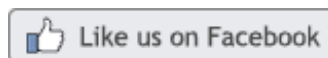
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### HURRICANE RELIEF

For information and advice about ways to help, we suggest visiting the website of Episcopal Relief & Development [HERE](#).

**LIFT UP THINE  
EYES!**  
(Update from the

## September 10, 2017

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Dear Friends,

Years ago, when Jimmy Fallon was a cast member of Saturday Night Live, one of his signature characters was Joey Mack, a radio talk show host on station Z-105. On air Joey Mack would banter with a wide array of colorful personalities, most of whom were merely himself using a different voice to create the illusion that someone else was in the studio. Every time he would return from a commercial break, he would shout into the microphone: *"AND WE'RE BACK!"*

This coming Sunday, I promise that I won't yell Joey Mack's phrase into the lectern microphone, but don't think I won't be tempted. The last time we worshiped together in our inspiring church was June 11<sup>th</sup> - 13 weeks ago. During this time we've been sojourning in the chantry chapel while artisans and construction crews restored the plaster ceiling of the nave and crossing. The work is done, and when you lift up your eyes, you are going to like what you see. The ceiling looks magnificent!

You are also going to like what you hear. The restoration did far more than apply a new coat of paint to the ceiling. The plaster has been chemically treated to make it like new. It is now a harder shell than it used to be, thus allowing a more reverberate acoustic. Dr. Allen reports: *"The room is definitely more lively with a lovely ring that has never been there before."* Our hymn singing should be especially robust.

## Development Office)

Thank you to all who have made a pledge to our capital campaign, [Lift Up Thine Eyes](#). We are amazed by the outpouring of support from the congregation!

We now have commitments from 146 households and we are encouraging the entire congregation to prayerfully consider joining in with a pledge to secure the continued vitality of Grace Church and her ministries. Every gift of every size is welcome.

Please contact James Romanik [here](#) or at 212-254-2005 with any questions.

*Please pray  
for...*

You are also going to like what you hear when I announce where the capital campaign - *Lift Up Thine Eyes* -- has unofficially finished. I say "unofficially" because I know that a number of households are still considering their participation, and we will, of course, accept gifts and pledges at any time. But the fact is, we came together as a parish family and with a tremendous, generous effort, we have made the campaign a success. I will have the exact figure for you on Sunday.

The Sunday Forum resumes, the choirs will be singing, and Sunday School will be in session. You can read all about it below, as well as a link to provide assistance to those affected by hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

And we're back. Happy September, everyone. See you in church.

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

## This Sunday

September 10th

"Welcome Back" Sunday

The 123rd Season of the Choirs begins  
Return to the main church!

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

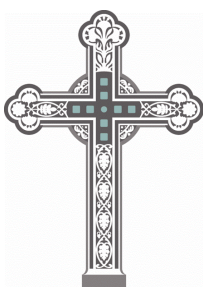
6 p.m. Holy Eucharist

(Held in the Church tonight)

Sermon: The Rev. Chase Danford

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

THE COMBINED GRACE CHURCH CHOIRS (Choir of Men and Boys, Girls' Choir, Parish Choir and Adult



*those who suffer*

Tom Harman

Ian Conroy

Kristin Whitehurst

Josephine

Ferraiuolo

*and those who  
have died.*

Choir) will sing at the 11 am service as we return to the main church and "lift up our eyes" to behold the restored ceiling. Join us for a festive fellowship hour afterwards! *Special thanks to Dana Foote, Ellen McElduff and our Hospitality volunteers for a bountiful and bubbly "Welcome Back" repast!* (After the 6 pm service, stay for fellowship and refreshments in Huntington Close.)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES!** Children ages 4–12 (grades PreK–7) are invited to Sunday school for a fun and meaningful time of exploring Christian faith through prayer, Bible stories, and activities. More details under "EVERY SUNDAY," below.

**THE SUNDAY FORUM RESUMES TODAY @10AM –** Today, join the Rector for an introduction to the Fall 2017 Forum offerings, as well as conversation about the completion of ceiling restoration in the church, where the capital campaign ended up, and the coming installation of the columbarium in the south transept. Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served.

**YOUTH GROUP ICE CREAM SOCIAL @4PM –** As we welcome the new program year, the Grace youth group for 7th–12th graders will meet today from 4 pm–5:15 pm. We will meet in the Rectory Garden at the 802 Broadway gate and go for ice cream nearby. Email [Father Chase](#) for more information.

**THE HOLY EUCHARIST @6PM** will be held in the main church tonight to celebrate the completion of the ceiling restoration and the beginning of a new program year.

**NEW ORGAN SCHOLAR JACOB REED** Today we welcome Jacob Reed as organ scholar for the 2017–2018 season. Jacob is a Master's student at the Yale Institute of Sacred Music. Born in Oxford, England, and raised in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, he recently became the first student ever to receive a simultaneous BA/MA in musicology from Yale

University (double-major in mathematics), studying harpsichord with Arthur Haas and organ with Thomas Murray. Additional biographical details can be found at <http://music.gracechurchnyc.org/staff/>.

**NEW DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES** – Welcome to Daniel Benchimol, who has been appointed as the new Director of Facilities. Dan actually began work last month as a joint employee of church and school. Following an exhaustive search that began last spring he emerged as just the right person to lead our maintenance teams and help us care for the many interconnected buildings on campus.

**NEW SEMINARIAN** – Welcome to Brandon King who will be joining us as our seminarian this year. Brandon is in his second year at General Seminary and hails from the Diocese of New Jersey. You will see him mostly on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings when GTS is in session.

### *Coming Soon*

**SEPT 17 – THE POLITICS OF GUN CONTROL – THE SUNDAY FORUM @ 10AM** with Craig R. Whitney, author of *Living with Guns: A Liberal's Case for the Second Amendment*. Gun violence on a massive scale has become a plague in our society, yet politicians seem more afraid of having a serious conversation about guns than they are of the next horrific shooting. Can we ever reach common ground on this contentious issue? *Craig R. Whitney, is former foreign correspondent and editor at the New York Times. Whitney covered Vietnam, and was bureau chief in Moscow. A member of Grace Church Brooklyn Heights, he is also an organist and author of All the Stops – about the instrument and some of its best-known players in America.*

**SEPT 17 and OCT 1 – YOUTH GROUP @ 2:15 –** The Grace youth group for 7th–12th graders will meet from 2:15–3:30 pm, following the High School

Singers rehearsal. We will meet in the Third Floor Conference Room. Email [Father Chase](#) for more information.

**SEPT 17, 24, 27 – ACOLYTE TRAINING FOR NEW AND RETURNING VOLUNTEERS** – Adults and children in grades 3 and up are invited to serve as acolytes. Acolytes carry the processional cross and torches, help with the collection and at the altar during Holy Communion, and are a vital part of the sacred pageantry of our worship. If you are interested in serving, or if you are a returning acolyte, please attend one of our three trainings in September: Sunday, Sept 17, from 12:45–1:30 pm; Sunday, Sept 24, from 12:45–1:30 pm; or Wednesday, Sept 27, from 4:30–5:15 pm. Email [Father Chase](#) for more information.

**SEPT 19 – NOTES FROM THE NY HAITI PROJECT** – with special guest the Rev. Sam Owen of The Haitian Congregation of the Good Samaritan Episcopal Church. The New York Haiti Project seeks to assist in the building of a new Episcopal school and church in the rural village of Martel, Haiti, and to expand spiritual relationships between the Episcopal Dioceses of Haiti and New York. Parishioner Rachel Salvato, with support from the Episcopal Church Women (ECW), undertook a mission trip for the project this summer, and she, along with Fr. Owen, will join us to speak about this inspiring work. Tuesday, Sept 19th from 6:30–8:30 pm in the Reception Room.

**SEPT 21–OCT 26 – *THE BOOK OF JOY* FALL DISCUSSION SERIES** – Chase and Martha are leading a weekly discussion group this fall on *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu. We will meet on Thursday evenings between Sept 21st and Oct 26th, 6:30 to 8pm in the Reception Room. Feel free to eat dinner beforehand or bring dinner with you. *RSVP by Sept 17th to [Martha](#).*

**SEPT 24 – A COLUMBARIUM FOR GRACE CHURCH**

– The Rector will lead today's presentation about the columbarium that will be installed in the south transept by the end of this month. We will touch on the changing burial practices in America, various religious perspectives on cremation, and how the idea for a columbarium at Grace Church got started. We will also hear from Grant Marani and David Pearson of Robert A.M. Stern Architects who designed the columbarium.

**OCT 1 – AUDEN, THE PSALMS AND ME – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10 AM** – with J. Chester Johnson.

As one of two surviving members of the drafting committee for the retranslation of the Psalms that were included in the 1979 *Book of Common Prayer*—and as one who replaced W. H. Auden as the poet on that committee, J. Chester Johnson will speak about his recently published text which offers an account of his experience that illuminate this part of the Episcopal Psalter story and Auden's contribution, and describes the key elements that drove the creation of this retranslation

**OCT 1 – 20's/30's BRUNCH** – Young adult parishioners and guests are invited to brunch after the 11 am service and coffee hour on Sunday, October 1. We'll meet in the Rectory Garden by the 802 Broadway gate at 12:45 and walk to a nearby restaurant. Plan to bring \$10–20 in cash. [RSVP](#) to the Rev. Chase Danford.

**OCT 8 (Columbus Day Weekend)** The Sunday Forum is on recess.

**OCT 8 – NEWCOMERS CLASS** – New people to Grace are warmly invited to join us on Sunday, October 8th in the reception room at 12:30pm. Each session will discuss how to become a member of Grace, as well as this session we will be talking about *Church History*. We recommend that you attend at least three classes throughout the year, as a way to get acquainted with the clergy, with other new

members, and to grow in your faith. *Lunch will be provided, so [RSVP to Martha](#).*

**NOV 11, 12 – SAVE THE DATE! GRACE CHRISTMAS FAIR** sponsored by the ECW. Saturday, Nov 11 10am – 7pm, Sunday, Nov 12, 10am – 4pm in Tuttle Hall. \$2 admission will be donated to the NYC Food Pantry.

NEW CAFE! Savory items and sweets available for purchase throughout both days. GREAT vendors! For more information contact Elana [elanafoundos@gmail.com](mailto:elanafoundos@gmail.com).

**NOV 17–19 – PARISH RETREAT @HOLY CROSS MONASTERY** – Join others from Grace Church as we spend the weekend at the Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, NY. Cost is \$190/person, which includes lodging, food, and group sessions led by one of the brothers. *Sign-up by October 1<sup>st</sup> by emailing [Martha](#).*

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

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[www.gracechurchnyc.org](http://www.gracechurchnyc.org)