

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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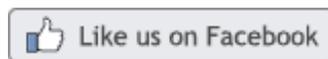
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ALL THINGS
BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL



Grace Church in New York
2018 Annual Campaign

October 29, 2017

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost



Dear Friends,

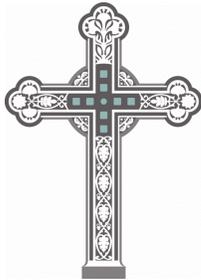
It is Friday morning as I write this, and right now a representative of a church supply firm is crawling through our pews, tape measure in hand, assessing the condition of the cushions. It's no secret that the Grace

Church pews are a puzzle. Some people simply can't figure out how to unlatch the door and get in, so they move onto another pew until one finally opens, or a caring soul shows them the trick. Then, when finally past the challenge of the door, it's anyone's guess as to the state of the cushion. It's been said that the mission of the church is *to comfort the afflicted, and afflict the comfortable*. Sad to say, many of our pew cushions are afflicting everyone who sits on them, comfortable and afflicted alike. In other pews the cushion is missing entirely.

Earlier this fall a couple who enjoys the early Sunday service confessed to me that sometimes they arrive late and thus usually wind up sitting in the back of the nave where the cushions are particularly tattered. "What can we do to help?" they asked. "Would it be possible for us to make a donation to replace some cushions?" I replied that of course it would! Then, when another parishioner heard about the generous gift, she offered to match it so that we can replace even more. Not all the pews need attention, so our priorities will be new cushions where there isn't one at all, and new cushions to replace those that are the most battered. For those who want to get in on the fun, we may launch an "Adopt a Pew Cushion" campaign much as

Margaret Hoover
speaks about her great-grandfather,
Herbert Hoover
- and the Story of Belgian Relief in WWI
Sunday @10 a.m.

Please pray for...



those who suffer

Julia Harvey
Heather and Michael Dollenger
Mary Enockson
Ted Keane
Rick Panetta
Ernest Rose
Linda Flood
Josephine Ferraiuolo

and those who have died

Lily Grace Dollenger

we adopted pipes for the organ some years ago. Stay tuned.

I tell you this because it's an example of the spirit of generosity that pervades Grace Church. Thanks to you, the ceiling is restored, the endowment is partially replenished, and new pew cushions will be in place to comfort the afflicted. Thanks to you the church doors are open seven days a week for anyone who wants to come inside to rest, pray, meditate, or sing the praises of God. Thanks to you, at-risk public school students are tutored through the GO Project, and the homeless are housed and fed through the agencies we support. Thanks to you a dilapidated house in Queens is nearly rehabilitated and ready for a family to call home (**note the announcement, below**). Thanks to you, a community of Christians is here with the resources to be the Body of Christ in the city, so that all who come within our reach might know the love of God.

This coming Sunday is the day we launch the annual campaign for 2018. Most of you should have received a letter from me inviting your participation. Also enclosed is a brochure that outlines in digest form the ministries of Grace Church, and an envelope seeking your support. Please give the mailing your attention. Count your blessings, and be on hand to say "thank you, Lord" with a financial [pledge](#) for 2018.

See you in church.

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

TOMORROW! SATURDAY OCT 28
Help us finish The House that Grace Built!



On Saturday, Oct 28th we will begin putting the finishing touches on "The House that Grace Built." This will be one of the last opportunities to work on this particular project, so do consider joining in the fun (and hard work). For those needing transportation, a carpool will be departing from the front of the church at 8 am. *To sign up, please visit the website [HERE](#) or e-mail Martha Korienek [HERE](#).*

This Sunday

October 29th

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 Girls' Choir,
High School Singers with Adults

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Chase Danford

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

TODAY IS PLEDGE SUNDAY at all three services. Pledge Sunday is the day we kick off the annual campaign in support of the Lord's work through Grace Church in 2018. Annual giving achieves two goals that are important to the spiritual health of every Christian: saying "thank you" to God for life's many blessings with a tangible expression of gratitude, and empowering the ministries of God's church. Letters and brochures to all parishioners, newcomers, and friends inviting us to participate in the annual campaign went out this week. In addition, the

brochures are in your pews today. To make your pledge, please fill out the pledge envelope, place it in the offering plate today, or return it to the parish offices. You are also welcome to make your pledge [online here](#). *Questions about pledging? Contact James V. Romanik [by e-mail here](#) or at 212-254-2005.*

A PIRATE STATE, ORGANIZED FOR BENEVOLENCE: Herbert Hoover and the Commission for the Relief of Belgium – THE SUNDAY FORUM @ 10AM.

At the outbreak of WWI, a humanitarian crisis of epic proportions loomed just inside the Western Front. With the German army marching west, the forces that successfully conquered the Kingdom of Belgium and Northern France refused to take responsibility for feeding the civilian population it occupied. Into this murderous stalemate stepped Herbert Hoover and the story of Belgian relief -- which marked the turning point in history where international relief became operationally effective on a massive scale and where American philanthropy became a force in geopolitics. **As told, here at Grace, by his great-granddaughter, and Grace Parishioner, Margaret Hoover.** Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served.

YOUTH GROUP is on recess today, but will meet next week, as usual, at 2:15 pm.

HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL 2:30-4PM All children and families are invited for an afternoon of spooky fun and games, featuring mask-making, craft projects, and cupcake decorating. Lend a hand by helping at one of the tables, making a donation, or contributing non-candy snacks. Drop off packaged snacks to the parish office now through Friday, Oct 27 at 5pm; baked goods can be brought to Tuttle Kitchen on the morning of Oct 29, or right before the party. Middle and high school students are especially encouraged to volunteer. Please contact The Rev. Chase Danford [here](#) with questions.

NOV 5 – ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY During the services we'll light candles and remember all those connected with Grace Church who have died but still remain on the hearts and minds of their loved ones. *To include a name on this year's list, please send the name to Jennifer Metz at jmetz@gracechurchnyc.org by this Tuesday, Oct 31st.*

NOV 5 – POST-HALLOWEEN CANDY DRIVE – On Sunday, November 5 we will collect individually wrapped Halloween candy for the benefit of the [Seamen's Church Institute \(SCI\)](#), a ministry to mariners since 1834. Your donation will be part of SCI's Christmas at Sea project, which distributes gift bags to seafarers, toiling in maritime commerce, far from home at the holidays. Here is an opportunity to clear your home of excess Halloween candy, as well as to take advantage of half-price sales after the holiday! Please leave it in the baskets marked "candy" near the door of the church or chantry.

NOV 5 – THE POETRY OF WWI – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10 AM – More than 9 million soldiers and 7 million civilians died in World War I. This carnage, the deployment of chemical weapons (such as tear and mustard gasses), and the brutality of trench warfare had a profound impact on poetry. A movement away from idealism and toward skepticism and disillusion inspired powerful poetry that still moves us. Led by Dr. Diana Benet, Grace Parishioner and professor at the University of North Texas.

NOV 5 – REQUIEM by *Gabriel Fauré* at 4PM sung by The Adult Choir with The Parish Choir and offered during Choral Evensong celebrating All Saints' Sunday. Evening Service in a minor by *T. Tertius Noble* with prayers set by *William Byrd*.

NOV 6 – LUNCHTIME CENTERING PRAYER, also known as "contemplative prayer," is an ancient Christian practice of being still and quiet and connecting with the Spirit of God dwelling in each of us. Held in the Church from 12:15–12:40 pm on Mondays Nov. 6 to Dec. 18. For more information, contact Currie Estreich [here](#).

NOV 7 – CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SIGN-UPS AND INTERVIEWS! All children and youth aged 5 and older are invited to participate in the annual pageant, held on Christmas Eve at 4 pm. All participants must submit an online cast information sheet by Nov 6. Those interested in singing a solo, duet, or trio must also sign up for an interview (Tues, Nov 7 from 2–6 pm in the

Music Room). A full pageant schedule is available on the bulletin board in the Parish House. *Please email the Rev. Chase Danford [here](#) for links to the cast info sheet and the interview sign-ups.*

NOV 11, 12 – GRACE CHRISTMAS FAIR sponsored by the ECW. Saturday, Nov 11, 10am – 7pm and Sunday, Nov 12, 10am – 4pm in Tuttle Hall. \$2 admission to feed the hungry. NEW "CATHARINE'S CAFÉ!" offering savories and sweets available for purchase throughout both days. GREAT vendors! Children's table! *For more information contact Elana [here](#). VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – MEN ALSO!" Contact Lethe Black [here](#).*

NOV 12 – GRACE CHURCH AND WWI – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10 AM – From the innovative war writing of city residents John Dos Passos, Edith Wharton and Willa Cather to the ideological convulsions of chauvinism, pacifism, and disillusionment, New York grew up as a city during World War I. Grace Church contributed to this process, sending over a dozen men to give their lives in the war. The massive deaths of wartime caused Christians to think differently about the afterlife, reflected in the revisions in the 1928 Prayer Book partially written by Grace's rector, Charles Lewis Slattery. Led by Dr. Nicholas Birns, Grace Parishioner and professor at The New School and NYU.

NOV 12 – Newcomers Class – New people to Grace are warmly invited to our Newcomers Class. The class is 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 *the various ministries of Grace Church*. 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 [here](#).*

NOV 15 – WALK IN GRACE (FALL NEWCOMER EVENT!) – Anyone new to Grace Church may join us on Wednesday, Nov 15th at 6:45 pm for light refreshments and a tour of our beautiful church led by the Rev. J. Donald Waring. *RSVP to James Romanik [here](#).*

NOV 18 – NEXT HABITAT BUILD DAY: Projects in Manhattan and Queens! On Saturday, Nov. 18th we offer a choice of two projects: in Manhattan we are now working to preserve and maintain affordable housing, this week by doing home maintenance repair for a co-op on the Lower East Side. While over in Queens, we will put finishing touches on "The House that Grace Built." *To sign up, please [visit the website here](#) or e-mail Martha Korienek [here](#).*

NOV 19 – GRACE CHURCH SCHOOL SUNDAY is the day we celebrate the common history and mission of Grace Church and Grace Church School. We'll welcome The Rev. Robert Pennoyer II, Assistant Head of School and Director of Studies at Grace Church School, as our guest preacher at the 11 am service and Sunday Forum presenter at 10 am. Music will be offered by the Alumni of the Choirs with The Choir of Men and Boys and The Girls' Choir. After the service, please come to Tuttle Hall for a festive reception.

NOV 19 – LINCOLN'S DEATH AND THE DANGEROUS THEOLOGY OF CERTAINTY – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM
– Abraham Lincoln was shot on Good Friday, and he died the next morning. That Easter Sunday, preachers throughout the North tried to comfort their congregants and make sense of the president's assassination. The sermons that survive include several that are deeply unsettling to modern ears. The Rev. Robert Pennoyer II, will speak about those sermons, about Lincoln's own theology, and about how Episcopal schools are well suited for grappling with matters like these. The Rev. Robert Pennoyer II is the Assistant Head of School and Director of Studies at Grace Church School.

NOV 19 – HOME COOKED MEAL FOR NYC RESCUE MISSION
– On Sunday, Nov 19th we will serve a meal of pot roasts and cupcakes to hundreds of guests at the NYC Rescue Mission. We need volunteers to prepare pot roasts and cupcakes at home and to 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 folks at the mission. *To sign up, e-mail Lillie Chance [here](#) or click [here](#) for a sign-up sheet.*

NOV 26 – THE SUNDAY FORUM is on recess for the Thanksgiving weekend.

DEC 2 – GRACE CHURCH/GO PROJECT VOLUNTEER DAY
Have you ever considered volunteering with the GO Project, but not sure you can make a year-round commitment? How about signing up for a one-day event? GO invites all Grace Church members and friends to participate on Saturday, Dec. 2nd, from 9 am–12:30 pm. Come and see this wonderful program in action, meet the students served by the program and pitch in to help! *Sign up by e-mailing Olivia Nunez [here](#).*

you may visit www.gracechurchnyc.org, updated weekly.

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