

# The Epistle *E-news*

## GRACE CHURCH

### in New York City



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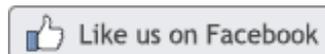
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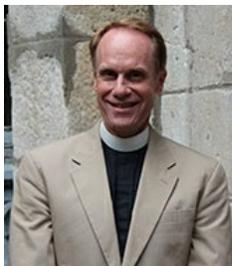
**"Wherever the flag goes, there goes the responsibility of this Church."**

**The Episcopal Church in  
WWI  
Sunday 10  
a.m.**

**2018 is Here!  
Please let us  
hear from you...**

## January 28, 2018

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany



Dear Friends,

Years ago I was having a conversation with an author of books about the current winds blowing through Christianity. He'd attended one of the Lambeth Conferences (1998, if I recall) in which bishops from throughout the worldwide Anglican Communion came together at the invitation of the Archbishop of Canterbury. Apparently, one of the tasks at hand was coming clear about the mission of the Anglican Communion. The author with whom I spoke was an observer of the discussions, and explained that one proposal generated much debate. If I recall, it went something like this: *The mission of the church is to seek out God's work in the world and support it.*

Some of the bishops did not like the statement because they thought it relegated the church to merely a reactive mode in society. The church, they argued, should lead. The church should spark, initiate, and promote God's work in the world rather than simply jump on whatever band wagon happens to be rolling through town. Others liked the statement, claiming that it would be arrogant to assume that the church is the only or even the primary means by which God can work in the world. The Spirit of the Lord is an uncontrollable, uncontainable dynamic, active in the world through art, science, politics, diplomacy, commerce, and nature itself. Yes, God works through the church. Yes, Jesus is present whenever two or three gather in his name. But certainly God is not limited to

ALL THINGS  
BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL



Grace Church in New York  
2018 Annual Campaign

**Many thanks to those who have responded to our call to make a pledge for 2018.** If you have yet to pledge or make a gift, it is now 2018, so please let us hear from you. Read about pledging by clicking the image above. **Want to make your pledge now?** You may do so [here](#). Questions about pledging? **Contact James V. Romanik at 212-254-2005 or [here](#).**

*Please pray  
for...*



the church. Therefore, *the mission of the church is to seek out God's work in the world and support it.*

I have no idea whether or not the bishops came to any lasting conclusions. My guess is that in good Anglican fashion they declared that it was a both-end rather than an either-or question. What I do remember is that the author, who was not an Anglican, was deeply moved by the humility of a church that was willing to contend with the notion that it wasn't always leading the charge for God in the world.

I am something of a news junkie because I wonder what God is up to in the world, and I try to discern where God is at work. Sometimes the divine hand is easy to see, other times it's not. This past week - really, for the past months - the "great reckoning" taking place against sexual abusers in the workplace has been impossible to miss. Powerful men who have taken advantage of women in the worst sort of way, thinking they can do whatever they please and get away with it, are finding themselves and their dark deeds dragged into the light of day. The very women these men abused have found their voice, emboldened each other, and will bring positive change to the nature of the workplace. Is this movement of God? I certainly think so. Did the church initiate it? Not so much. Should the church support it so that the positive change is lasting and not just a blip? Absolutely. The mission of the church - in part - is to seek out God's work in the world and support it.

See you in church.

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

Rector

**This Sunday**

**January 28th**

**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 Junior Choristers with

*those who suffer*

Peter Schmidt

The Lester Family

The Peck Family

Bela Fletcher

Ysanne Spevack

Anthony Nan Qiu

Christopher Mooney

Josephine

*and those who  
have died*

Amy Lester

Adults

## 6 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Mary Cat Young

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

**WELCOME JUNIOR CHORISTERS!** This morning at 11 am the combined Junior Boy and Girl Choristers are taking up the treble seats in the Choir. Last Sunday during the Annual Concert of Music for Treble Voices with guest conductor Dr. Barry Rose, 11 New Juniors received their surplice in the traditional "whiting" ceremony. Congratulations! **NEW JUNIOR BOY CHORISTERS:** Matias Alaric Theo Cannon, James Chase, Christopher Divéki, Tanner Gola, Nicolas Marinelli, Lennox Millstein, Philip Molina, Owen Moore, Santa Cruz Mortimore, Colin Casey McAskin, Sander Olinick, George Pertuz, Arthur Root, Alexander Salgado-Lozhkin William Sammons, Lachlan Whelan. **NEW JUNIOR GIRL CHORISTERS:** Alisa Bruck , Eva Dixon, Tildie Etedgui , Raigan Gelin, Abby Gomez, Grace Kepple, Grace Majoros, Dana Vincent.

**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN WWI – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM** – In 1913, on the eve of the Great War, the opening sermon for the General Convention of the Episcopal Church declared, "Wherever the flag goes, there goes the responsibility of this Church." Those words would shortly be put to the test when the U.S. entered a war unlike any other. How did the 'unofficial national church' interact with this crisis? Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served. Led by seminarian Brandon King.

**NEWCOMERS' CLASS** – New people to Grace are warmly invited to our Newcomers Classes, held monthly in the reception room at 12:30 pm. Each session will discuss how to become a member of Grace, as well as this session we will be talking about *Spiritual Practices*, a conversation led by Fr. Chase. 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](#).*

**NEWCOMERS' CLASS FOR KIDS** – Children ages 5+ who are new to Grace Church are invited to their own special class on Sunday, Jan 28<sup>th</sup>. We will meet in the reception room at 12:30 pm and have lunch with the adults (including their parents) and then go into the church and ask any questions we have about Grace Church. [RSVP to Martha](#).

**2018 WEEKLY OFFERING ENVELOPES** are now available at Coffee Hour after the 9 and 11 am services. If you would like envelopes for 2018 and have not yet made a request, *please contact James V. Romanik, Assistant Director of Membership & Communications, [here](#) or at 212-254-2005.*

## *Coming Soon*

**JAN. 30 – EVENING BIBLE STUDY FOR THE SEASON OF EPIPHANY** – Join Chase and Martha in the Reception Room from 6:30 to 7:30 pm on Jan. 16, Jan. 23, Jan. 30, and Feb. 6; come to one session, or come to all! *On Jan 30, we will be discussing John 1:1-9.* The Reception Room will be available beginning at 6:15 pm for those who wish to come and chat with friends—or make new ones—before the Bible study begins.

**FEB 3 – DON'T WALK BY** – An outreach effort to the homeless in lower Manhattan, "Don't Walk By" is an afternoon/early evening of meeting the people who live on the street and listening for ways to connect them with resources in our community; the day begins with training. Parishioners Mike Watson and Ashleigh Madureira are co-leaders of our team. *For more information or to register, speak with Mike or Ashleigh, or [email Martha](#) here.*

**FEB 4 – VALUES IN ACTION – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10 AM** – Every year the Trinity Institute has a conference, this year the conference theme is "Values in Action," and keynote speakers include Michael Curry, Michelle Alexander, and Pádraig Ó Tuama. The Rev. Martha Korienek is attending this year's conference and will share her thoughts about the conference, as well as what she has learned about how we can all put our values in action.

**FEB 4 – THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** will be held in Tuttle Hall on Sunday, Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, 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).

**THE VESTRY HAS ACCEPTED THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S REPORT** and is pleased to announce the following slate of persons to be voted on at our Annual Meeting (Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, see details above.) For a third two-year term as a Churchwarden: LEONA CHAMBERLIN. For a second three-year term as a Vestry member. HARPER ANDERSON, ANNE RIESELBACH, JASON SLIBECK, ERIK SORENSEN. Many thanks to the committee and to those who have agreed to stand for election.

**FEB 4 – 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 Souper Bowl, drop a few bills into the corresponding soup pot. Donations will go to local food pantries and hunger ministries.

**FEB 4 – YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASSES** – Confirmation classes for youth in grades 7–12 will begin on Sunday, February 4 from 3:15 to 4:15 pm. Further dates are Feb. 11, March 4, March 11, April 8, April 15, April 22, and April 29. Confirmation will be Sunday, June 3 at 11 am. *Parents should contact [the Rev. Chase Danford here](#) by Friday, Feb 1 to register.*

**FEB 10 – HABITAT BUILD DAY** – We will be partnering with the Islamic community service organization "Who Is Hussain?" to work together on a home in Queens. *For more information or to register, [contact Martha here](#).*

**FEB 11 – HOW MUCH FORGIVENESS? – THE SUNDAY FORUM @ 10 AM** – In the past 18 months New Yorkers have witnessed three acts of violence that severely test the Christian call to forgiveness: a bombing in Chelsea, a terrorist rampage on the Hudson River bike path, and a shooting near Grace Church School. In each instance the perpetrator of the violence survived, leaving us to wonder how Christians are to regard these individuals. The Rector will lead a panel discussion including parishioners Andrew Blane and Sally Hines. Held in the Reception Room. Coffee is served.

**FEB 11 – SHROVE SUNDAY BRUNCH AFTER BOTH MORNING SERVICES** -- Come celebrate Shrovetide this year

with a fabulous "Mardi Gras" Sunday brunch of pancakes, bacon, eggs and fruit. Held in Tuttle Hall after both the 9 am and 11 am services. \$10 per person/\$20 per family suggested donation at the door.

**FEB 11 – HOME COOKED MEAL FOR NYC RESCUE MISSION**

– On Sunday, Feb 11th we will serve a meal of pot roasts and cupcakes to hundreds of guests at the NYC Rescue Mission. Volunteers are needed to prepare pot roasts and/or 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](#).*

**FEB 20 – WHAT OUR FAITH SAYS ABOUT RACE, JUSTICE & PERSONHOOD: A LENTEN READING GROUP**

– Join the Rev. Chase Danford and the Rev. Martha Korienek as we explore the writings of prominent African-American thinkers from the 19<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. We will meet on Tuesdays from 7–8 pm on Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13, and 20. *Email [Chase](#) or [Martha](#) to register or inquire for more information.*

**FEB 21 – ADULT BAPTISM CLASSES**

– Wednesdays in Lent, there will be a class for adults who are interested in being baptized at the Easter Vigil (March 31st at 7pm), 7–8 pm in the Reception Room on 2/21, 2/28, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28. *To sign up, please [email Martha here](#).*

**MAR 4 – ECW "THANK YOU TEA"** in the Reception Room immediately following the 11 am service. The ECW would like to thank ALL the Grace Christmas Fair volunteers, cooks and bakers – MEN ALSO! Join us for tea, sandwiches and sweets!

*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)