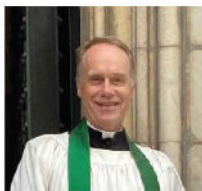


AND I MEAN
TO BE ONE TOO



GRACE CHURCH IN NEW YORK
2025 Annual Campaign

FROM THE RECTOR



Dear Friends,

In the twenty years that I have been the Rector of Grace Church, from time to time we have carried on with our ministry beneath and around scaffolding. Way back in 2009 we restored the interior plaster of the south transept. Then in 2012 it was the chancel and sanctuary in preparation for the new organ. In 2017 it was the entire length of the nave ceiling. Now, here we are in 2024, full of scaffolding again as we restore the south nave aisle.

The scaffolding suggests to me a parable. Not only is Grace Church under construction, but we who inhabit this building are also an ongoing project in the hands of the Lord. God is working to bring us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. If we open ourselves to God's restorative power through the Word, the Sacraments, and this Christian community, we find that over time we become more and more like Jesus. We become saints of God, ready to extend God's love and grace into the world.

In a favorite hymn (#293) we "sing a song of the saints of God." We declare at the end, "and I mean to be one too." This brochure tells the story of how the people of Grace Church aspire to become saints: we reach up, we reach in, and we reach out. Please read on, and then give prayerful thought to a generous financial gift to support the ministries of Grace Church in the year 2025.

The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Rector

WE BECOME SAINTS BY REACHING UP

*By reaching up to God we realize that
God has already reached down to us.*



† Worship services large and small throughout the week invite hundreds into the presence of God.

† A variety of Choirs involving many parishioners sing the praises of God with devotion and skill.

† The unparalleled art and architecture inspires our souls.

† The Bicentennial Organ can be heard throughout the week.

† Sermons and Children's Chapels open the Scriptures to us.

† Flowers and greens help us to rejoice in the beauty of God's creation.

WE BECOME SAINTS BY REACHING IN

By reaching in to this parish family we discover that Christ is true to his promise: "Wherever two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

(Matthew 18:20)

† Clergy counsel and pastoral visits are available for those who seek comfort or guidance.

† Monthly healing prayers and anointing at the Wednesday 6 pm Eucharist are meeting a pastoral need.

† Grace Cares is a ministry of lay leaders who call on the sick and housebound.

† Bible studies and book discussions engage us with the thinking of classic and contemporary Christian authors.

† The Sunday Forum helps us explore the areas where Christianity overlaps with culture, politics, and art.

† The GCW (Grace Church Women) and the Young Adult Fellowship are two groups that create community and opportunities for service.

† Canterbury Downtown for college students offers weekly worship, food, and fellowship.

† Coffee Hour offers a time for parishioners to connect after worship.



Parishioners enjoy fellowship during a summer evening cookout on Huntington Close

WE BECOME SAINTS BY REACHING OUT

By reaching out to those beyond our walls we discover the presence of God in all sorts and conditions of people, many of whom are in great need.



Volunteers from the parish help to prepare meals for those in need during one of our monthly days of service at the Red Door Place.

† Our magnificent building, open to the public seven days a week, is significant outreach, in and of itself. Hundreds of people enter, rest, and pray during open door hours.

† We support the Diocese of New York so that struggling churches in under-resourced communities can stay open and vital.

† We help to fund the GO Project, our historic outreach partnership with Grace Church School that tutors at-risk public school students.

† Teams of volunteers work at the Red Door Place to prepare meals for the hungry.

† Every month we collect hundreds of canned goods and non-perishable items to stock local food pantries and soup kitchens.

† The Livestream broadcast of the 11 am Sunday service continues to dozens of homes every week.

† Newcomer classes and events offer a point of connection for seekers and explorers.

† The Weekly Epistle reaches out to hundreds of households.

† Our Social media are active and engaged with a wide range of people.

† Our Website is visited hundreds of times per day.

WE BECOME SAINTS BY GIVING OF OURSELVES

As we strive together to become saints in a world that badly needs them, Grace Church relies on three major sources of revenue:

1. Annual Giving from parishioners,
2. Rental Income from real estate holdings,
3. A responsible draw on our invested funds. Also, we conduct occasional capital campaigns to fund extraordinary repairs to the building, as we did in 2024. The congregation responded heroically to the *Making All Things New* appeal, and the scaffolding is the result.

As we look ahead to 2025, we realize that this year, as every year, Annual giving is vitally important. We simply could not do what we do, and maintain the presence we have without the generous giving of those who mean to be saints at Grace Church.



Worship services and other ministries are carrying on despite the scaffolding as we “make all things new” in the south aisle of the church.

HOW TO GIVE

† Count Your Blessings

Pledging is a way to say “thank you” to God for all the blessings of this life: friends, family, forgiveness, employment, a lesson learned, the beauty of creation, and the awareness of God’s presence through troubled times. Part of the enclosed pledge envelope asks you to list a few of the blessings you have known in 2024. Thus, your 2025 pledge is a tangible expression of gratitude. It is the blessings we name on our pledge cards that we hear in the Prayers of the People each Sunday.

† Be Prayerful and Generous

The Bible commends the tithe (10% of one’s income) as a standard of giving. If the tithe seems too high a mark to reach this year, choose a percentage that feels faithful, grateful, and generous. If you gave 2% last year, strive to give 3% or 4% in 2025. Multiply the percentage you choose by your annual income, and make the resulting number your pledge. Strive to do your best for God, who is the giver of all good gifts. Make a pledge that stretches you spiritually and financially – one that you cannot fulfill by writing one check today.

† Fulfill Your Pledge

Once you have completed both portions of the pledge card, either mail it to the parish office, or place it in the offering plate the next Sunday you are in church. You can begin to make pledge payments in 2025, and take the entire year to fulfill your pledge. Parishioners can choose offering envelopes to make weekly payments, or set up automatic payments by giving online at: gracechurchnyc.org.

**Questions? Contact Travis Brock Kennedy
at tkennedy@gracechurchnyc.org.**

BUDGET DIGEST

	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Budget (est.)
REVENUE			
Pledge Payments	\$1,385,539	\$1,152,000	\$1,200,000
Plate/Ministries/ Programs	106,040	92,000	110,000
General Support/Space Rental	95,767	137,850	170,000
Federal Cares Act/ Other	915,380	111,198	

REAL ESTATE REVENUE			
Rental Income - 100 & 102 4th Ave.	177,744	178,144	183,393
Owner Distribution - 80 4th Ave.	150,000	600,000	600,000

DRAW ON INVESTMENTS			
	128,000	678,524	762,607

TOTAL REVENUE	\$2,958,470	\$2,949,716	\$3,026,000
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EXPENSES			
Parish Ministry	\$599,410	\$653,847	\$672,000
Outreach/GO Project	134,742	120,000	124,000
Music	316,224	313,403	320,000
Diocesan Support	228,384	200,704	210,000
Fabric and Grounds	699,362	702,997	720,000
Administration	711,585	808,765	830,000
Capital Improvements	165,828	150,000	150,000

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,855,535	\$2,949,716	\$3,026,000
NET SURPLUS/ DEFICIT	\$102,935	\$0	\$0



**Gifts to Grace Church
(EIN: 13-5562327)
are tax-deductible to the
fullest extent of the law.**