

Grace Notes

THE NEWSLETTER OF GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE



MARCH/APRIL 2009

VOLUME X, NO. 2

The Rector's Message . . .

In many cultures there is an ancient custom of giving a tenth of each year's income to some holy use. For Christians, to observe the forty days of Lent is to do the same thing with roughly a tenth of each year's days. After being baptized by John in the river Jordan, Jesus went off alone into the wilderness where he spent forty days asking himself the question what it meant to be Jesus. During Lent, Christians are supposed to ask one way or another what it means to be themselves.

If you had to bet everything you have on whether there is a God or whether there isn't, which side would get your money and why?

When you look at your face in the mirror, what do you see in it that you most like and what do you see in it that you most deplore?

If you had only one last message to leave to the handful of people who are most important to you, what would it be in twenty-five words or less?

Of all the things you have done in your life, which is the one you would most like to undo? Which is the one that makes you happiest to remember?



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Is there any person in the world, or any cause, that if circumstances called for it, you would be willing to die for?

If this were the last day of your life, what would you do with it?

To hear yourself try to answer questions like these is to begin to hear something not only of who you are but of both what you are becoming and what you are failing to become. It can be a pretty depressing business all in all, but if sackcloth and ashes are at the start of it, something like Easter may be at the end.

Important Calendar Dates To Note!

- Sat. Mar 14 St. Patrick's Dinner (Fundraiser), 5 to 8 p.m.
- Wed. Mar 18 Lenten Study Bible 101, 7 p.m.
- Fri. Mar 20 Brown Bag Concerts begin, 12:15 p.m. (3/20 & 27, 4/3)
- Sun. Mar 22 Munchin' for a Mission, Champps Restaurant, all day
- Wed. Mar 25 Lenten Study Bible 101, 7 p.m.
- Fri. Mar 27 Diocesan Convention, Christ Church
- Sun. Mar 29 Small Grp. Fellowship Dinners, Time TBD
- Tues. Mar 31 An Introduction to Prayer Beads, 7 p.m.
- Wed. Apr 1 Taize Service, 7 p.m.
- Sat. May 16 Flea Market at Grace, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- April 5 Palm Sunday, 8:30 & 10:30 AM
- April 8 Tenebrae, 7:00 PM
- April 9 Seder Meal, 6:00 PM
- Maundy Thurs Svc, 7:30 PM
- Apr 10 Good Friday Svc, 12 noon
- Apr 12 Easter Sunday, 8:30 & 10:30 AM



Vestry Briefs (from Feb. 19 Mtg)

- Bruce Phillips presented the Treasurer's Report. The energy plan that has been put in place has had a very positive effect on the oil budget. There have been a 30% decrease in funds in the Master Fund A; cemetery funds are also down.
- The vestry unanimously approved the nomination of Irv Hollingsworth as Jr. Warden. Jean Burton was unanimously approved as Clerk of the Vestry for this year.
- Pastor Anna related that the Jesse Ball DuPont Fund has made some changes due to the economic downturn. They will no longer support grants for building improvements, clergy enrichment funds, or technical assistance. There will still be competitive grants for major community outreach programs.
- Jill Jensen has resigned as web master. We will need to find a replacement.
- Planned Activities: Vestry Retreat is scheduled for Feb. 28. Fundraiser Concert on Sat., March 7. Small Group Fellowship Dinners will be held March 8 and 29. Lenten Programs include Taizé services on March 4 and April 1; Bible 101 on March 18 & 25.
- St. Patrick's Dinner (Fundraiser) will be held March 14. Pat Diamond made the recommendation that the proceeds of the dinner be distributed in this manner: 10% outreach, 50% applied toward a commercial dishwasher, and 40% to the church's general fund. The vestry unanimously approved this distribution.
- Pat Diamond, Cemetery Committee, has done research regarding plot prices at surrounding cemeteries. He proposed the following Grace price changes: Single plot \$800; Double \$1500, cremation plot, \$600. Vestry unanimously approved the changes.

You are invited . . .

The Renewal of Ordination Vows

Holy Tuesday, April 7, 2009

Cathedral Church of St. John, Wilmington

10:15 am Forum with

Presiding Bishop

Katherine Jefferts-Schori

12 noon Holy Eucharist

1:00 Light Lunch

RSVP no later than 3/31

656-5443, ext. 106

Due to recent budget cuts and the rising cost of electricity, gas, and oil, as well as current market conditions, "The Light at the End of the Tunnel" has been turned off.

We apologize for the inconvenience.

The Government



Grace Church's Annual Flea Market

Sat., May 16, 2009
(Rain Date May 30)
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Space Rental Fee: \$15.00

Great way to earn a little extra money — Rent a space with some friends/family and sell your “used” goods or perhaps sell a special craft you love to make. Call the office to reserve your spot! 302-478-9533 or email graceplace3@comcast.net.

Not wanting to sell? Then plan on stopping in to shop for bargains and grab some lunch in our Parish Hall. This is a large fundraiser for Grace each year — support your church!

Watch the bulletin board in upcoming weeks for volunteer sign-up sheets for set up, food prep and sales, and clean up.



Open Dates for Regular Sunday Altar Flowers:

May 31, Jun 21, Jul 5 & 12, Aug 9, 16, 23, Sep 13, Nov 8

Sponsorship of flowers is \$35/vase. Flowers may be given in memorial or thanksgiving. Call the office to reserve a date.



Have received some **bulletin sponsorships**, but need more! Sponsorship for bulletins is \$55/mo. You may be acknowledged for your donation in the Sunday bulletin, or you may remain anonymous. Without this additional funding, we cannot print the lessons insert and use color ink on the covers. Contact Linda if you can help (302-478-9533).



Easter Altar Flower Donation envelopes are available in the church hallway. Flowers may be given in memory or thanksgiving. Donation is for whatever amount you wish to give. Memorials/thanksgivings will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Please print clearly, include your check or cash in the envelope, and place the envelope in the Office mail slot in the choir room.

Due date: Sunday, March 29



Support the Youth — Enjoy a Meal Out!
Munchin' for a Mission

Pick up a flyer on **Sunday, March 22** from the youth group for **Munchin' for a Mission**. This time we are visiting the Champps Restaurant at the Concord Mall. Just go over for a meal, hand the server your flyer when you get seated, and 15% of your total bill will come back to the J2A youth. (This offer is good the entire day of Sunday, March 22.) Proceeds go towards their pilgrimage fund.





Wise Words

- Never buy a car you can't push.
- Since it's the early worm that gets eaten by the bird, sleep late.
- The second mouse gets the cheese.
- When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.
- Some mistakes are too much fun to only make once.

Outreach Commission. . . . Study Commission

*Grace's Annual
Spring in Talleyville
Brown Bag Concerts*

*Fridays, 12:15 PM
Free and Open to the Public
Bring along a bagged lunch!*

March 20	John Pollard (acoustic guitar)	
March 27	C. Lawler Rogers, Sr. (Baritone) Rodless Beike (Accompanist) Spirituals and More!	
April 3	Electrum Duo (Flute and percussion)	

Don't forget our continuing Lenten studies:

Join seminarian JoAnn Koskol Sundays in the Memorial Room at 9:30 a.m. (through March 29) for the series: **Living the Questions**. Also . . .

Bible 101 with Pastor Anna on Wed., March 18 & 25 at 7:00 p.m. Sign up in the hallway!



Nets for Life

On **Sunday, April 26** we will have a special collection for *Nets for Life*. The program, in part sponsored by Episcopal Relief and Development, helps to fight the spread of malaria, especially in Africa. Malaria takes the life of 3,000 children each day in Africa. Monies collected will go to ERD to help purchase mosquito nets that safeguard people from insects carrying the dreaded disease. There will be a display in the Parish Hall on the program. [You can learn more by visiting the website: www.netsforlifeafrica.org.]

An Introduction to Prayer Beads

The Creative Call group invites you to join them on **Tuesday, March 31, 7 p.m., for "Praying by Touch: an Introduction to Prayer Beads"** with Sr Julian Wilson of Anamchara Fellowship. Prayer beads have been used in most major religions from ancient times. They are an invaluable aid to focusing or centering and can help to foster a continuing spirit of prayerfulness. Come learn about the uniquely Episcopal "Anglican Prayer Beads," experience the pleasures of tactile prayer, and craft your own Anglican Rosary. \$5 supplies fee. Contact the office if interested in attending.



Vacation Bible School 2009

Camp EDGE—Experience and Discover God Everywhere

Don't miss all of the fun and fellowship.

Join us for Vacation Bible School.

We have programs available for kids from 5 years to 99 years.

Bible School will be held at Grace the week of

August 3rd – August 7th from 5:45 PM – 9:00 PM.

Our program will start at 5:45 with dinner in the Parish Hall. Following the meal, we process into the chapel for a short service. At this time the participants will separate into their units. The adults will follow Pastor Anna to continue their program. The children will then go on a journey to a biblical destination. Here they will begin the Camp EDGE program- *Experience and Discover God Everywhere*. Camp EDGE brings children closer to God by discovering that God is with them at all times, in all places, and in all circumstances, always ready to help and guide them. A daily journey helps the children discover God in different places. Children then travel to four different stations; each will reinforce the daily message. Adults and children join together at the end of the evening for an ending worship service in church.



There is still room for plenty of helpers. We still need help in the following areas: Station leaders, Group leaders, dinner help, Actors for the dramas, preparing backdrops for the dramas, and much more. Please call Brenda Trageser @ 610-368-5507 or the church office if you are able to give some of your time. Registration will begin in May. The daily offering will be given to *Nets for Life*, a program that sponsors mosquito nets to combat malaria in Africa. (see page 6)

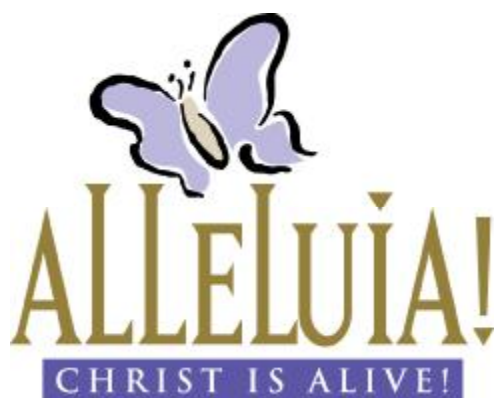
Together the Community at Grace can make Vacation Bible School a huge success!



Caring Commission

The latest “Newcomers” dinner was held on a Sunday evening in February. Most of the vestry and some spouses were there, as well as three new families to Grace; The Schneider Family, the Craig Family, and Sandra Taylor. With a good meal of lasagna, salads, French bread, and cheesecake and visiting with old and new friends, what could make a better social event? It was a great way for old members to get to know new members. (And, what a blast to watch John Haley serving the lasagna! – whoops, did he slip with a bad word?)

You still have a chance to join in the **Small Group Fellowship Dinners!** We still have one left on Sunday, March 29. Contact Fred/Eve Tennille (610-793-2661) if you would like to attend and take the opportunity to get to know more of the parishioners at Grace outside of church services!



Book Club News

The next book selection is *Pillars of the Earth* by Ken Follette. This book is available in book stores and on Amazon in paperback and audio.

Synopsis of book: This is a long, irresistible, 12th century account of two men’s obsession to rebuild a ruined Cathedral. Set against a background of Civil War, religious chicanery, political double-dealing, grinding poverty and personal adversity, Master Builder Tom and Philip, Prior of Kingsbridge, follow their dream. A complex story confidently-written, with compulsive drive. (Kirkus)

Group Discussion Nite will be **Sunday, April 19** at 7:00 p.m. at Grace Place.



SPOTLIGHT ON . . .

Sandra Taylor



Sandra moved to Glen Mills about six months ago and explored several churches in the area. She was immediately comfortable at Grace and enjoyed Pastor Anna's messages. Sandra is now retired, but her career years included working as an administrator for a research institute at John Hopkins Univ. in Baltimore and public relations for the Community Action Agency of Delaware County.

A mother of four children, Sandra has a son who lives close by in Media. Her mother is 90 years old and resides at the Brinton Manor Nursing Home.

Sandra says, "I have enjoyed the warm welcome of the members I have met so far." Please be sure to introduce yourself to her at the next service and we are so pleased to have you with us, Sandra!

Camp Arrowhead Brochures

The 2009 Camp Arrowhead brochures are on display in the church hallway. Also, the Open House for the camp is **Sunday, April 5 from 2 to 4 p.m.** All are welcome.

The weekend of April 3-5 is the camp's annual work weekend. If any one is interested in volunteering to help on those days, call Dina Hollingsworth (302-945-0610 x8)



***Looking for something different?
Try these two upcoming services . . .***

***Taize Service
Wed., April 1, 2009
7:00 PM***

A quiet contemplative service with simple music, scripture and silence.

***Tenebrae Service
Wed., April 8, 2009
7:00 PM***

An ancient monastic service of scripture and light.

MAME



*Spring Musical
for
Concord High School
2501 Ebright Rd.*

*Thurs-Sat
April 23, 24, 25
7:00 PM*

*Tickets available at 475-3951
Great Music, Great Comedy*

Grace's Tom Marshall, Director

**AROUND
the
CONGREGATION**

Two of our parishioners recently had very special birthdays. **Ed Williams** turned 99 on January 30, and **Dorothy Williams** turned 100 on March 5. A Grace birthday card basket full of best wishes was delivered to Dorothy by Gail Haley. Congratulations on this milestone.

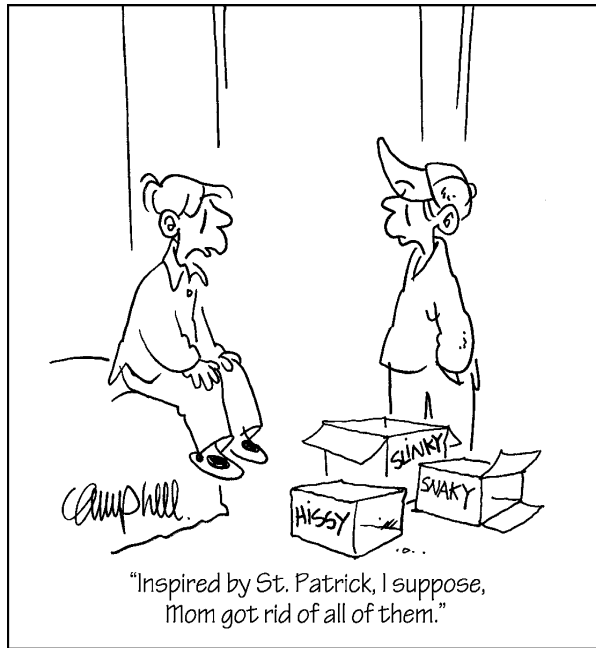


Some of you may remember **Christina Nord**, a seminarian, who attended and worked at Grace a couple of years ago. Christina was ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons on February 2 at the Cathedral Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, PA. We wish her the very best in her work as deacon!

Stephan and Cyndi Lehm are happy to announce the arrival of grandson William Quint Saienni, IV, born on January 25, at 10:23 am. William weighed in at 6 lbs. 11 oz., 21 inches. Proud parents are Stephanie and Quint Saienni. Best wishes to the new family.



Congrats to Kim Trageser! Kim wrote a review of the Delaware County Christian School's production of *Annie*, and it was printed in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. Way to go Kim.



A Little Chuckle for the Day

The Tailgater

A man was being tailgated by a stressed out woman on a busy boulevard. Suddenly, the light turned yellow. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light. The tailgating woman was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration as she missed her chance to get through the intersection, dropping her cell phone and makeup.

As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, finger printed, photographed, and placed in a holding cell. After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him. I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' License plate holder, the 'Follow Me to Sunday-School' bumper Sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk. Naturally. . . I assumed you had stolen the car. "

Priceless!



Subject: The Service

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names with small American flags mounted on either side of it. The seven-year-old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the little boy, and said quietly "Good morning Alex."

"Good morning Pastor," he replied, still focused on the plaque. "Pastor, what is this?" he asked. The pastor said, "Well, son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service." Somberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque. Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear, asked; "Which service...the 9:00 or the 10:45 ???"

The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible.
— George Burns

I bet any Sunday could be made as popular at church as Easter if you made them into fashion shows too.
— Will Rogers

The only thing some folks give up for Lent are their New Year's resolutions.
—Rev. Felix A. Lorenz , Jr.

Christianity has died many times and risen again, for it has a God who knows the way out of the grave.
— G.K. Chesterton

**quotes reprinted from More Holy Humor, Cal and Rose Samra, Guideposts, 1997.*

Grace Episcopal Church

4900 Concord Pike
 Wilmington DE 19803
 302-478-9533

The Rev. Anna M. Waid, Rector

Grace Place Office

4906 Concord Pike
 Telephone: 302-478-9533 Fax: 302-478-9535
 Email: graceplace3@comcast.net
 Office Hours: Mon—Fri, 9 am to 1 pm

Service Times:

Sunday Holy Eucharist, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.
 (Nursery is available at the 10:30)
 Godly Play and Tweens & Teens, 10:15 a.m.
 Rite-13 and J2A, 9:30—10:25 a.m.
 Wednesday, Eucharist/Healing Service, 12 Noon



www.graceepiswilmde.org

Click on the link for the **online parish calendar** and stay up to date on events at Grace Church!



**Friday
 April 24**

VESTRY OF GRACE

Tom Marshall, Sr. Warden (2011)
Irv Hollingsworth, Jr. Warden (2010)
Linda Adams (2010)
Jean Burton (2012)
Patrick Diamond (2011)
John Haley (2011)
Paul Miles (2012)
Christopher Raab (2010)
Julie Simone (2012)
Fred Tennille (2011)
Brenda Trageser (2012)

