

Grace Notes

THE NEWSLETTER OF GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE



JULY/AUGUST 2008

VOLUME IX, NO. 4

The Rector's Message . . .

Dear People of Grace,

It is becoming very obvious that our community at Grace is entering into a new chapter of its long life. Many of our members are moving into retirement homes, moving away to be closer to children, and are no longer in a position to maintain the core community that they have successfully provided for many years. At our vestry retreat, the vestry began the conversation around building up our community and what this community might look like in this new millennium. Our culture and our society have changed tremendously over the last few years, and we need to consider how these changes have and will impact us. For example, it is obvious that the cost of oil and the cost of stamps is becoming a burden. What if we did most of our communication through email? Some don't have a computer or email, so how would we communicate with you? What if we closed the main sanctuary in the winter and worshiped in the chapel all year round? What effect would that have on our organ? On our psyche? In order to appeal to younger families, what if we started a family service at a different time? Or make our 10:30 service a family service with children attending all the time? What would that look like? How would that work? These are the kinds of questions we need to ask and struggle with. It doesn't mean any of these things will happen; it just means that the questions need to be asked and talked about. This is not a conversation just for the

(Continued on page 2)



Inside This Edition:

News from the Office	2
Vestry Briefs	3
Coffee Hour Sign-up	4
Vacation Bible School	4
College Admiss. Seminar	4
News Around Congregation	5
Emmanuel Dining Room	6
Help Midwest Flood Victims	6
American Cancer Society	6
Chuckle of the Day	7

vestry. It is a conversation we all need to be involved in. And this is what the vestry is planning to do—continue the conversation with you.



This is not a time to panic or worry. It is a time to be creative and thoughtful. It is an opportunity to make Grace into a community of the 21st century—whatever that looks like. It is an opportunity to decide what that will look like. So, let's start this conversation and see where it goes. I look forward to it.

Peace,
Pastor Anna

This past month Pastor Anna began her **parish-wide email messages**. Another will soon be going out. You can be on the receiving end of these communiqués from your pastor **if you update your email address with the office!** (Remember if you recently switched from Comcast to Verizon, we need to know that.) *If you do not have email, the messages are always printed out and posted on the hallway bulletin board.* The office is relying on email also for the reminders on lay reading, ushering, altar guild, etc. *For those without email — no fears — the reminders are still being mailed to you.*

We are still taking orders for copies of the new **2008 Pictorial Directory**. See the sign-up sheet on the hallway bulletin board. . . .

To save in our postage costs per year, **Grace Church will stop mailing newsletters after this issue**. We will continue to produce newsletters every two months, and there will be copies placed in the church on the hallway tables for pick up. Those parishioners with internet access will receive emails with a link to the Church's website, where you can view current and past editions of the newsletter. [The newsletter will be in a pdf format that will require the *Adobe Reader* software to view the pages. *Adobe* is a free downloadable program, which your computer will prompt you to install. If you have any troubles viewing the newsletter online, call the office for help.]



During the week of Vacation Bible School, July 28 thru Aug. 1, Secretary Linda Owens and Pastor Anna will both be working at the VBS. If you call the church office that week, plan to leave a voice mail message. Linda will check messages late in the afternoon each day.

Vestry Briefs (from June 19, 2008 Mtg)

- Treasurer's Report: From May reports: Pledge/plate income is under budget by \$8,000, expenses over budget by \$11,500. (Expense for heating oil is over budget by \$10,300.) Cemetery and Finance Comm. recommend reallocation of a mutual fund investment from Capital Grounds Trust to Perpetual Care Endowment Fund. (Both funds are assets designated to the cemetery). This transfer would increase the balance in Perpetual Care to \$260,000. A conservative growth rate of 3.5% will yield \$10,000 in income to pay for normal cemetery operating expenses including snow removal, lawn care and grounds maintenance. All additional growth above 3.5% will remain in the fund to compensate for future inflation. Anthony J. DelVacchio, CPA, has been hired to do a full audit at the cost of \$2,300 for the year.
- Irv Hollingsworth, Property Chairman, asked the Sr. Warden and Finance Chairman to join the Property Committee to develop an energy conservation plan for the church. Irv Hollingsworth requested authorization by the Vestry to "cap" our oil price with our fuel supplier when, in his judgment, it is appropriate to do so.
- Vestry received a report from Jerome Heisler, Jr. and Kathy Craven., Director of the Pilot School. The Pilot School would like to purchase The Clover Leaf Stables from the Woodlawn Trustees. This property is on Woodlawn Road, across from the Grace Rectory. The property is 17 acres, zoned residential, outside of the critical natural area. No rezoning is required for the school. The Pilot School has entered into a contract with Woodlawn Trustees to purchase this property if all state and county codes mandates approvals are obtained. Vestry members were able to express their concerns to Mr. Heisler and Ms. Craven.
Sr. Warden Tom Marshall will invite Bob Weiner, County Councilman to our next meeting. Jeff Beck will talk to Woodlawn Trustees to inquire about their plan.

VESTRY RETREAT

On June 21 the Vestry met for a day-long retreat session at the Wapiti Retreat on the Chesapeake Bay. The group completed exercises designed to build community in the vestry. They then expanded this and discussed ways to build community within the parish. Work from the retreat day will be revisited at the July vestry meeting.

For a fee, Gravescape.com will clean up the gravesite of family and friends, plus provide photographic evidence that a floral arrangement or vase was left at the appropriate tombstone. Gravescape.com is for people who find that distances makes a cemetery visit impractical.

Your Cemetery Committee



Monday, July 28 — Friday, Aug. 1
8:30 AM to 12:15 PM

VBS Coordinator Brenda Trageser and her team have been hard at work this summer planning for our school later this month. Want to know how you can help?

- Sign up on the hallway bulletin board to donate some needed supplies
- Let Brenda know if you can give of your time during that week, even if it is only for a few hours!
- Keep our VBS workers/students in your prayers during our school week — pray for good weather!

Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions Presents:

Accepted: Getting into the College of your Choice

Students and Parents will:

- Discover the ins and outs of college admissions
- Learn what admissions officers want to see in applicants
- Get tips for college success

July 22nd, 6pm
 Grace Episcopal Church, Parish Hall
 Call 1-800-KAP-TEST to register or for more info.



*Have you signed up for **Coffee Hour** this fall? Sign-up sheet is on the hallway bulletin board. Instructions will be mailed to you for this easy duty. . . . Remember, this fall when you have Coffee Hour duty, you will also serve as Greeter at the 10:30 svc. Thank you for your service to the church!*





Amanda Marshall has graduated from the University of Delaware with a degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management on May 31. She is a member of the Gamma Sigma Sigma sorority, which is a service sorority. Mandy has been working at the Wilmington Country Club throughout school and is looking for additional employment in food services after graduation.



Maxwell Charles Phillips was born on March 21 (8 lbs 8 oz, 21 in.) to Bruce Phillips Jr. and his wife Reva in San Ramon, CA. Grandparents Lynn and Bruce Phillips enjoyed a two week visit with Isabella, Sophia and baby Maxwell. . . . Rob and Jennifer Eppes welcomed **Aubrey Adele Eppes** on May 4 at 11:38 am, weighing 7 lbs 5 oz. . . . And Pastor Anna's grandbaby, **Analiese Grace Waid**, arrived on Monday, June 23. (9 lbs. 7 oz., 21 1/2 in.) Proud parents are Wesley and Candice Waid.

Grace Church celebrated the life of **Pearl M. Pierson** with a graveside service on Wed., July 2. Pearl, a member of Grace Episcopal, had been a long-time resident at Manor Care and lived to the wonderful age of 90 years.

Amy Popovich, daughter of Lynne and Tom Popovich, has announced her engagement to Rob Perkins. A beach wedding is planned for September 26, 2009. Pastor Anna will preside at the nuptials.

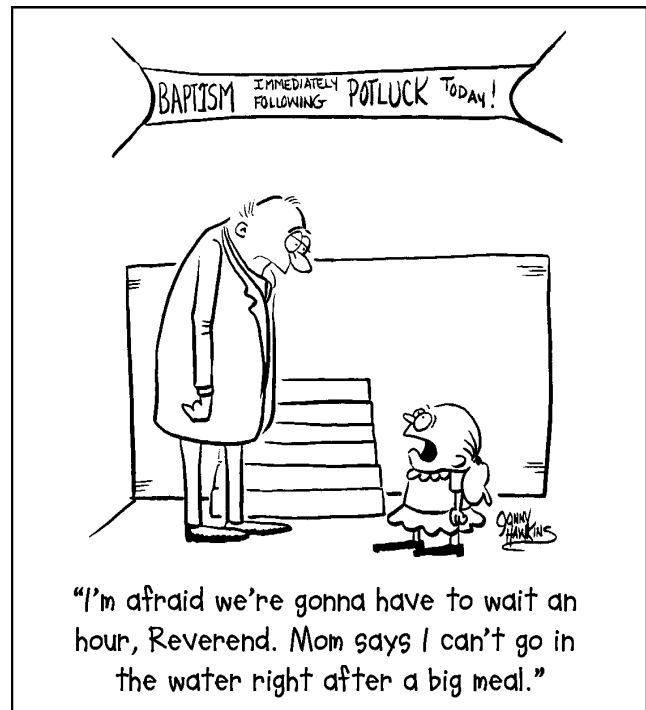
We have had a number of **baptisms** at Grace this summer:

On June 1, **Thomas Anthony Bamonte**, son of Matthew and Noelle Bamonte.

On June 29, **Jasmine Alanna Jenkins**, daughter of Gary and Suzanne Jenkins and granddaughter of Lilly and Ken Taylor.



And on July 13, **Aubrey Adele Eppes**, daughter of Rob and Jennifer Eppes; **Jack Ryan Hartzell**, son of Keith Hartzell and Tammy Woodward, grandson of Paula and Stephan Hartzell; and **Analiese Grace Waid**, daughter of Wesley and Candice Waid, granddaughter of Bill and Anna Waid.



Emmanuel Dining Room (EDR)

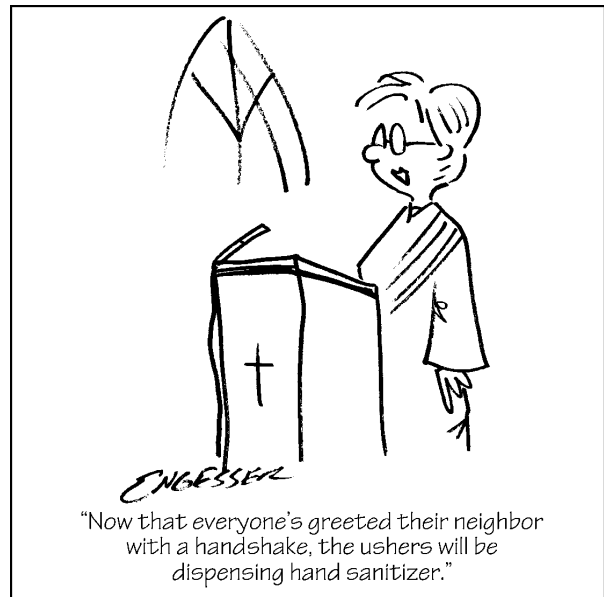
I would like to “pat a few backs” for their continuing support of the EDR program at Grace Church. My co-chairperson in this endeavor is Aline Holler, who has been so much help to me. Sue Watson has been there whenever I needed an extra hand - every time! Then Nancy Hogan and Susan Carter have also given their time and effort. Big helpers! I must include Julie Simone, who has given me so many shortcuts, and brilliant ideas - love her! Our helpers, who I could not do this without are, Nancy Simpkins, Jean Burton, Mimi Pettit and Chris Botlinger (and their children), Cindy Larned, Stacey Fennimore, Beth Raab, Jane Martin, Cathy Diamond, Brenda Trageser (and her children), and of course Marge Levin who gave me my start. We also have helpers from outside of Grace Church: My husband, R.B.; my good friends, Denise Losco and Penny Wilhelme; and Greg Losco. And last but certainly NOT least is John Haley. He has been taking the casseroles down to EDR since I started. I could not have done any of this without these good people, and I can't thank every single person enough.

Jo Ryan, EDR Coordinator

Ed. Note: Grace Church supports the Emmanuel Dining Room (Wilmington soup kitchen) by preparing casserole dinners once a month and delivering to their downtown location. If you wish to help this worthwhile program, contact Jo Ryan (478-0114).

American Cancer Society's *Road to Recovery Program* is looking for volunteers with cars who are willing to drive cancer patients to or from their chemo/radiation treatments. The Cancer Society provides the training and works with the volunteers on a flexible schedule. **There will be an Information Session at the Brandywine Hundred Library at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 22.** You can also check out their website at www.cancer.org or call 302-324-4227.

It's not too late to help the **Midwest flood victims!** Donations can be given to **Episcopal Relief & Development** through their website, www.er-d.org or mail checks to ERD/Midwest Floods, P.O. Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058.



A Little Chuckle for the Day

A minister was completing a temperance sermon. With great emphasis he said, '**If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.**' With even greater emphasis he said, '**And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.**' And then finally, shaking his fist in the air, he Said, '**AND IF I HAD ALL THE WHISKEY IN THE WORLD, I'D TAKE IT AND POUR IT INTO THE RIVER.**'

Sermon complete, he sat down.

The song leader stood very cautiously and announced with a smile, nearly laughing, 'For our closing song, let us sing Hymn #365, 'Shall We Gather at the River.'

Reverend Ole was the pastor of the local Norwegian Lutheran Church, and Pastor Sven was the minister of the Swedish Covenant Church across the road. One day they were both seen pounding a sign into the ground, that read: "DA END ISS NEAR! TURN YERSELF AROUND NOW , BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE"

As a car sped past them, the driver leaned out his window and yelled: "Keep it to yourself, you religious bigots!"

Then, from the curve up ahead they heard screeching tires and a big splash. Rev. Ole turns to Pastor Sven and asks: "Do ya tink maybe da sign should jyst say: 'Bridge Out'?"

This has to be one of the best singles ads ever printed. It is reported to have been listed in the Atlanta Journal.

SINGLE BLACK FEMALE seeks male companionship, ethnicity unimportant. I'm a very good girl who LOVES to play. I love long walks in the woods, riding in your pickup truck, hunting, camping and fishing trips, cozy winter nights lying by the fire. Candlelight dinners will have me eating out of your hand. I'll be at the front door when you get home from work, wearing only what nature gave me. Call (404) 875-6420 and ask for Daisy, I'll be waiting...

Over 15,000 men found themselves talking to the Atlanta Humane Society...



DAISY



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, 10:15 a.m.
 Tweens & Teens, 10:15 a.m.
 Wednesday, Eucharist/Healing Service, 12 Noon



www.graceepiswilmde.org



**Monday
 Aug. 25**

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT NO. 65
 CLAYMONT, DE 19703

**Grace Episcopal Church
 4900 Concord Pike
 Wilmington, DE 19803-1412**