

# Grace Notes

THE NEWSLETTER OF GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE



MAY/JUNE 2008

VOLUME IX, NO. 3

## The Rector's Message . . .

Dear People of Grace,

In Genesis we find the story of God's creation of earth. It says, "And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called seas. And God saw that it was good. And God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, upon the earth." And it was so.... And God saw that it was good..... And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so.... And God saw that it was good.

All that God created was deemed good, very good. In the Bible, if something is "good", it is the way it is suppose to be. The way God created earth is just as it was suppose to be. Our earth is no longer the way God created it and intended it to be. We have not intentionally set about changing the patterns of the earth, destroying parts of it, endangering plants, animals, and even ourselves; but being who we are, human beings with curiosity and a need to make life easier, it has happened, slowly at first and now faster and faster. It is time for us to take a look at what is happening and to seriously think about the changes we need to make in order to save what God

*(Continued on page 2)*



## Happy Planting!

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deemed very good.

It is very daunting to look at the whole picture. Where to begin? What to do? We don't need to look at the whole picture. We just need to look at what we can do in the community in which we live. One very simple and easy thing to do is recycle. Glass, plastic, cans, paper — it can all be recycled. It takes a little effort on our part, but it is a little effort with a big impact. Here at Grace, we have a well marked container in which to put our recyclables. It is in the parish hall next to the coffee cabinet. Too often I have found trash in it and recyclables in the trash cans. It is time that we at Grace do our part to clean up what God made good. Please walk a few extra steps to put recyclables in the right container and trash in the trash can. Let's make the effort to change our old habits into new ones that will benefit not only us, but our children and grandchildren. Think RECYCLE!!!



God's peace,

Pastor Anna

## Flea Market

**Sat. , May 10**  
**9 am to 2 pm**  
 (rain date — May 17)

Don't forget to come shop for treasures at the Flea Market!

- our church members' flea market table
- Private citizen tables with their flea market items, plus crafters and vendors
- Antique car/tractors display by BRAACA car club
- Grace's baked goods table
- Lunch items in the parish hall

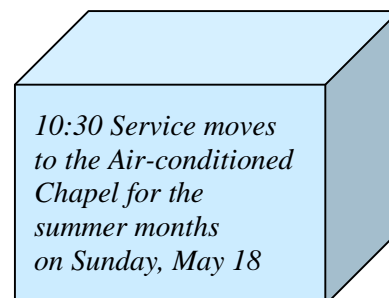
Our annual Flea Market is one of the biggest fund raisers for the church each year. Come show your support!



**Church Picnic**  
**Sun., June 8**  
 following  
 10:30 service

**\*Sunday School Recognitions\***

*Watch upcoming bulletins for more info!*



*10:30 Service moves  
 to the Air-conditioned  
 Chapel for the  
 summer months  
 on Sunday, May 18*

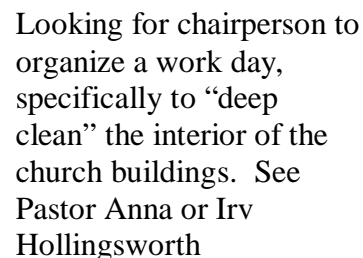
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## *Vestry Briefs . . . . (from March 26, 2008 Mtg)*

- Finance/Treasurer Report: The Finance Committee is securing an audit for 2007. The suggestion was made to have a transaction audit every other year, which would be a less expensive process. John Poplos is checking with the diocese, if this is acceptable to them. Through 2/29/2008 the income is down. Most of the difference is in lower pledge payments. The expenses are over budget, i.e. building maintenance and oil expenses. Treasurer Bruce Phillips expressed a concern about our low level of working capital.
- Property Report: Irv Hollingsworth discussed Drew Holler's Eagle Scout project of landscaping the church grounds. Drew presented his plans to the Property Committee on 3/12. The hope is to have a final presentation ready for the next vestry meeting. There is a crack in one of the smaller stained glass panels in the sanctuary. Tim Trageser will contact the stained glass company about the repair procedure.
- New Business: Robert Reder re-visited the question as to having the American flag and the Episcopal flag in the church. Anna has agreed to having them placed in the narthex or the back of the church. Robert and Irv Hollingsworth will find an appropriate place for the flags. The flags will be cleaned and displayed.
- Questions for going forward: How do we get other people involved in the commissions?  
Obtaining information from the Diocese on other churches that are growing.
- The vestry divided up into their commissions for discussion.
- Fred Tennille along with one person from the Finance Committee will be heading up the Stewardship campaign for 2009. Robert Reder will be shadowing Fred to be chairman of the stewardship in 2010.
- In September 2008, JoAnn Koskol, a seminarian from St. James, Millcreek, will be working with Anna here at Grace.



**LAST DAY FOR  
SUNDAY SCHOOL  
SUNDAY, MAY 18**



Looking for chairperson to organize a work day, specifically to "deep clean" the interior of the church buildings. See Pastor Anna or Irv Hollingsworth

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## Study Commission . . . .

We are well underway with planning for our VBS this summer. Registration is open to the public now — please let friends and family know of this great opportunity for their kids this summer! Registration forms are available in the church hallway.



There are a couple of ways you can help:

**Monday, July 28 — Friday, Aug. 1**  
**8:30 AM to 2:00 PM**

1. **VOLUNTEER** — we need some more hands to work with the kids, specifically

— **Early Bird Activities helper:** working with Jeff Beck you do presentations/activities with kids as they begin their day, 8:30 to 8:50 a.m. Just 15-20 min. each day!

— **Crew Leaders:** you lead a group of children around the building to the different activity centers of the VBS. There are always 2 crew leaders with each group, so you are never on your own!

2. **DONATE** — needed items for crafts: pieces of cloth, ribbon, plastic milk bottle tops, egg cartons, empty rolls from paper towels/toilet paper. There will be a box placed in the church hallways to gather your donations. Later this summer we will have a list up of food items you can donate for VBS such as drink boxes, snack items, etc.

Last year this program was a great success with over 50 children attending the VBS. Many families were introduced to Grace for the first time. Help us to make it as successful this year!



The J2A youth returned from their Mission trip to Belize on March 29. On the evening of Sunday, April 27th we celebrated a Coffee & Dessert Night with the kids while they made a presentation to the parish of their slides from the trip. It was a very meaningful trip for them all, and the memories of the work, experiences, and people will remain with them for years to come. The J2A group wants to give their sincere thanks to the people of Grace for their support (fundraisers and prayers). Thank you!

High School

**Bryan Holler** will graduate from Brandywine High School on June 1. He plans to attend the Univ. of Maryland in the fall . . .

**Taylor Long, Amanda Carpenter and Mackenzie Carpenter** also graduate that day from Mount Pleasant High School . . . **Matt Williams** (son of Sandy Poplos) will graduate from Salesianum School . . . **Kenny Poplos**

(grandson of John and Janet Poplos) will graduate from the Paul M. Hodgson Vocational Technical High School . . . **Brett Claus** graduates on June 8 from Garnet Valley High School and plans to attend Shippensburg Univ. this fall to study Exercise Science.

College

**Ashley Helie** is graduating from Franklin Pierce University in New Hampshire on May 17, with a degree in English and a minor in History. She is also a member of the English Honor Society. She has accepted a graduate assistant position with the school and will be directing their fund raising campaign while attending graduate school . . . **Tyler Claus**, member of Norwich University Corps of Cadets, will graduate on May 11, 2008. He will receive a Bachelor of Arts degree in Studies in War and Peace. He will be commissioned as a 2nd Lt. in the U.S. Army at the same time. He will spend the next few months in training for his Branch assignment, Field Artillery. . . **Heather Claus** will finish her third year at the Naval Academy in May, at which time she will be promoted to the rank

of "First Class". She has been selected to participate in a language immersion program spending four weeks in China this summer, other training assignments include a Marine and aviation experience . . . **Nathan Owens**, son of Secretary Linda Owens, will graduate with honors from West Chester University on May 10th, with a bachelor's degree in history and a minor in Spanish. Nate will pursue a Master's degree at Indiana Univ. of Pennsylvania (IUP) this fall.

In the first full week of May, the **1st pledge statements of this year will be mailed out**. Please check your statement for accuracy and contact the office with any changes. . . .In the church hallway we have a copy of the **new May 2008 Pictorial Directory** displayed. If you would like a copy printed for you, sign your name on the sheet. Due to the cost of the colored ink used in the printing process, we are asking for \$2/copy. If you do not wish to purchase a copy of the picture directory, Linda can print off black and white roster pages (names, address, phone #s) for you. . . .

**To help cut postage costs**, the office is using email for distribution of lector schedules and weekly readings, vestry minutes, etc. So please keep the office updated to your email address changes! Thanks!!



Office News



On Sunday, April 27 Pastor Anna dedicated the Memorial Tree plaque for the stained glass window. Getting the plaque up was almost as much work as the window itself! Many thanks to **Jake Marberger** for the original construction of the “tree”, **Paula Hartzell** for her artistic touches to the tree, **Paul Miles** for overseeing the engraving of the “leaves”, and **Jake Marberger & Fred Tennille** for the installation of the leaves on the tree. It is a handsome addition to our sanctuary!

**Jo Ryan** has been working hard to find financial help for our outreach to Emmanuel Dining Room. We would like to acknowledge the following people/businesses for their support: **Bernie Kenny** from **ShopRite** donates cookies every month, **Jake** at **B&L Meats of Booth Corners Farmers Market** offers us the casserole meat for \$1/lb., and **Xavier Teixido** and **Chef David L. Banks** from **Harry's Savoy Grill** provide us with spices and aluminum foil. Their support is very appreciated!

Linque Gillett, **Bill Waid's nephew** passed the bar exam in Oklahoma in April. Thanks for your prayers! **Bill and Anna's daughter Ali Waid** is finishing her first year teaching 8th graders Language Arts in a Portland, OR suburban school district. She and husband Scott will be visiting her in June/July.



This has been the week for wedding anniversaries at Grace! From April 28 to May 3, the following couples celebrated:



- Richard & Sandy Powell** April 28
- Bill & Anna Waid** April 30
- Charles & Fran Allmond** May 2 **55 yrs**
- George & Marilyn Dallas** May 2
- John & Janet Poplos** May 3 **56 yrs**

**A Little Chuckle for the Day**

*A child was told to write a book report on the entire Bible. Read the following. I wonder how often we take for granted that children understand what we are teaching???*

Children's Bible in a Nutshell

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas. The Bible says, "The Lord thy God is one", but I think He must be a lot older than that. Anyway, God said, "Give me a light!" and someone did. Then God made the world. He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet. Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden. Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars. Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel. Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something. →→→→→



One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check. After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than His brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat.

Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people. These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and no cable. God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then he gave them His Top Ten Commandments. These include don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance, or covet your neighbor's stuff. Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humor thy father and thy mother.

One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua who was the first Bible guy to use spies. Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town. After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot. He had a son named Solomon who had about 300 wives and 500 porcupines. My teacher says he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me. After Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets. One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then barfed up on the shore. There were also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them.

After the Old Testament came the New Testament. Jesus is the star of The New Testament.

He was born in Bethlehem in a barn. (I wish I had been born in a barn, too, because my mom is always saying to me, 'Close the door! Were you born in a barn?' It would be nice to say, 'As a matter of fact, I was.') During His life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Republicans. Jesus also had twelve opossums. The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil that they named a terrible vegetable after him. Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to Some Germans on the Mount. But the Republicans and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands instead.



Any way's, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again. He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.

Pastor Anna's favorite new picture —

**THIS IS WHAT SORRY LOOKS LIKE**



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 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](http://www.graceepiswilmde.org)



**Monday  
 June 30**

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