

# Grace Notes

Newsletter of Grace Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia

Rector's Reflections

May 2007

## A Season of New Vibrant Life

I'll be out of town for the first 11 days of May as I begin the second half of the sabbatical I started last summer. Please read the article on the CREDO Conference included on page two of this issue of *Grace Notes*. The next part of my sabbatical leave includes three weeks of classes in the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) program at Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS) starting on Monday, June 25. I'm very aware of how "busy" the end of the academic year seems every spring.

This month also brings the end of the 50 days of Easter. We celebrate Ascension Day with a Festival Eucharist on Thursday, May 17 at 7:30 pm. Earlier in the day, our two seminarians graduate from VTS. Scott and Mark have given much to our parish since September 2005. I know they are eager to begin full-time parish ministry. They will be wonderful Priests. Many thanks to their Lay Committees at Grace who have been an important part of their formation.

We have three other very important days in May. On Sunday, May 20, at 5:00 pm, Christ Church in Old Town Alexandria will host the celebration of the 400 years of Christianity in Virginia. Bishop Lee will preach. Choirs will combine for fantastic music. We can worship together with our fellow Episcopalians and ecumenical guests from Northern Virginia. I hope many of you will be able to attend.

On Saturday, May 26, our new Bishop Coadjutor, Shannon Johnston, will be consecrated at the Washington Cathedral. And, the next day, Sunday, May 27, is the Feast of Pentecost when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church.

We proclaim that the Holy Spirit is "the Giver of Life." Easter has been a season of new, vibrant life for us all at Grace Church. New life continues into the time of Pentecost and summer. We also believe that the Holy Spirit guides us into all truth (John 16:13). Life and truth go together in our experience of the Triune God. Discover God's life and truth in all the gifts the Holy Spirit gives us, most especially in the month ahead.

— *The Rev. Robert H. Malm, Rector*

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GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
SESQUICENTENNIAL  
1855-2005

# Worship Schedule

## Sunday Schedule

Holy Eucharist Rite 1.....7:30 am  
Child care.....8:45 am–12:45 pm  
La Santa Eucaristía.....9:00 am  
Choral Eucharist Rite 2.....9:00 am  
Christian ed classes.....10:15 am  
Choral Eucharist Rite 1.....11:15 am  
Holy Eucharist Rite 2.....5:00 pm

## Weekday Eucharist

Mondays, Rite 1.....6:30 pm  
Tuesdays, Rite 2 with healing...6:30 pm  
Wednesdays, Rite 1.....7:00 am  
Thursdays, Rite 2.....7:00 am  
Fridays, Rite 1.....12:15 pm

## Grace Church is:

- ✧ A center for worship and fellowship
- ✧ A school for discipleship and stewardship
- ✧ A community for healing and outreach

## About Grace Notes

Grace Notes is published 10 times a year by Grace Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia—monthly except for combined July/August and December/January issues. Deadlines for submitting copy are by midnight on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. Next Grace Notes deadline: May 15 for the June issue. Articles may be placed in the Grace Notes folder in the credenza in the Commons, submitted by e-mail ([grace.notes@gracealex.org](mailto:grace.notes@gracealex.org)) or faxed to 703-549-2832. All articles are subject to editing. Grace Church's newsletter team includes Barry Barr (editor), Cindy Ikard, Doug Prince, Beth Wiggers and Margaret Will (layout).

# Father Malm to Attend CREDO Conference

The Rev. Robert H. Malm has accepted an invitation to attend a CREDO conference from April 30 through May 7, 2007, at Duncan Episcopal Conference Center in Del Ray, FL.

The eight-day conference provides participants with the means to find direction and clarity in four component areas: spiritual, physical, vocational and financial. CREDO provides a foundation for participants to embrace wellness and to prayerfully discern the direction of their vocation.

CREDO was founded in 1997 as a pilot program funded by The Church Pension Group. Episcopal clergy, deacons and bishops from virtually every diocese in the country have taken advantage of the CREDO benefit. Participants are selected at random from all active clergy with more than one year in the Pension Fund. The Church Pension Fund pays all but \$500 of the conference costs.

Father Malm will join approximately 30 other clergy in the CREDO conference. Over the course of the conference, participants will meet in plenary sessions, small groups and private consultations with faculty members. Participants also have ample quiet time to reflect on their personal and professional lives.

Each participant commits to extensive reflection through pre-conference instruments and surveys that focus on personal and professional wellness. The work of CREDO is organized around four major areas in each person's personal and professional life. Each of these components is explored as an integral part of the whole.

- **Spiritual** – offers a sacred space where each participant can reflect on his or her interior life and relationship with God in Christ.
- **Vocational** – provides opportunities for reflection, discernment and planning in the professional areas of vocation, career and work.
- **Health** – encourages reflection on physical and emotional health and well-being, stewardship of the body and development of a plan to address the individual's health needs.
- **Financial** – explores all aspects of personal financial management and encourages reflection on God-given resources and how best to use them in response to God's call.

Through this discernment and visioning process, and with the help of a faculty team of professionals, each participant builds a CREDO plan – a personal covenant based on his or her CREDO work and a formal expression of the CREDO experience. The CREDO Plan provides a personal baseline and strategy for effective implementation.

## Rite-13 Celebration

On May 20, our young people in the Rite-13 group will receive a special blessing at the 9:00 am service. Informally called the “Rite-13 service,” this liturgy is formally titled “A Celebration of Manhood and Womanhood.” The liturgy features many elements—the reading of Psalm 139 and prayers for both young people of their parents. I find the most memorable moment, however, to be when the priest lays hands on each young person’s head, calls him or her by name, and asks God’s particular blessing on the unique person he or she is becoming. This action underscores the main objective of our youth program: not merely to accept our youth but to *celebrate* them. Over the next few years, these young people will undertake the hard work of earning adulthood in the church. In the Journey to Adulthood (J2A) class, they will learn how skills for life in community and prepare for Confirmation. In the Episcopal Youth in Community (EYC) class, they will discern their calling as adults in church and begin to pursue new ministries. But it all begins with this moment: with blessing, with acceptance, and above all with celebration. I hope that you will pray for these young people as they prepare for this milestone in their Christian life. I hope you will be present, if you can be, to support them on May 20. One of the joys of Christian community is that the raising up of young people responsibility shared by the whole of the body. And I hope that you will remember how it all began for you, too: with blessing, with God’s embrace at baptism, with God smiling on you as a beloved child. Even many years on, we as God’s children all have much to celebrate.

— *The Rev. Anne Michele Turner, Assistant Rector*

## Seminarians Accept Calls

Since September 2005, Grace Church has been blessed with the presence of two seminarians from Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS), The Rev. Scott Petersen and Mark Powell. Both will graduate from VTS on Thursday, May 17 (Ascension Day) and both have received calls to full-time parish ministry.

Scott has been called as the Assistant to the Rector (The Rev. Bob Taylor) at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Tequesta, Florida, in the Diocese of Southeast Florida. He will be ordained to the Priesthood at Good Shepherd on the feast of St. Clare, August 11. Scott invites anyone from Grace to attend.

Mark will be serving as Deacon at Saint Andrew’s on-the-Sound in Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina, in the Diocese of East Carolina. He will be ordained to the Diaconate on June 9 at St. Cyprian’s Episcopal Church in New Bern, NC.

We wish Scott and Mark God’s many blessings as they begin this next phase of their journey.

## Music Events

- Don’t forget that the Grace Church Choral Society begins rehearsals on Tuesday, May 1, for “A Night on Broadway”. If you have questions, please contact Thom. The concert will be Tuesday, June 5, in the Auditorium of Merrow Hall.
- Saturday, May 5, at 7:00 pm, Thom Robertson will be joined by the Camerata Brass Quintet for an evening of grand and heroic music for organ and brass.
- Saturday, May 19, at 7:00 pm, come for dessert and stay to sing your favorite hymns? Back by popular demand, we’ll have an Old-Fashioned Hymn-Sing and Ice Cream Social.
- Sunday, May 20, at 5:00 pm, the Grace Church choirs join with the choir of Christ Church and other parishes to sing Evensong at Christ Church in Old Town. This special service will be in celebration of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Episcopal Church in Virginia; Bishop Lee is scheduled to preach.
- Youth Choir Concert – the Youth Choir from St. Peter’s Church in Charlotte, NC will present a concert on Friday, June 15, as part of their tour. Host families willing to house the members of the choir will be needed; please contact Thom Robertson if you would be willing to host a child overnight. More information will be available later.

— *Thom Robertson, Music Director*

# From the Parish Register

## Baptisms

- Ruby Lee Chiu,
- Jessica Colleen Tefft-Soraghan
- Caroline Grace Legere, daughter of Jay and Elizabeth Legere and granddaughter of Vi Legere
- Paul Albert Rugaber, son of Chris and Liz Rugaber
- Elizabeth Caroline Spencer, daughter of Will and Karen Spencer
- Sarah Ann Hines Westenhover, daughter of Raymond Hines and Angela Westenhover

## Received

- Vance Andrew Allen
- Edward Anthony DeMarco, Jr.
- Michael S. Miller
- Douglas Lane Prince

## Confirmations

- Rachel Hunter Crabtree
- Martha Randolph Hazard
- Cindy Ikard
- Heather Virginia Kelly
- James Robert Hiller Malm
- Evan Elivia Metz
- Emmett Tod Korff Moore
- Kerrigan Catherine Kells O'Malley
- Henny Jackson Petersen
- Noelle Kathleen Smoot
- Jackson Davies Spencer
- Sydney Elizabeth Vail Toler
- Sara Reed Zaza

## Reaffirmed

- Betty L. Jones
- Reginald Jones

## Marriage

- Tania Alexia Shand and Cedric Richard Hendricks

## Transfers in

- Reginald and Betty L. Jones from the Church of the Epiphany, Washington, D.C.
- Deborah A. Wagner, from St Paul's Church, Delray Beach, Florida

## Death

- Victor Crepeau, husband of Pegge Crepeau

— Dorothy Daniel

## Grace School News

Springtime is here, and the School's annual fundraising drive for the scholarship/financial aid program is underway. Please remember to support Grace School's important outreach efforts by contributing to this program which benefits students and families under financial constraint. Last year, parishioners were very generous with their donations. This was so helpful to our financial aid program and made it possible for 12 children to attend the school. Interest in financial assistance is ever-growing, but the funds are never sufficient. Thank you to all who have so

generously donated in the past and to those who continue to participate in this effort. Information about donating will arrive to you by mail. However, if we miss you, you can simply send donations to the school office with the notation in the memo line "Spring Program/Financial Aid" (checks payable to Grace Episcopal School). We are also selling raffle tickets for the Grand Prize of \$3500 off tuition or \$2000 in cash. You could be the lucky one, and again, profits go to the financial aid program. If you have any questions about donations, please contact Alison Smith at

703-813-5740, or Paula Fleming at 703-931-3920. The Spring Program performance is on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> in Merrow Auditorium at 7:00 PM. The theme for the program is Friends and Food. We hope to see you there!

Another way to give to financial aid is to contribute to United Way through the CFC or through your employment. The code for Grace Episcopal School is 8922.

— Chris Stegmaier Byrnes,  
Head of School

# Saturday Morning Breakfast/Bible Study

Since September 2006, Chrissie and I have sponsored a monthly Bible Study on Saturday mornings. The gatherings are open to all. The size of group has varies from 6-13 folks; mostly women, some men, and fairly regularly a young person or two. We prepare a simple breakfast with contributions from others that begins at 7:30 am, the study is from 8:15 am to 9:15 am, and we end by 9:30 am. The dates (generally the last Saturday of the month) are always listed in the Weekly Schedule of Activities of Sunday bulletins or found on-line via the church website under News.

We use my favorite process for study known as Praying with Scripture or

the African Model of Reflection. I invite the group to allow for their own personal experience with the reading rather than being concerned with finding the “right” meaning. Three different people read the same scripture from three different versions or texts. There are times of silence to reflect upon what we have heard before prayerfully and attentively listening to one other. We mutually respect one another and each experience of and response to the scripture. There is no discussion regarding any individual point of view; we merely hear from anyone willing to share, and often times, we learn from one another.

This year we have focused on “stories of call” in the Bible. We began by reading about Abraham and Isaac, then Eli and Samuel, Naomi and Ruth, Moses, and Isaiah. We will conclude in June with The Conversion of Paul (Acts 9:1–19) and will look for a new theme for the fall.

Participants need not be members of Grace Church. Anyone with an appetite for food and scripture is welcome. It is always very informal. From the feedback received, attendees have found it spiritually heartening and thought provoking, interesting, informative and fun. Please do come join us.

— *David Crosby*

## J2A Yardsale

The annual J2A yard sale will take place on Saturday, June 9, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Merrow Hall Auditorium.

All proceeds go to the Journey to Adulthood (J2A) Pilgrimage to Germany June 21 through July 1. Beginning Tuesday, May 29, donations may be left behind the curtain on the stage in the auditorium. We accept clean items of clothing, house wares, linens, glassware, plastic ware, small kitchen appliances, luggage, books, games, toys, and small electronics. NO magazines, textbooks or computers, thanks!

The J2A sponsors, parents and youth need the parish community’s help with this fund raiser. While it’s a lot of hard work, it is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship. Help is needed in the following areas:

- sorting and setting up on Thursday evening, June 7, after 6:00 pm.
- sorting and setting up all day Friday, June 8, beginning at 9:00 am until it’s done!
- selling, carrying and other stuff on Saturday beginning at 8:30 am.

- cleaning up and carting unsold items away beginning at 2:00 pm (we are done by 4:00 pm).

In the last two years the Rummage Sale raised more than \$8,000! That could not have been possible without the donations and the many hours of help and support of the entire parish. The J2A sponsors thank you very much for your continued support of the youth of our parish.

— *J2A Sponsors*

# Getting to know Father Jack Weise

Parishioners who attend the 5:00 pm Sunday or any weekday Eucharist know and love Father Jack, who says he “can’t imagine living in this world without the Church.” After recently talking with him these words resonated, because the Church has been such a significant part of his life. Born in Philadelphia on March 7, 1931, John Winfred Thorburn Weise is a cradle Episcopalian and the youngest of four children. From an early age he sang in the boys’ choir – until his voice changed. At age 14 he left his local low-church parish and found a new home at St. Clements, “going from no candles at all to candles, bells and smells.” He was drafted in October 1952 and served stateside, then earned a BS from Salisbury (MD) University and briefly taught school in MD. Although called to the ministry, Jack didn’t think he was worthy – until in a dream God told him “I will make you worthy.” In 1962 he graduated from Nashotah House with a Masters in Divinity, and returned to his home parish of St. Clements as a curate. From there he went to serve at St. Paul’s in Albany, GA during the civil rights era, which included the walk to Selma, AL. He served for three years as Canon to the Ordinary (i.e., bishop’s assistant) in the Diocese of Eau Claire, WI, where he “got to wear red buttons.” He was then called to be rector for 6 years at St. Stephen’s in suburban Cincinnati, and then 17 years at Calvary in Ashland, KY. Although Calvary was a “morning prayer parish” before Father Jack, it was a different place when he left. Father Jack also served as an interim pastor in West Virginia for 13 years. Although he enjoyed spending time with different congregations, he admits it was often hard to conform to different cultures, and always hard to leave. Father Jack was directly involved in the creation of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer, repeatedly participating the General Convention in the ‘60s and ‘70s, and speaks well of the scholarship that contributed to the new prayer book.

*(continued on page 8)*

# From Children’s Ministries

## Parents’ Workshop

Please join Mother Anne Turner and Ashley Metz during the Christian Education hour (10:15-11:00 am) on Sunday, May 13, for the third installment in our series of Parents’ Workshops. This presentation will focus on “Talking to Children About the Eucharist,” and is geared towards parents of children aged 3-7. We meet in the Library. (Note that the Lectionary Bible Study will not meet this week.)

## Ascension Day

Childcare will be available in the nursery for ages 6 weeks to 4 years old during the Ascension Day service (7:30 pm on Thursday evening, May 17).

## Sunday School Update

Lent was a busy season for our grade school classes. Kindergartners through 6<sup>th</sup> graders juggled their regular Sunday morning studies with several Lenten service projects. Between designing their own shields while learning about the disciples (Twelve Who Changed the World) and cooking up Beatitude fortune cookies, they made greeting cards for the Card Ministry, potted flowering plants for homebound parishioners, and put together Easter baskets for TNT’s annual drive.

On Sunday, May 20, there will be a meeting of Sunday School teachers during the 11:15 am service. Teachers for Godly Play through Grade 5 should meet in the St. Mark’s Room.

PARENTS: Please note that there will be NO Children’s Chapel at 11:15 am on Sunday, May 20, as Ashley must attend the Sunday School teachers’ meeting.

## Looking Ahead

Sunday, June 3, is Sunday School Recognition Sunday. At 9:00 am, we will celebrate our Sunday School students and teachers, with particular thanks given to our teachers. On the following Sunday, June 10, we switch to the summer schedule. At 10:00 am, we will celebrate Youth Sunday; all of our children will have an active role in the service.

— Ashley Metz and Anne Turner

# Reflections on the Easter Vigil

We arrived in the Saint Mark's room at 6:30 pm on Saturday, April 7: two adult baptismal candidates, thirteen to be confirmed, four to be received, and two to be reaffirmed in the Episcopal church and the Christian faith. Father Malm introduced Bishop Lee, who asked each of us what brought us to Grace church. A few people mentioned "diversity" while others mentioned "the liturgy." The Bishop reiterated that those were two things he also thought made Grace special, spoke about the history of the diocese and the ceremony to come, then closed with a quip on how he once wished that church news had more prominence in secular newspapers, but now...

Father Malm then led us to the nave which had been beautified with a sea of white Easter lilies, azaleas and hydrangea. He gave us a rundown of what to expect: baptismal candidates first, then those to be confirmed, followed by those to be received, and finally those to be reaffirmed. We listened intently, wanting to avoid any awkward moments in front of the congregation. Fortunately, everything was detailed in the printed program. (In fact, one guest who is not a member of Grace church commented on how the program made the service easy to follow.) Well-prepared if still a little uncertain, we took our seats as the church dimmed and the entire congregation began its journey from darkness into light. The pews were packed as the Great Vigil of Easter began at 8:00.

After the Service of the Light, Vigil Lessons, and the Sermon, Bishop Lee called for the presentation and examination of the candidates. The baptismal candidates were asked six questions on renouncing evil and sinful desires, accepting Jesus Christ as their savior, trusting in His grace and love, and promising to follow and obey Him. Next, the candidates for confirmation, reception and reaffirmation were presented and examined with two questions: one on renouncing evil and another on renewing their commitment to Jesus Christ. Led by Bishop Lee, the congregation renewed their baptismal covenant and prayed for the candidates, then gave thanks as he blessed the water.

Following that were the baptisms of two adults, Ruby Lee Chiu and Jessica Colleen Tefft-Soraghan, and one infant, Caroline Grace Legere. Bishop Lee sealed each of the

newly baptized in the Holy Spirit and marked them as Christ's own forever. There was a joy that filled the sanctuary as evidenced by the smiling faces of the candidates and the congregation.

Then began the Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation of nineteen candidates. The Bishop laid his hands on each of us as we renewed our commitment to Christ and truly became a part of this wonderful congregation. As we stepped down from the nave, Mother Turner presented each of us with a certificate and a Book of Common Prayer signed by Bishop Lee himself. Many parishioners congratulated us and made us feel welcome as we returned to our seats.

The service continued with readings of the Gospel, hymns, Holy Communion and fantastic music including both the choirs and a brass ensemble accompanying the organ.

Afterwards, we were all invited upstairs to a fabulous Agape feast of savories, sweets and spirits. One of the guests commented that "Episcopalians really know how to throw a party!" So true.

—*Doug Prince and Cindy Ikard*

## Celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the Church

Region IV will host a festival choral evensong at 5 pm on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at Christ Church, Alexandria, on behalf of the Episcopal Churches of Northern Virginia. The Rev. Pierce W. Klemmt, Rector of Christ Church, will officiate, and the Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee, XII Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia, will preach. Choirs participating in this celebration will include St. John's, McLean; St. Mary's, Arlington; **Grace, Alexandria**; and Christ Church, Alexandria. The service will feature music by American composers including Harold Friedell (Evening Service in F), David Hurd (Psalm 119 - congregational antiphon) and Joel Martinson (By all your saints still striving). A reception will follow.

—*June Huber*

# May Birthdays

5/3	Gaby Alvarenga	5/13	Nina Pfeiffer	5/22	Alison Campbell
5/3	Jennifer Burch	5/14	Evelyn Ovando	5/22	Chip Fowler
5/3	Bonnie Rollings	5/14	Caleigh Warner	5/22	Nuria Velasquez
5/4	Mary Blouin	5/15	Walt Baumann	5/23	Thomas Crabtree
5/4	Natalie Page	5/15	Erin Kelly	5/23	Joe Donovan
5/4	Melissa Woodhead	5/15	Lindsay Murphy	5/23	Thomas Durkin
5/5	Virginia Chandler	5/15	Amanda Smoot	5/24	Madelyn Curry
5/5	Walter Terry	5/15	Nathan Yeannakis	5/25	Ramee Gentry
5/6	Gisela Call	5/16	Halina Banas-Jones	5/25	John Hall
5/6	Christian Portillo	5/16	Mike Dobbs	5/25	Tess Lundgren
5/6	Dorothy Weathers	5/16	Bob Gruver	5/25	Kevin Martin
5/7	Scott Petersen	5/17	Lois Hatch	5/25	James Negley
5/8	Jared Smith	5/17	Eduardo Rodriguez	5/25	Dan Pattarini
5/8	Emily Summers	5/17	Matt Stancil	5/25	Sarah Thompson
5/8	Ruth Young	5/18	Justin Ames	5/26	Nancy Davis
5/9	Vylma Khanna	5/18	Cheryl Barnes	5/26	Kathy Durkin
5/9	Lynn Poole	5/18	Gary Carter	5/27	Raymond Curry
5/10	Marjorie Cook	5/19	Martha Bethea	5/27	Doug Miller
5/10	Eric Scharnweber	5/19	Amanda Chandler	5/27	David Warren
5/11	Alexandra Karemyshev	5/19	Jackson Fray	5/28	Daniel Plunkett
5/11	Andrew Olsson	5/19	Deborah Key	5/28	Michael S. Reed
5/11	Skitsi Rein	5/19	Jillian Martin	5/28	Julia Reeder
5/11	Richard Slater	5/19	Jan Wolff	5/28	Ashby Rushing
5/12	Reginald Jones	5/20	Mike Barron	5/30	Yolonda Brawley
5/12	Pepper Lindroth	5/20	John Berry	5/30	Dave Crosby
5/12	Meghan O'Malley	5/21	Frank Carroll	5/30	Heather Kelly
5/12	Will Rainey	5/21	Douglas Collier	5/31	Earl Durand
5/13	Georgiana Greely	5/21	Anna Gabbert		

Father Jack

*(continued from page 5)*

For health reasons, Father Jack stood down from full-time ministry in September 2004, and has since then “helped out” at several different parishes including Grace, Olivet and All Saints, Sharon Chapel. “I love preaching” he added, “and now I

don’t have to prepare nearly as much as I used to.”

Father Jack enjoys the theater and his music preferences are classical and swing. He still loves to travel, and when he was more active he enjoyed hiking, climbing, cross-country skiing and spelunking. He shares one special interest with the author of this

article – a fondness for Agatha Christie mysteries.

When asked what else he would want to say to the Grace Church family, he quickly added that he is very thankful for the warmth and stability of Grace parishioners, and hopes they will continue to be open to strangers – as they have been to him – and “help others find Christ.”

— June Huber

# Parish Notes

## Parish Picnic

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, June 10, for the annual Parish Picnic. This is the Sunday that we move from the regular 9:00 and 11:15 am service schedule to the 10:00 am summer schedule. In addition to it being Youth Celebration Sunday, the EYC will sponsor our parish picnic. Weather permitting, everything will be held outside on the grassy hill by the playground. The menu has yet to be finalized so look for announcements in forthcoming Sunday bulletins. We will hope for lovely weather and a grand turnout so the Grace Church parish family can join together over a shared meal. Please feel free to bring friends and know that volunteers to assist are always welcome. Contact Rich Kelly and David Warren for more information.

## Archive it... Don't Throw it Away

The Rector asked me last week of we had old Grace Notes in the Archives, and I had to say that we (Archives Committee) did not. Parishioners should not assume that "the office" maintains a complete record of our history. On more than one occasion, well-intentioned cleaning parties have dumped our history into the trash. So I'd like to remind people that before they throw away items related to Grace Church, that they consider sending them to the Archives. If it's an item they would like returned, we can do that. But hopefully we can avoid inadvertently losing our heritage. For more information please contact [frank.waskowicz@gracealex.org](mailto:frank.waskowicz@gracealex.org).

## Get Your Picture Taken in July or August

A new Pictorial Directory will be issued this coming fall. Photo sessions for individuals, couples and families (pets welcome too!) will be scheduled for the weeks of July 8<sup>th</sup> and August 12<sup>th</sup> (Mon, Tues, Thurs 3-9 pm; Fri 1:30-8 pm; Sat 10 am – 4 pm) in the Merrow Hall Auditorium. Each sitting will include a coupon for \$20 off the price of an optional full-size portrait. Contact June Huber ASAP to schedule your date and time (703-549-7213 or [june.huber@gracealex.org](mailto:june.huber@gracealex.org)).

## Ascension Day

Grace will celebrate the feast of the Ascension of Our Lord with a Festival Eucharist at 7:30 pm on Thursday, May 17. Ascension Day is celebrated 40 days after Easter and commemorates the ascension of Christ into the heavens as described in Luke 24:49-53.

## LEM Commissioning

New Lay Eucharistic Ministers will be commissioned during the 11:15 am service on Sunday, May 20.

## Altar Guild Tea is Sold Out

The 7th Annual Elegant Tea and Organ Concert by Thom Robertson, Grace Church Director of Music, on Saturday, May 12, is sold out. In the event of cancellations, persons on the waiting list will be called in the order their request was received. The waiting list is being maintained by the church office. The Altar Guild wishes to thank everyone who purchased tickets. Proceeds will go to the fund for a new organ for the church.

## Parish Staff

Robert Malm ..... Rector  
([rector@gracealex.org](mailto:rector@gracealex.org))  
Anne Michele Turner ..... Assistant Rector  
([assistant.lector@gracealex.org](mailto:assistant.lector@gracealex.org))  
Fred Huntington ..... Priest Associate  
([priest.associate@gracealex.org](mailto:priest.associate@gracealex.org))  
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Thom Robertson ..... Director of Music  
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Ashley Metz  
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Charlotte Payne Wright  
..... Parish Administrator  
([parish.administrator@gracealex.org](mailto:parish.administrator@gracealex.org))  
Beth Wiggers ..... Administrative Associate  
([office@gracealex.org](mailto:office@gracealex.org))  
Pedro Hernández..... Sexton

## Vestry

### Class of 2007

Mary Hix ..... Exec. Comm. Member-at-Large  
Mike Jones ..... Senior Warden  
Vola Lawson ..... La Gracia  
Chris Rugaber ..... Youth  
Barbara Sherlock ..... Outreach

### Class of 2008

Jo Belser ..... Register  
Cindy Diehl ..... Pastoral Care  
Jane Rosman ..... Worship  
Richard Smith ..... TNT  
Jan Spence ..... Junior Warden

### Class of 2009

Khacki Berry ..... Evangelism  
Anne Caputo ..... Fellowship  
Linda Durand ..... Treasurer  
Eleanor Reed ..... Education/School Board  
Phil Smith ..... Stewardship

### Alternates

Michelle Cox ..... Assistant Junior Warden  
Nat Ames ..... Communications

## Non-vestry Program Coordinators

June Huber ..... Communications  
Donna Triplett ..... Education  
John Berry ..... Evangelism  
Ruth Corlett ..... Fellowship  
Lucy-Lee Reed ..... La Gracia  
Barbara Read ..... Outreach  
Nancy Robinson ..... Pastoral Care  
Howell Medley ..... Stewardship  
Jenny Wolff ..... TNT  
Jeff Gustafson ..... Worship  
David Crosby ..... Youth

# Grace Notes

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## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Graceful Worship

## Water, water everywhere!

Water plays three important roles in our worship: the holy water of baptism, the holy water used when entering and exiting worship, and the water mixed with wine in the Holy Communion.

The words of the baptismal service found in the Book of Common Prayer help us understand the significance of water: “We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Though it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.”

“We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith,

baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

“Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.”

Holy water is available to us in the two Holy Water Stoups, one in the Narthex as we enter the Nave and another at the entrance to the Nave nearest the pulpit. We use this water to cleanse our thoughts and selves as we prepare for worship by touching our fingers to the water and then crossing ourselves.

The water mixed with wine in the communion cup is symbolic of the blood and water that flowed from the pierced side of Jesus before his body was removed from the cross. In water we are buried with Christ and through it we share his resurrection, we are reborn by the Holy Spirit! Thanks be to God!

— Michelle Cox

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