

# Grace Notes

Newsletter of Grace Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia

Rector's Reflections

May 2009

## The Broken-Open Heart

I first learned about the work of Parker Palmer while in Seminary at Yale in the mid-1970s. For almost 40 years Palmer has been an author, educator and activist who focuses upon education, community, leadership, spirituality, and social change—concerns of all those who know and hope to follow the Risen Christ.

In 1997, he founded the Center for Courage and Renewal. The Center offers retreats for those involved in the helping professions. Palmer's basic premise is that we need courage to lead and to overcome our fears and our illusions. I recently read his meditation, *The Broken-Open Heart*. And I share the following as we live into the glory, the challenge, and the courage the Easter Season brings us.

*Transforming heartbreak into new life is the aim of every religious tradition at its best, as witness this Hasidic tale: A disciple asks the rebbe, "Why does Torah tell us to 'place these words upon your hearts?' Why does it not tell us to place these holy words in our hearts?" The rebbe answers, "It is because as we are, our hearts are closed, and we cannot place the holy words in our hearts. So we place them on top of our hearts. And there they stay until, one day, the heart breaks and the words fall in." The same point is made by the Sufi master Hazrat Inayat Khan: "God breaks the heart again and again and again until it stays open."*

*In the Christian tradition, the broken-open heart is virtually indistinguishable from the image of the cross. It was on the cross that God's heart was broken for the sake of humankind, broken open into a love that Christ's followers are called to emulate. In its simple physical form, the cross embodies the notion that tension can pull the heart open. Its cross-beams stretch out four ways, pulling against each other left and right, up and down. But those arms converge in a center, a heart, that can be pulled open by that stretching, by the tensions of life—a heart that can be opened so fully it can hold everything from despair to ecstasy. And that, of course, is how Jesus held his excruciating experience, as an opening into the heart of God.*

May we continue to celebrate Christ's blessings for Easter during the months ahead.

— The Rev. Robert H. Malm, Rector

## Inside this Issue

From the Assistant Rector .....	2
Bishop Lee Celebrates at Grace .....	3
Graceful Worship .....	4
Treasurer's Report .....	4
Farewell to our Seminarian .....	5
Parish Register.....	5
Music Notes.....	6
Feed the Hungry .....	6
School News.....	7
Stained Glass Windows .....	7, 9
The Carpenter Plaque .....	8, 10
May Birthdays.....	8
Announcements.....	9
Parish Staff.....	9



# 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. The 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 to ([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 Doug Prince (editor), June Huber, Cindy Ikard, Bill Malone, Barbara Morris, Beth Wiggers and Tim Willard.

From the Assistant Rector

# Breaking Fast

I have a confession. I realize the clergy usually are on the receiving end of confessions, but here goes: I'm a chocoholic! I've inherited my mile-wide sweet tooth from my mother. I'm a connoisseur of chocolate like some are of wines. I prefer a dark chocolate, with about 55% or more cocoa (made from cocoa mass generally and not cocoa liquor). One of my favorite brands is Rapunzel (Swiss), but my all time favorite is still the Divine brand, which regrettably is more difficult to find. Divine uses Ghanaian chocolate, and their dark chocolate and mint bar is exquisite. Scharffen Berger (US) and Lindt's dark are pretty good too, as is the Ocumare (Venezuelan)

bars from Trader Joe's, though this last one is a just a tad bitter for my taste.



As I have done in years past, this year I gave up buying chocolate for Lent. The money that I

would ordinarily spend on this luxury, I decided to send to Episcopal Relief and Development. I estimate over the roughly six to seven weeks of Lent, I would have spent \$42-49, so I rounded up and contributed \$50. All this was an effort to “live more simply, so others could simply live”—as the expression goes.

This little effort is but one of a million ways people mark the season of Lent by giving up something. I have friends who gave up the Facebook social networking web site, for example, and spent more time with their families instead. You probably had a Lenten fast of some type that you observed. (Now that Lent has passed, I've broken my fast from chocolate and have been reacquainting myself with some of my favorites.)

One of the more clever ideas I read about was a Presbyterian church that had a carbon fast. That church had a daily suggestion for ways to reduce one's carbon footprint and continues to feature suggestions on their website for parishioners to follow to live a more eco-friendly existence.

On May 31, I will present a forum on the theological warrants for environmental care and speak of my experience at another church where we formed an environmental action committee. Please join me and bring your own ideas of how we can be better stewards of creation and ways we can reduce our carbon footprint, both as a church and as individuals.

— The Rev. Patrick T. Crerar, Assistant Rector

# Bishop Lee Celebrates Easter at Grace

The Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee, who leaves his post as Bishop of Virginia in October, was the Celebrant and Preacher for The Great Vigil of Easter here at Grace Episcopal Church. It was, as always at this season, a beautiful service. We were honored by Bishop Lee's presence with us. In his sermon, he reminded us that "This is the night for renewing our baptismal identity so that we may share in His risen glory."

Fr. Malm and our Senior Warden, Anne Caputo, presented the Bishop with a book of remembrances and a \$15,000 check to support fulfillment of The Bishop's Chapel at the Diocesan Retreat Center at Roslyn near Richmond.

Later, the parish gathered for an Agape celebration in the Auditorium of Merrow Hall.

Bishop Lee is no stranger to Grace Church or to Easter with us. When elected Bishop Coadjutor in February 1984, a large contingent of Grace Churchgoers were bused to the National Cathedral for his Consecration. He became the 12th Bishop of Virginia in May 1985, and made his first Episcopal visit to us that same month to receive 15 new members into the Episcopal Church. He was present at both morning services, spoke at the Forum, and met the parish at a reception. Bishop Lee's introduction to Easter at Grace was as celebrant at the Easter Vigil in 1986. Ever since, he has been a frequent visitor with us.

While Rector at the Chapel of the Cross at Chapel Hill, NC, in the early 70's Bishop Lee met Robert Malm, then a student at the University of North Carolina. Fifteen years later, Bishop Lee submitted that student's name to Grace Church as a candidate for Rector. The rest is history. In 1993, Fr. Malm invited the Bishop to speak at the kick-off of a major capital fund drive. Bishop Lee urged us to "build well", remarking that he "always came away feeling less



*The recessional at our Easter Vigil: Bishop Lee, The Bishop's Chaplain Jay Leger, Fr. Malm, the choir and acolyte corps.*  
*Photos by Anne Berry*



*Fr Malm and our Senior Warden, Anne Caputo, with Bishop Lee at the Agape celebration in Merrow Hall Auditorium.*

seedy, less wrinkled after a visit to Grace Church." Subsequently, he has joined us for many major events in our lives — ordinations (such as for Rosemary Sullivan, Chuck Mullaly), confirmations, baptisms, dedications, picnics, and anniversaries — most recently, our Sesquicentennial on Russell Road in 2005.

As Bishop, he has had multiple worries. Thus, it was always a joy to find him relaxed on occasion at Shrine Mont overseeing a grandchild's delivery to St. George's Camp.

We all wish him a well-deserved and welcome change of pace in ministry as interim Dean at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco in the coming year. And when he and his wife Kristy return to retirement in Chapel Hill, we hope that they will be able to return to visit with us.

*—Frank Waskowicz*

## The Tenebrae Hearse

---

During our EFM class the other night, several people wanted to know more about the triangular candle-stand that we use at Tenebrae during Holy Week. Maybe you do too? It's called a hearse.

The name is derived, through the French *herse*, from the Latin *herpex*, which means a harrow (a farm implement with teeth). In the case of the Tenebrae hearse, which dates back to the seventh century, the term was employed because the prickets that hold the fifteen candles of unbleached wax were supposed to resemble the teeth of a harrow. During the service, the candles are gradually extinguished, one at the

end of each psalm, alternately on either side of the candlestick, beginning with the lowest. Only the highest candle is left burning after the psalms have all been sung. As each of the last six verses of the Benedictus is sung, each one of the six office lights is extinguished. Likewise, all other lights in the church are put out, except the candle on the summit of the hearse. This candle is then taken from its place and hidden, to be brought forth again, still lighted, at the conclusion of the service.

The triangle shape of the hearse is said to be a symbol of the Trinity.

The highest candle represents Christ, while the other fourteen represent the eleven Apostles and the three Marys.

What about the other kind of hearse? The funeral hearse was originally a wooden framework that stood over the coffin and supported the pall. It had prickets to hold burning tapers and, because the prickets also resembled the teeth of a harrow, it was called a hearse. Later on, the word was applied to any receptacle in which the coffin was placed, including the current-day automobile in which the dead are carried to the grave.

— June Huber

## Treasurer's Report

---

While the recession continues to take its toll on many people and institutions across our fine country, our church appears to be very strong financially:

Pledges: 328 family units have now pledged over \$866,600 for calendar 2009. Your vestry budgeted \$880,900 for total pledge income. For calendar year 2008, 346 family units pledged \$916,900.

Payment of Pledges: During the first quarter, \$243,721 in pledge income has been received. This represents 28% of the total annual pledges.

Income and Expenses: Year-to-date through the end of March the operating fund shows a surplus of \$35,850.

Grace Anew: During the first quarter, parishioners have paid in \$85,426 during this the second year of the three-year pay in period. We have been holding approximately

\$100,000 in funds borrowed from the BB&T loan to meet anticipated organ, loft construction, HVAC, and related expenses. Recently, the decision was made to pay down the loan by \$70,000 because of the strong amount of the income received.

Electronic Giving: In addition to serving as your treasurer, I also serve as the Electronic Giving Administrator. It was about this time last year when Grace Church began to offer our parishioners the opportunity to pay online your monthly pledges and Grace Anew donations. So far, 13 parishioners have signed up for this service. Please feel free to contact me at 703-524-9883 with any questions. It's a great service.

— Nat Ames, Treasurer

# Festive Farewell Coffee for Jennifer on May 3

It's time for good-bye and God-speed to our seminarian, Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, who will graduate from the Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS) on May 21 and be ordained this summer into the sacred order of deacons by the Bishop in her home diocese of Delaware.

For the past two years Jennifer has made our church home her Field Education home. Field Education is the "laboratory" in which seminarians weigh and test their academic learning as they learn to think theologically. This "lab work" is restricted to 12 hours a week—and what a full 12 hours they are!

A sampling of Jennifer's Work Agreement calls for her to serve on Sunday mornings as a LEM or Acolyte at two services on three Sundays a month, to serve as MC once a month, to offer home communions and serve as sub-deacon two or three times. When not vesting, she attends at least two services, coffee hours and education forums.

And that's just on Sundays! Jennifer has also made pastoral care visits in homes, worked with the Missions Subcommittee, led education classes and adult forums, attended vestry meetings, met weekly with Father Malm and monthly with her lay committee to reflect and help clarify her pastoral identity. Her Work Agreement also called for her to preach two or three times a semester, and here is where Grace Church has been particularly blessed, for Jennifer's preaching skills are exceptional. In recognition of her as one of the "most promising and proficient future preachers of the church," last year the Dean and faculty of VTS invited her to attend

the five-day, in-depth Preaching Excellence Program.

Sunday May 3 will be Jennifer's last official Sunday with us. As of this writing, she does not have firm employment plans. But she has exciting news. She and her husband, Scott, will be the proud parents of a baby girl in August. Please keep all of them in your prayers. And please

come to share in the Festive Farewell Coffee on May 3 during which Jennifer and I, as committee convener, will reflect briefly on her experience at Grace. If you see six people a bit more teary-eyed than most at the Farewell, you'll know we are Jennifer's supportive and loving Lay Committee.

—Barbara Morris (convener)

## From the Parish Register

### Requiem Eucharist and Burial

- ✧ Barbara M. Davis, wife of Walter C. (Peck) Davis, Jr., mother of Donna Davis Plunkett and David Davis

### Transfer Out

- ✧ Mary Jo Cooney to Immanuel Church, Alexandria
- ✧ John Hazard to All Saints' Church, Chevy Chase

### **At the Easter Vigil, with the laying on of hands by The Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee, Bishop of Virginia:**

#### Confirmed

- ✧ Stephen John Boris
- ✧ Lauren Elizabeth Sim Gustafson
- ✧ Mitchell Latham Hazard
- ✧ Christina Lee Iovino
- ✧ Benjamin William Joyner
- ✧ Erin McIntyre Kelly
- ✧ Sloane Alana Mebane
- ✧ Heather Kylee Murphy
- ✧ Duncan Kearsley Walsh
- ✧ Lara Skye Whitlow
- ✧ Julia Kim Zeigler

- ✧ Margaret Helen Lukens
- ✧ William Glen Malone
- ✧ Chad Ryan Murchison
- ✧ Clifford Angus Walsh

#### Received

- ✧ Ann Marie Fuhring
- ✧ Brittany Lauren Murchison
- ✧ Kathryn Elizabeth Pattarini
- ✧ Mary Glenn Minichan Toler

#### Reaffirmed

- ✧ Martha Del Clark

— Dorothy Daniel

# Music Notes

## Organ Update

Within the next several weeks, you will begin to see signs of activity in the organ gallery. Much of the preliminary work on the organ has occurred offsite—wind chests have been constructed, casework has been assembled, pipes have been made and have received initial “voicing”, and a thousand small details have been worked on. Soon the task of fitting all these things together like a giant jigsaw puzzle will begin. There will be several miles of electric cables connecting the wind chests with the organ console—the control center for the entire organ. Some of the pipes are constructed of wood and are over sixteen feet in length; other pipes, made of metal, are no bigger than a small pencil – in all there are over 2,200 pipes in the organ. Once the assembling is done, the organ still will need a final voicing which will give each of the pipes a voice that fits with the other stops and is the proper scale for the church. Only after all that is finished will the organ be ready to lead us in worship.

Already plans are underway for a full year of events to celebrate the completion of the organ. On Friday, September 18, Bishop Jones will be with us to bless and dedicate the organ in a special liturgy. Bishop Jones was the keynote speaker at the kick-off dinner for the Grace Anew Campaign; it is fitting to have him return as we celebrate its completion. The following Friday, September 25, Thom Robertson will present the inaugural concert on

the organ; rest assured that many of your favorite organ works will be performed!

There will be other chances throughout the year to hear the organ: in concert with the brass quintet; in a special concert with orchestra featuring the “Concerto in G Minor” by Francis Poulenc; and in a series of “Vesper Concerts” on the second Sunday of each month following the 5:00 pm Eucharists. Plans are also being formulated for a special Hymn Festival in the spring featuring choirs from several local parishes.

As time progresses we’ll have a more detailed brochure, and there will be {of course!} a chance for you to donate towards the extra costs to put on these events. We hope you’ll want to help us celebrate this newest member of the Grace Church family.

## Celebrate the Choirs of Grace

On Saturday, June 20, all the choirs of Grace (Alleluia Singers, Schola Cantorum, St. Nicholas Choir and Handbell Choir) will present music of a lighter nature. The featured work will be a musical entitled “It’s Cool in the Furnace” presented by the St. Nicholas Choir. There’ll be an ice cream social following and a chance to thank all our choirs for their participation throughout the year. Watch for further details about time.

— Thom Robertson

## Feed the Hungry

---

Brown Bag Lunch is a free lunch program for the homeless, working poor and unemployed in Alexandria. The Outreach Committee at Grace Episcopal Church helped start the program in 1981. One week out of seven, Grace Church, along with six other area churches, takes turns providing a brown bag lunch to those in need. The other churches involved are: Christ Church, Emmanuel Episcopal, Faith Presbyterian, Old Presbyterian Meeting House, St. Clement and Westminster Presbyterian.

Volunteers are needed to make sandwiches and/or to serve lunches. Their work is greatly appreciated.

Sandwiches are made at home and are then delivered to Grace the week of Brown Bag Lunch. You can sign up to make 20 or more sandwiches. Since sandwich makers can be of any age, this is a great way to get young children involved in Out-

reach. In fact, Grace Day School and other youth groups have made sandwiches on a regular basis.

Servers sign up to work from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Each volunteer serves with a partner and works only one day during our week. Often friends sign up to work the same day. You can be a “regular” or sign up to work once or twice a year. Servers pack lunches and serve them at Meade Memorial Church. You must be at least 18 to serve lunches.

We are serving more lunches now than ever. Our average in 2006 was 40 lunches a day; our 2009 average is near 70 a day. Our next week of service is June 8-12 and we always welcome new volunteers. Look for the green sign-up sheet on the Outreach bulletin board. Questions? Contact Mary Fox at [mary.fox@gracealex.org](mailto:mary.fox@gracealex.org) or 703-684-6026.

—Mary Fox, Brown Bag Lunch Coordinator

# School News

Springtime is here, and the School's annual fundraising drive for the scholarship/financial aid program is underway. The Spring Program Fundraiser for Financial Aid is one of the most significant sources of revenue for the student financial aid program. Grace Episcopal School's financial aid program enables us to enroll a highly qualified, motivated, and diverse student body regardless of the family's financial resources. All need-based financial aid is determined by the School and Student Service for Financial Aid (SSS) of Princeton, New Jersey. On average, GES awards financial aid to 10% to 25% of our students. The awards range from 5% to 90% of the total tuition. Requests for financial aid doubled for the 2009-2010 school year. Your gift, now more than ever, will have a greater impact on our ability to serve our community. Last year, parishioners were very generous with their donations—we hope we can count on you again this year!

Information about donating should have arrived to you by mail recently. However, if we missed you, 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 \$1000 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 our Development Director, Luanne Griffin, at 703-549-5067 or Roxana Jordan at 703-683-0229.

I invite all parishioners to the Grandparents and Special Friends Tea (see the invitation below). There will be tours of the school at that time, too. The Spring Program performance is on Friday, May 15th in Merrow Hall Auditorium at 7:00 pm. I hope to see you at both of these events!

—Chris Stegmaier Byrnes, Head of School

**Grace Episcopal School  
cordially invites you to our  
Grandparents and Special Friends Tea  
on  
Friday, May 15, 2009**

9:00 am Chapel Service  
9:30 am Reception in Merrow Hall  
10:30 am Classroom Visits



## Stained Glass Windows: The Power Point of the Middle Ages

Worship at Grace Church is a multimedia experience. We have sights, sounds, movement, touch, taste, and smell. One of the glorious aspects of sight at Grace Church is the stained glass windows. A stained glass window is like a person's physical body. It is only a physical object until "the light of the world shows through it." And, what is "the light of the world?" "Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'" (John 8.12)

My attachment to stained glass windows is related to my attachment to Power Point and video documentaries. When I learn, I need multi-media presentations to help me. I especially like video documentaries when I am beginning to learn something new. Power Point and video documentaries correspond to stained glass windows during the Middle Ages.

In the Medieval Church, few would have owned books or had formal education. Parishioners would derive much of their religious education from the visible objects within the church building such as stained-glass windows. We are no exception. As the pamphlet "Outward Invisible Signs," (available at the church office) informs us, there are 23 stained glass windows in the nave, choir loft, narthex, and sanctuary. Chronologically their themes and characters range from the first to the 20th centuries. They depict preachers, theologians, bishops, reformers, and other witnesses.

We will be offering a series of adult forums on the topic of the symbolism in the stained glass windows. The first was offered on March the eighth on the topic of the St. Augustine window. Key individual features of the Augustine window included the burning heart which symbolized the most famous prayer of St. Augustine: "Oh Lord, you have made us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless ('on fire'), until we

*(continued on page 9)*

# The Carpenter Plaque

---

A "new" feature on the wall of the hallway in the Grace Church narthex is a memorial plaque to The Rev. Edgar Carpenter, the longest serving rector of Grace Church (1904-1931), and his wife Suzie Nottingham, who died in 1926. The plaque was installed in the eastern wall of the old Grace Church on Patrick Street following Father Carpenter's death due to a sudden heart attack on February 9, 1931. The plaque was removed from the Patrick Street Church, when that property was sold, and "rested" for over 50 years in a corner next to the attic chimney of the "new" church on Russell Road. The plaque was rediscovered during a long overdue cleaning and reorganization of the attic.

Father Carpenter was a graduate of Virginia Theological

Seminary and was ordained to the Diaconate in 1896 and to the Priesthood in 1897 by Bishop Alfred Randolph, 1st Bishop of Southern Virginia. He served at St. Andrew's, Lawrenceville, Virginia (1896-1899), Christ Church, Richmond, Kentucky (1899-1900), and All Saints' Church, Portsmouth, Virginia (1900-1904), before being called to Grace Church. During his service as rector, the pattern of services was Holy Communion every Sunday at the 7:30 am service and the first Sunday of the month at the 11:00 am. Holy Communion was also offered on special feast days. A vested choir, reportedly the first in the Diocese of Virginia, made its first appearance on Easter Day 1905. A new organ was installed and the

*(continued on page 10)*

## May Birthdays

5/1	Emma Meeks	5/14	Evelyn Ovando	5/22	Chip Fowler
5/3	Gaby Alvarenga	5/14	Caleigh Warner	5/23	Thomas Crabtree
5/3	Jennifer Burch	5/15	Walt Baumann	5/23	Amelia Cronin
5/4	Mary Blouin	5/15	Erin Kelly	5/23	Joe Donovan
5/4	Diane Ely	5/15	Lindsay Murphy	5/23	Thomas Durkin
5/4	Natalie Page	5/15	Amanda Smoot	5/24	Eleanor Cooper
5/4	Melissa Woodhead	5/15	Nathan Yeannakis	5/24	Madelyn Curry
5/5	Virginia Chandler	5/16	Halina Banas-Jones	5/25	Duke Chiow
5/5	Kathryn Kilbride	5/16	Mike Dobbs	5/25	Jeffery Chiow
5/5	David Shaver	5/17	Lois Hatch	5/25	Ramee Gentry
5/5	Walter Terry	5/17	Matt Stancil	5/25	Stewart Hall
5/6	Christian Portillo	5/18	Justin Ames	5/25	Walter Lukens
5/6	Dorothy Weathers	5/18	Cheryl Barnes	5/25	Kevin Martin
5/8	Jared Smith	5/18	Gary Carter	5/25	Dan Pattarini
5/8	Emily Summers	5/19	Matthias Alden	5/25	Sarah Thompson
5/8	Ruth Young	5/19	Martha Bethea	5/26	Nancy Davis
5/9	Vylma Khanna	5/19	Amanda Chandler	5/26	Kathy Durkin
5/9	Lynn Poole	5/19	Jackson Fray	5/26	Nicholas Pattarini
5/10	Marge Cook	5/19	Deborah Key	5/27	Raymond Curry
5/10	Amanda Ruff	5/19	Jillian Martin	5/27	Doug Miller
5/11	Alexandra Karemyshev	5/19	Jan Wolff	5/27	David Warren
5/11	Lee Meeks	5/20	Mike Barron	5/28	Daniel Plunkett
5/11	Skitsi Rein	5/20	John Berry	5/28	Michael Reed
5/12	Reginald Jones	5/21	Camilla Alvarenga	5/28	Julia Reeder
5/12	Pepper Lindroth	5/21	Frank Carroll	5/28	Ashby Rushing
5/12	Meghan O'Malley	5/21	Douglas Collier	5/30	Dave Crosby
5/13	Georgiana Greely	5/21	Anna Gabbert	5/30	Heather Kelly
5/13	Nina Pfeiffer	5/22	Alison Campbell	5/31	Earl Durand

# Announcements

## **TNT and the Washington National Cathedral Climb**

Twenties and Thirties (TNT) are invited to climb the tower at the Cathedral on May 2, 2009. We'll meet at the Grace Church parking lot/entrance that Saturday morning at 9:00 am. Tickets are \$10.00. Children accompanying parents must be at least 4 feet tall to participate. For more information e-mail [tnt.coordinator@gracealex.org](mailto:tnt.coordinator@gracealex.org).

## **Family Fun Night – May 1**

Join us for the last Family Fun Night of this academic year on Friday, May 1, in the Merrow Hall Auditorium. We'll have an evening of food, games, and crafts to celebrate Cinco de Mayo and learn about the festivities of our neighbors to the South. Families with the last names A to F should bring a main course dish; G to P bring a dessert; and Q to Z, a side dish. Please contact Rosa Castillo at [kids@gracealex.org](mailto:kids@gracealex.org) for more information.

## **Thursday Potluck**

“Will you continue in the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?” —*Book of Common Prayer*, 1979 page 304. Fellowship is one of the elements of a Christian life that we vow to uphold. If there is not enough fellowship in your life, consider an hour or so of your time at dinner at 6:30 pm on Thursday and join the Potluck crowd. Pick up a pizza or a salad. There’s always a roasted chicken or—to the great delight of the children—a half-gallon of ice cream. Share in a meal and conversation with friends of all ages. We celebrate accomplishments, from having a birthday to being accepted to one’s first-choice college. We support the loss of a job and the loss of a family member. This is fellowship at its simplest and best. Do you need some? If so, contact Lorna Worley at [Lorna.Worley@gracealex.org](mailto:Lorna.Worley@gracealex.org) for more information.

## **Introducing Andrew White**

In the fall of 2009, Andrew White will be joining us as a seminarian. You may have already met him and his wife, Sara, at coffee hour or elsewhere, although we will see less of him during the summer when he pursues clinical pastoral education at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital. Andrew (not “Andy”) graduated from Haverford College (PA) in 2006 and is currently in his second year at VTS. Scouting is a family interest — he achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, and Sara currently works with the Girl Scouts. Andrew says he is excited about joining us and deeply appreciates the “warm welcome” that he has already received.

## Parish Staff

Robert Malm .....	Rector
( <a href="mailto:rector@gracealex.org">rector@gracealex.org</a> )	
Patrick Carerar .....	Assistant Rector
( <a href="mailto:assistant.rector@gracealex.org">assistant.rector@gracealex.org</a> )	
Christine Byrnes .....	Head of School
( <a href="mailto:office@graceschoolalex.org">office@graceschoolalex.org</a> )	
Thom Robertson .....	Director of Music
( <a href="mailto:music.director@gracealex.org">music.director@gracealex.org</a> )	
Charlotte Payne Wright .....	Parish Administrator
( <a href="mailto:parish.administrator@gracealex.org">parish.administrator@gracealex.org</a> )	
Beth Wiggers .....	Administrative Associate
( <a href="mailto:parish.office@gracealex.org">parish.office@gracealex.org</a> )	
Rosa Castillo .....	
.....	Children’s Ministries Coordinator
( <a href="mailto:kids@gracealex.org">kids@gracealex.org</a> )	
Ruth Young .....	Children’s Chapel Coordinator
( <a href="mailto:childrens.chapel@gracealex.org">childrens.chapel@gracealex.org</a> )	
Pedro Hernandez .....	Sexton

## Vestry

### Class of 2009

Khacki Berry .....	Evangelism
Anne Caputo .....	Senior Warden
Linda Durand .....	Member at Large
Eleanor Reed .....	School Board
Phil Smith .....	Register

### Class of 2010

Nat Ames .....	Treasurer
Peter Iovino .....	Outreach
Cynthia Puskar .....	Worship
Colin Rushing .....	Stewardship
Easter Thompson .....	School Board

### Class of 2011

Alison Campbell .....	
Jeff Gustafson .....	Fellowship
Rich Kelly .....	Youth
Howell Medley .....	Junior Warden
Frank Waskowicz .....	Communications

### Alternates

Erica McFarquhar .....	
Margaret Will .....	TNT

# Stained Glass: The Powerpoint of the Middle Ages

(continued from page 7)

find our rest in You.” (St. Augustine, *Confessions*). In addition, the Augustine window includes a quill pen, a book, a bishop's miter, and the Bible opened to Romans 13 which is the passage to which he flipped open on the day he was fully converted. Each of these details of the St. Augustine window corresponds to key features in his life and his message.

On March 29 we examined the St. Paul window. Here, key features are a boat symbolizing his missionary trips, a sword showing his metaphor of being militant in the service of

Christ, a book symbolizing the collection of the epistles he wrote, and a fire with a snake symbolizing a strange experience on one of his missionary journeys.

We pray with our eyes while we meditate on the windows, just as we pray with our ears when we hear the music. Let us welcome God’s message to us through all the physical gifts in the church.

— Fr. John Wires

# Grace Notes

Grace Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia  
www.gracealex.org ✧ 703-549-1980 ✧ Fax 703-549-2832  
3601 Russell Rd, Alexandria, VA 22305-1799

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage PAID  
Alexandria, VA  
Permit #235

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### The Carpenter Plaque

*(continued from page 8 )*

chancel was reconfigured later that year. In 1908 electric lights were installed in the nave. During World War I the parish supported an extensive outreach program to area servicemen. In 1922 after eight years of study, a new parish hall was built that became a popular place. The mixed chalice (water and wine) and Eucharistic lights (candles) were introduced into the liturgy (another first in the diocese), and the first Christmas Midnight Mass in the diocese was celebrated in Grace Church in 1930.<sup>1</sup>

Father Carpenter had a very active life and ministry in the community. Check the internet and you'll see his name appear frequently as the officiant at funerals and in many fraternal ceremonies in Alexandria. His obituary in *The Alexandria Gazette* characterized him as one of the “best known and highly esteemed ministers in Alexandria,” who “endeared himself to members of all denominations regardless of creed.” The tribute by

the Ministerial Association of Alexandria memorialized him as a “‘high churchman’ because of his love for a dignified and reverent ritual” and ‘an indefatigable pastor and worker, and a true preacher of the Gospel, who died as he wished, ‘in harness.’”<sup>2</sup>

Father Carpenter and his wife Suzie were deeply loved by the parish, as witnessed by the dedication of the plaque to their memory at “old” Grace Church. With the reinstallation of the plaque on the wall of the “new” Grace Church, we renew our ties to those faithful stewards and loving saints who have preceded us at Grace Church.

#### *References:*

1. *A History of Grace Episcopal Church*, Alexandria, Charles Barker, Alexandria, Virginia, 2007, pp 16-18.
2. *The Alexandria Gazette*, Alexandria, Virginia, February 10-12, 1931.

—Jean Reed

May 2009