

Grace Notes

Newsletter of Grace Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia

Rector's Reflections

April 2010

Did Jesus Know?

Recently after a Grace School chapel service during which I mentioned Jesus' death on the Cross, a young boy came up to me and asked, "Did Jesus know he would come back to life?"

I was surprised that this 10 year old had listened so closely to me, and thought so deeply about Jesus—his humanity and his divinity. I wondered if he was aware of the Gospel prediction at Caesarea Philippi, "*From that time Jesus began to teach them that he must go to Jerusalem, suffer many things...be killed, and on the third day be raised...*" (Matthew 16:21).

My response went something like this, "Jesus had the sense, a feeling, that God would take care of him...he didn't have to fear death...but I don't think he knew that he would rise from the dead...any more than we can know or be certain about our future, especially after we die." Our student seemed to accept this effort on my behalf, and I told him we would be talking about this during the weeks ahead.

As we prepare to observe Holy Week, Easter Day, and the Easter season, we all have an opportunity to look deeply into the events we call Our Lord's "Passion and Glory." We may again recall Jesus' words at the Last Supper, "*I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom*" (Matthew 26:29). And, we certainly will hear of his "agony" in the Garden and his prayer, "*Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done...*" (Luke 22:42).

One theologian writes, "*The passion narrative stands out as the moment in which theological interpretation and historical factuality converge...the story of the passion is the strongest possible affirmation of the humanity of Christ...*"¹

What, then, of Easter? Obviously the Easter message preceded the Easter stories by some decades. The earliest Gospel (Mark) does not include resurrection narratives in its original version. Only later did Matthew, Luke and John write their Easter stories from the experience of the disciples and the early Church.

There's much to contemplate. One week, one season, doesn't give us much time. What did Jesus know? What did he expect?

I hope you will be with us for Holy Week, Easter, and the season that follows to celebrate and to think about all that gives our lives meaning, purpose, and a future. May you have a blessed Holy Week and a glorious Easter.

¹John MacQuarrie, *Principles of Christian Theology*, p. 265.

Inside this Issue

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| From the Assistant Rector | 2 |
| Tanzania Hospital Planning | 3 |
| Ya Never Know | 3 |
| Eco Notes | 4 |
| Graceful Worship | 4 |
| Parish Announcements..... | 5, 10 |
| Letter from David Crosby..... | 6 |
| Music Notes..... | 6 |
| Environmental Committee | 7 |
| Thanksgiving Baskets Thank You | 7 |
| Outreach: Brown Bag Lunches | 8, 9 |
| School News..... | 8 |
| Connections..... | 9 |
| Parish Staff..... | 9 |
| Grace Notes Survey Form | 10 |



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
SESQUICENTENNIAL
1855-2005

Grace, Peace and Love,
— The Rev. Robert H. Malm

Worship Schedule

Sunday Schedule

Holy Eucharist Rite 1 7:30 am
Child care8:45 am–12:45 pm
La Santa Eucaristía9:00 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 17:00 am
Thursdays, Rite 27:00 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 15th of the preceding month. The next *Grace Notes* deadline: April 15th for the May 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) 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, Beth Wiggers and Tim Willard.

From the Assistant Rector

On the sunny, sunny side of the street...

A fine sunny day at last!, I thought. It's St. Patrick's Day and several of us awoke in darkness and made our way to Grace Church for the Lenten 6:30 am Mass, followed by breakfast. What a great way it was to start the day. And soon enough the sun was up and everyone was off to their respective workplaces, or errands. By 10 am the sun was high in the sky and the air was getting warmer.

As I drove to the hospital to visit with a recovering parishioner, I noticed a large white van at the maid service next door to Grace Church. The van belonged to a solar contractor, who was installing a system on the roof of that business. "If they can do it, we can do it," I thought. As some of you know, I've been keen on solar for a long time. Recently, we've been evaluating a solar power system for Grace Church in the Environmental Grace committee.

We've learned our roof line is pretty well suited for solar. The roof over Merrow Hall is pretty well suited, as it is relatively flat, with asphalt shingles. The portion of the roof of the sanctuary that faces due South (the most ideal direction) was considered but because of its steep slope and slate shingles, it wouldn't accommodate solar panels easily. Too bad, in my opinion, as I read the rector of St. Alban's (near National Cathedral) describe the new solar panels on their roof line as their new "stained glass" windows recently.

We haven't yet found a solar system to be financially feasible yet, but we are close. We are exploring some grant options that could make such a system worth the investment, at which time we would make a recommendation to the vestry. Of course, there are several considerations beyond the financial that must be weighed. Solar would provide us with a clean source of energy and demonstrate our commitment to environmental stewardship. This world after all is not ours, it's God's, but we've been entrusted with its care.

The solar array we've been evaluating would produce only 10% of our electrical needs on an annual basis. But that's 10% less pollution created by the burning of fossil fuels for that same energy. Our overall goal is to reduce our production of greenhouse gas emissions by 50% within 10 years. That's an ambitious goal, but it is one that our National Church has committed to achieving. Clearly, achieving that goal will require a mix of different approaches, including using less energy, and deriving more of what we use from cleaner sources.

The switch to solar is easier for residual homeowners who can take advantage of the tax breaks. So, as a parishioner, you may want to consider whether this is an option for your home. Virginia also has a grant program, for which you may qualify. Obviously, our combined potential benefit to the environment is exponentially greater when we embrace such changes in our homes as well.

I am yours in Christ,
— The Rev. Patrick T. Crerar, Assistant Rector

Tanzania Hospital Planning



In February, thanks to the great support of the Grace Mission Ministry and the invitation of Episcopal Missionaries, Drs. Phyllis and Henry Ziegler, who were planning to expand the Buguruni Health Centre into a hospital, and I visited Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. As a Clinical Health Facility Planner, I knew that I couldn't do the hospital planning justice without traveling to Tanzania.

Dar es Salaam is a city of contrasts. In the rich section, beautiful homes overlook the Indian Ocean, shopping areas are modern, and the food and water are safe in the restaurants. In Buguruni, the location of Fr. Yohana's work and the Health Centre, poverty is rampant, with shacks on unpaved roads, roads that flood with the slightest rain, where polio victims are plentiful, and the very basics of life are scarce. Only by the Grace of God are we so fortunate to have all we need and more.

The Buguruni Health Centre currently provides the best health care in the area, with very minimal resources, treating AIDS, Malaria, Typhoid, TB, Dengue Fever, and newborn sepsis. It operates out of two buildings, providing outpatient and inpatient care (11 beds) to anyone who shows up at their door. They currently have a small lab, pharmacy, a few exams, and



a few patient rooms. The goal is for them to expand to 56 beds, with surgical capability, expanded labor and delivery including c-sections, and more diagnostics.

Henry has submitted three UTO grant requests, hoping that one will fund Phase 1 of the construction. My hope is that all three request are granted, which would provide funding for all three phases of the construction! They will still need much equipment, though, including an X-ray machine. For more information about the trip and the Health Centre, please visit my blog at <http://clinical-concepts.net/blog1> or on the *Grace on the Road* section of our website.

While in Dar es Salaam, I was also able to meet with Fr. Yohana a couple of times and attend his service at the Muhumbili Chapel. He sends his very best wishes to all of you, and he very proudly announced to his congregation that Grace was going to hold an Auction to try to buy him a car! The Auction is on April 24th. I hope to see you there.

— Sharon Steele

Ya Never Know...

On a Tuesday morning in March—that first one of the month with the *gorgeous* weather—I was driving through Old Town on my way to Grace when my tire blew. Actually, it didn't blow...rather it was ruthlessly gashed on a metal plate and brutally splayed open for all to see.

No friends were around to help. Everyone was getting their days started with classes or meetings. So Beth Wiggers kindly left her desk at Grace to fetch me and drive me to the church. After all, I had a meeting to attend with the Rector (and that's just not something to which one is tardy!)

Before Beth arrived I decided to stand by the car so that she could find me more easily—and as I did the parking police drove by, stopped, and issued a ticket to the car in front of me. Poor guy.

Seemed a good time to strike up a chat, though, since my car would be parked in a two-hour zone for who-knew-how-

long. As we chatted he asked if I'd like for him to change the tire. Uhhh – yea!

Wouldn't-ya-know ... as we got down to work on the tire, I learned he was a deacon in the Baptist church! Instead of sitting at my desk that morning *doing* church work, I was on my knees with a Baptist deacon *talking* about church, baptizing children, and working with teens.

God is with us *always*, Jesus is in our hearts *always*, and the Holy Spirit is at work *always*. But don't we find them sometimes in the most unexpected places... like the corner of Cameron and North Payne streets?

I wonder where you've found one of those moments in others recently...or where others have found one of those moments in you. I wonder.

— Julie Simonton, Assistant for Family Ministries

Graceful Worship

The Easter Lily

For many, the beautiful trumpet-shaped white flowers symbolize purity, virtue, innocence, hope and life—the spiritual essence of Easter. Often called the “white-robed apostles of hope,” some traditions hold that the trumpet shape of the flower itself symbolizes the heralding of Christ’s death and resurrection, and that lilies were found growing in the Garden of Gethsemane after Christ’s agony. Other traditions say that white lilies sprung up where drops of Christ’s sweat fell to the ground in his final hours. Churches reference these traditions at Easter time by banking their altars and surrounding their crosses with masses of Easter Lilies to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and hope of life everlasting.

Since the beginning of time, the lily has played a role in motherhood stories. Roman mythology said that while Juno was nursing her son Hercules, excess milk fell from the sky. Although part of it remained above the earth (thus creating the group of stars known as the Milky Way), the remainder fell to the earth, creating lilies. Another tradition said that the lily sprang from the repentant tears of Eve as she went forth from Paradise. The lily has long been closely associated with the Virgin Mary. In early paintings, the Angel Gabriel is pictured extending to the Virgin Mary a branch of pure white lilies, announcing that she is to be the mother of the Christ Child. In other

paintings, saints are pictured bringing vases full of white lilies to Mary and the infant Jesus. St. Joseph is depicted holding a lily-branch in his hand, indicating that his wife Mary was a virgin.

During the Victorian era, stamens and pistils were removed from lilies in some churches because they were seen as overt symbols of sexuality that might move the congregation to impure thoughts.

The following poem by Louise Lewin Matthews captures the spiritual essence of the Easter Lily:

*Easter morn with lilies fair
Fills the church with perfumes rare,
As their clouds of incense rise,
Sweetest offerings to the skies.
Stately lilies pure and white
Flooding darkness with their light,
Bloom and sorrow drifts away,
On this holy hallow'd day.
Easter Lilies bending low
in the golden afterglow,
Bear a message from the sod
To the heavenly towers of God.*



— June Huber

Eco Notes

This year marks the 40th anniversary of Earth Day. Earth Day was originally conceived as a “college teach-in” to mark environmental challenges facing the United States. Over 2000 colleges and universities commemorated that first Earth Day. Estimated attendance at that first Earth Day was over 20 million participants. Earth Day 1970 also marked the centenary of Vladimir Lenin’s birth. For that reason, many people stayed away fearing a Communist connection though some supportive and religious believers also pointed out that April 22 was the birthday of Saint Francis of Assisi. St. Francis is the Patron Saint of the Environment and of Animals. Earth Day is now described as the largest “secular civic event in the world.” It brings people of different cultures, nationalities, religions, and races together striving for a common goal. This year the holiday will be celebrated in 190 countries and hopefully reach a

billion people. The 2010 theme is Advocacy and Service. Locally, there will be a week of activities planned for the National Mall beginning on April 17 and running through the 25th. Close to home and near our own backyard Alexandria City will sponsor a cleanup of Four Mile Run on April 10 (rain day April 17) from 9 am until noon. Contact jesse.maines@alexandriava.gov or call 703-746-4071 to volunteer. Earth Day will be marked by a celebration at Ben Brenmar Park on April 24 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Sunday April 18 marks Grace’s own celebration of Earth Day. We will mark the day with special liturgical prayers and a tree blessing of a new birch planted last fall. The Grace environmental committee is sponsoring the forum. Updates regarding a new dishwasher and parish energy use will be presented.

Parish Announcements

Stories/Historias Forum on April 11

On April 11, at 10:15 am, please join members of the La Gracia and Grace communities as we share our experiences of Grace Church. For the past several weeks, parishioners from each congregation have been coming together in a small group to join in fellowship and conversation across cultural and linguistic boundaries. During the forum, we will share the fruits of these conversations, with the hope that they will strengthen the relationship between the two congregations. We will be sharing stories of how we have come to encounter God at Grace Church. Please join us!

"Grace Cares" Packages

You can help bring a little stress relief to our Grace Church College, boarding and grad students or a little joy to homesick Grace parishioners and their families serving abroad. Let them know they are not forgotten by contributing a snack or small whimsy (Easter rubber ducky?). For the care packages we will be sending out to 28 college, three boarding school, four grad school students, and three seminarians, plus one parishioner serving in Afghanistan, and seven other individuals and families stationed abroad.

Please join the Pastoral Care team in the Merrow Hall Auditorium on Sunday, April 18 during Coffee Hour following the 9:00 am Eucharist as we prepare post-Easter/ pre-exam care packages. Suggested items include: hand sanitizer, post-it notes, gum, popcorn, instant ramen noodles, tuna kits and dried fruit. Home made brownies or cookies are particularly popular, sealed in individual zip bags. No liquids or perishables, please. Favorites from past years have included playdoh, squeezable trucks, capsules that dissolved into mini dinosaurs, and rubber duckies. Think creatively (and light weight). Stop by and sign the cards to remind them they are part of our Grace family, and take away a box or two to mail. Thank you!

Looking for Some Fun?

The Fellowship Committee of Grace Church is the Committee responsible for coordinating any parish-sponsored receptions, parties, dinners or gala events. It may sound like work, but those on the committee will tell you how much fun it is. While there are many functions, which come under the Fellowship Committee's umbrella, such as coffee hours, foyer groups, and Thursday Night Potluck, our main responsibility is coordinating events such as the Agape on Easter Eve, Annual Meeting

brunches, Christmas Pageant receptions, organ recital receptions and funeral receptions. Many volunteers help set up, prepare and serve food, and clean up at these parish events. You can recognize us in our snappy new red aprons, which were contributed to Fellowship by the Sesquicentennial Committee and embroidered, with our name at the top, by Liz Saalfeld. Our program has sometimes been referred to as the "Ministry of Celebration" and our members strive to provide an enjoyable, fun and elegant time for all as we host these events. The Fellowship Committee is always looking for new members to share in our fun loving ministry. If you think this is the ministry for you, please contact Lucy Lee Reed (non-Vestry) or Amy Barron (Vestry).

Towel Ministry

"After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around Him." John 13:5. Towel Ministry is a program developed in the Episcopal diocese of Western North Carolina to teach the gospel to teens by acting to serve others, especially by small construction and cleanup projects. Fr. Mike Jenkins, an ordained minister and building contractor, has led the Towel Ministry for the last five years. The weekend of April 16-18, Mike will come to Grace Church to lead a Towel Weekend with the EYC.

More than just a work project, Towel incorporates a program of discussions, music and worship to explore the difference the Christian gospel makes in our lives, our actions and our community. Eric Waskowicz is leading the prep work, especially finding a project, purchasing materials and inventorying skills.

We are excited about this new activity for our youth and look forward to reporting back to the parish about what we learned about ourselves and how this could serve as a model for future missions to nearby dioceses. Please keep us in your prayers!

Golf Tournament

The annual Grace Church Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, April 26, at the National Golf Club at Tantallon. The Club is a private course located close by in Fort Washington, MD. It is always in superb condition and the 18-hole layout is challenging and scenic.

The fee is \$125 for the 18-hole tournament, which begins at 12:30 pm. The "Captain's Choice" format will be used

(Continued on page 10)

Letter from David Crosby

Dear Grace Church Family,

Please forgive my shortcomings in not writing earlier. My parents really did raise me right!

I give regular thanks for you all, my church family, who sent me forward. Your constant prayers for Chrissie and me sustain us, and your kind words of support encourage me as I push through studies, papers, and exams. I find formation is much more than what I hear in lectures, read from books, or write for papers. I've been more open to other opportunities (such as guest lectures and Gospel enactments) that might not come my way again during this time on the Holy Hill.

I survived the brief summer foray into Greek and Proclaiming the Word, will soon complete three semesters of Church History, and am better than halfway through the Introductions to the Old and New Testaments. One more quarter, and by God's Grace my fellow sojourner Jo Belser and I will both be one third of the way through seminary. Next year will include Liturgics, Homiletics, and Christian Ethics.

Two bits of news: First, I've been appointed by the Dean to serve as one of the two Class Sacristans in chapel here. Grace Church's Altar Guild prepared me well for this ministry, and I'm eager to serve the VTS community in preparing the altar, vestments, and worship space for the different liturgies celebrated here. This includes a seat on the Worship Committee (just like old times!). Second, I have accepted a call to St. George's Episcopal Church, U Street (near Howard University) in Northwest DC as my field site parish during my second and third years of seminary. I am thrilled to be invited there, and Chrissie shares my excitement about the opportunities to learn and grow there.

The sacred trust between us is that I will keep putting one foot in front of the other to walk this path God has called me/us to, while you care for my Heart of My Heart—Chrissie—as she remains there with you. I thank the vestry and parish for the financial support to assist with books. My shelves are quickly filling up!

In closing, know that I miss you and love you all. You will see me from time to time.

Peace & Cheers,

David Crosby

VTS M. Div. Class of 2012

Music Notes

Vesper Concert

The final Vesper Concert for the spring will be on Sunday, April 11 at 6:00 pm. Thom Robertson will be joined by Timothy Smith in a program featuring both of Grace Church's organs—the gallery organ and the continuo organ down front. They will play duets written for two organs by the Spanish Baroque composer Antonio Soler as well as duets by Giuseppe Busi, a contemporary of Verdi. Thom and Tim will also play music written for two players at one organ, including (hopefully!) an arrangement of Wagner's Ride of the Valkyries or perhaps a march by John Philip Sousa. Please join us as we continue to celebrate our new instrument!

Director of Music's Sabbatical

Director of Music Thom Robertson will be on sabbatical this spring and summer; it was postponed from last year

because he needed to be involved in the installation of the new organ. From April 14 until May 17, he will be away; Timothy Edward Smith will be serving during that absence. Thom will again be away for two weeks in June: one week on retreat, and another to attend the annual convention of the Organ Historical Society. During July Thom will be at Grace every Sunday morning and will be continuing to work at home. Lastly, he will be away during August and the first two weekends of September. During his absences, Thom will be composing, learning new music, and hopefully playing a few concerts in England. He will also be traveling on a Historic Organ Study Tour through Alsace where he will join other organists in seeing, hearing and playing historic pipe organs.

— Thom Robertson, Director of Music

Grace Environmental Committee

Rules for observing a Holy Lent include admonitions to fast, so we often give up meat during Lent. We do this by eating fish on Fridays or coming to church for the simple suppers. Or perhaps we eat vegetarian meals during the week. These simple choices have profound and positive environmental implications.

Food is usually the third largest contributor to the average household's carbon footprint after driving and utilities. For many of us our current diet is meat-based. We expect to consume meat at meals with side dishes built around the meat. When we consider our meat-rich diet there is opportunity for change. A meat diet is costly. Meat is usually the most expensive item one puts in the shopping cart.

The meat diet consumes resources. It takes 5,000 gallons of water to produce one pound of meat, while growing one pound of wheat only requires 25 gallons. A diet rich in meat uses over 4,000 gallons of water per day. One saves more water by not eating a pound of beef than one does by not showering for an entire year. A meal made with Hamburger Helper requires a pound of meat.

Meat is costly in other ways. It produces gases that cause climate change. Animal agriculture takes up 70% of all agricultural land and 30% of the total land surface of the planet. When forests are cut down and turned into pastureland, stored carbon dioxide is released into the

atmosphere. Grasslands do not store as much CO₂. Growing that pound of meat for a Hamburger Helper dinner created at least 14.8 pounds of CO₂. Animal farming produces enormous amounts of methane. Methane gas is a natural gas produced when animals and then humans digest food. Methane is 20 times more powerful than carbon dioxide at trapping heat in our atmosphere. Statistics from the Environmental Protection Agency show that animal agriculture is the number one source of methane emissions in the U.S.

Methane gets into the atmosphere quickly and stays around for ten years. Reducing or eliminating meat consumption can bring about reductions in climate warming by reducing methane. As we work to reduce our own meat consumption the rest of the world is ramping up. Meat consumption has increased five-fold in the past fifty years, and is expected to double again in the next fifty.

At the Lenten simple suppers the menus do not include meat. When 25 families of four attend the simple supper and give up a pound of hamburger they can save over 12,000 gallons of water in one evening. Those same 25 families who gave up the pound of meat would also save 370 pounds of carbon or over 7600 driving miles. Simple choices make big changes.

(Sources EPA, USA Today, Sierra Club)

— Jennifer Eckel

Thanksgiving Baskets Thank-you

This is long overdue and I humbly apologize. As always, the Thanksgiving Baskets and Christmas Giving Programs serve so many in our community. Grace can be more than proud of the number of people we helped this past holiday season as well as the level of generosity. At Thanksgiving, we supported 55 families—a total of 211 people. The amount of food each family or individual received was enough for a week or more. What a blessing! A BIG thank you goes to Margaret Will for single-handedly arranging the delivery of all the Thanksgiving baskets. That is quite a task! The entire program is nothing without delivery. During Christmas, congregants sponsored 45 individuals with gifts and food. Several people from Grace donated money that was used to sponsor families. I did the shopping and was able to purchase everything and more on the families' wish lists—including coats, gloves and hats. Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this ministry every year. It is an honor and a pleasure. It renews my faith in mankind year after year. God Bless.

— Sally Schneider

Outreach: The Brown Bag Lunch Program – “Seek and Serve Christ in All People.”

Brown Bag Lunch (BBL) is a free lunch program for the homeless, working poor and unemployed in Alexandria. One week out of seven, Grace Church provides bag lunches to those in need. Volunteers help by making sandwiches at home and serving lunches at Meade Memorial Church.

But the real story is this: The first time I served lunches at Meade Memorial, I was apprehensive. What will it be like? What will the diners (mostly men) be like? What will I actually do?

So, on my first day of service, my BBL partner and I packed 55 bag lunches, four gallons of soup and drove them to Meade Memorial. There in the parking lot a few men helped us carry our baskets and heavy thermoses of soup into the church. We set up our serving line quickly on two long clean tables. The men took down the chairs that had been placed on the tables when the floor was mopped. At 11:30 am, Barbara, the very helpful secretary at Meade, said we could start serving. A sparse group of men entered the room and began go-

ing through the line: first, one bag lunch, then a choice of chips (Doritos are big favorites), saltine crackers, and finally a cup of very hot soup. Even after several years of serving, I routinely spill some of this on my left hand. Every time.

Now, to back up a little. Ten years ago I retired from thirty years of teaching. One of the many useful sub-skills of teachers is the ability to give *The Look*. It consists of an unblinking stare, compressed lips, and a silent message lasered to the offender: “Stop. Whatever you are doing wrong, stop. I don’t even want to think about what will happen if you don’t stop.”

Now you have the background. Back to Meade.

After a few minutes of serving, fifty some folk were seated at the long tables, eating lunch absolutely SILENTLY. Not a word, not a cough, hardly the rustle of a napkin. You could hear bananas being peeled. When the men were finished, they put their trash in the container. Silently. They walked out of

(Continued on page 9)

School News

Gala/Auction a Success

Many thanks to the parishioners who joined the school community to celebrate their 50th Anniversary at the Gala/Auction. Although the epic 100-year blizzard upstaged us, the rescheduled date worked beautifully. The Gala/Auction was very successful, but more importantly, a terrific celebration of this milestone. Many, many, thanks go to Frank Waskowicz, who worked very hard researching and writing the “history” of Grace Episcopal School. He is getting very adept at this since this was his 3rd history of an organization! The history is available to purchase for \$10 (soft cover) and a very, very few limited hardback versions for \$75, while they last. Please come by the school office if interested in buying one.

Annual Fundraising Drive

Springtime is here and that means that it is time for the School’s annual fundraising drive for the scholarship/financial aid program. Last year, parishioners were very, very generous with their donations. Please remember to support Grace School’s important outreach efforts by contributing to this program, which benefits students and families under financial constraint. This was so helpful to our financial aid program and made it possible for nine children to receive aid and 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 soon. 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). I extend a special invitation to all parishioners to join us for the Grandparents and Special Friends Tea on May 14 at 9:30 am after the chapel service and then that evening for the performance.

Rolling Bowling

Rolling Bowling comes to Grace School once again this year. This mobile bowling alley will be temporarily housed on the parking lot March 29-April 1. If any parishioners are interested in testing their bowling skills, come by during the school day and try it out!

Easter Closing

Grace Episcopal School will be closed on April 2 and 5 for Good Friday and Easter Monday. I wish everyone a very blessed Easter!

— *Chris Stegmaier Byrnes, Head of School*

Connections. . .

Claire Eudy, daughter of **Rick and Valerie Eudy** and granddaughter of **Ray and Joanne Peters**, has been accepted in the U.S. Navy's prestigious Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate Program as a surface warfare officer. Claire will graduate from the Stevens Institute of Technology in May 2011. Thereafter, she will complete Officer Candidate School and Surface Warfare Officer School in Newport, RI, then will serve 18 months at sea. Her next step will be the Navy's Nuclear Training Program and another 18-month tour at sea, this time on a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier. At Stevens, where she plays varsity lacrosse, Claire is scheduled to graduate with both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Naval Engineering, a remarkable accomplishment in four years! Claire was a long-time Grace Church acolyte before her college years, and still often serves when she is home.

Last month, we wrote that **Kevin Sherlock** works tirelessly to keep our grounds looking beautiful. This month we're focusing on his wife, **Barbara Sherlock**, who seems to live in the church food pantry. Nineteen volunteers are responsible for distributing cans and boxes of food, but Barbara orders the food, stocks the shelves and handles all the paperwork involved for the Capital Area Food Bank. She also recruits, schedules and trains those who distribute the food. The Sherlock's daughter, **Anna**, a graduate of Randolph-Macon Women's College, is currently pursuing computer-programming certification. Son, **Daniel**, is completing an associate degree in teacher preparation at Northern Virginia Community College prior to transferring to a four-year college. He wants to become a special education teacher. Both Anna and Daniel attended Grace School.

The **Rev. Jane Barr**, who was back with us for much too short a time, has taken an interim position at St. James Episcopal Church on the Green in Woodstock, VT. According to her husband, **Barry**, Jane began her tenure there on Ash Wednesday.

For those of you who remember our former seminarian, **Scott Petersen**, Scott has been called to be the next rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Wilkesboro, North Carolina. He begins officially on April 1 and writes, "Yes, I am a fool for Christ." Scott has been the assistant rector at Good Shepherd Church in Tequesta, Florida.

Please feel free to either e-mail or call us with any information you'd like to share: Dorothy Daniel, dorothy.daniel@gracealex.org (703-524-0990) or Linda Waskowicz, linda.waskowicz@gracealex.org (703-836-8435). We look forward to hearing from you.

Parish Staff

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Robert Malm | Rector |
| (rector@gracealex.org) | |
| Patrick Crerar | Assistant Rector |
| (assistant.rector@gracealex.org) | |
| Christine Byrnes | Head of School |
| (office@graceschoolalex.org) | |
| Thom Robertson | Director of Music |
| (music.director@gracealex.org) | |
| Julie Simonton..... | Assistant for Family Ministries |
| (family.ministries@gracealex.org) | |
| Charlotte Payne Wright | Parish Administrator |
| (parish.administrator@gracealex.org) | |
| Beth Wiggers | Administrative Associate |
| (parish.office@gracealex.org) | |
| Rosa Castillo | Children's Ministries Coordinator |
| (kids@gracealex.org) | |
| Ruth Young | Children's Chapel Coordinator |
| (childrens.chapel@gracealex.org) | |
| Pedro Hernandez..... | Sexton |

Vestry

Class of 2010

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Nat Ames | Treasurer |
| Peter Iovino | Worship |
| Cynthia Puskar | Register |
| Colin Rushing | Member-at-Large |
| Easter Thompson | School Board |

Class of 2011

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Alison Campbell..... | Pastoral Care |
| Rich Kelly..... | Youth |
| Erica McFarquhar..... | |
| Howell Medley | Senior Warden |
| Frank Waskowicz..... | Junior Warden |

Class of 2012

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Amy Barron | Fellowship |
| Lisa Bellantoni..... | Education |
| Theresa Lewallen | Evangelism |
| Robby Schrum..... | TNT |
| Sharon Steele | Outreach |

Alternates

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Lisle Bean..... | |
| Kristine Hesse | |

Outreach: Brown Bag Lunch (Continued from page 8)

the dining room silently and left the church the same way.

"What was that? I said to my BBL partner. "Don't they EVER talk? I don't know what the rules are here, but that seems a little harsh..."

"Don't you know Mary?" she said, "You were giving them *The Look*."

Things I have learned from this experience:

✧ I am very blessed to have been born into my happy circumstances.

✧ These men are not to be feared; they are to be respected, treated with courtesy and friendly good will.

✧ I feel we should participate in this important ministry because Jesus said, "Feed the hungry."

✧ I don't have to tell you about *The Look*.

✧ The next time the BBL sign-up goes on the Outreach bulletin board, sign up to serve. It's real and it helps. You'll feel good and know the joy of giving.

— Mary Fox

April Birthdays

| | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|------|--------------------|------|-------------------|
| 4/1 | Lenore Funkhouser | 4/8 | Barbara Ebersole | 4/20 | Sasha Karamyshev |
| 4/1 | John Gnorski | 4/8 | Brittany Murchison | 4/21 | Barbara Morris |
| 4/1 | Lelee Hazard | 4/9 | Fred Saalfeld | 4/21 | Michelle Thissell |
| 4/1 | Joseph Madigan | 4/10 | Franklin Reuther | 4/21 | June Ward |
| 4/1 | John Metz | 4/10 | Mary Stewart | 4/22 | Roxanne King |
| 4/1 | Bernie Schroeder | 4/10 | Jenny Wolff | 4/22 | Amelia Pattarini |
| 4/3 | Sean Kelly | 4/11 | William Gillette | 4/22 | Ashton Summers |
| 4/3 | Nancy Lorentz | 4/11 | Bailey Griffin | 4/23 | Adam Doel |
| 4/3 | Lexie Robinson | 4/11 | Ana Sosa | 4/24 | Peter Iovino |
| 4/4 | Stephen Falatko | 4/13 | Key Butcher | 4/24 | Sarah Stancil |
| 4/4 | Lea Miller | 4/13 | Sofia Dimick | 4/25 | Jose Alvarenga |
| 4/5 | David Glazier | 4/14 | April Everett | 4/25 | Evan Dobbs |
| 4/5 | John Hazard, III | 4/15 | Gary Warner | 4/26 | Gabriella Falcon |
| 4/5 | Lynette Kamakura | 4/16 | Lisa Bellantoni | 4/26 | Tiffany Israel |
| 4/5 | Christopher Koelbl | 4/16 | Khacki Berry | 4/26 | Jonathan Lewallen |
| 4/5 | Sarah Richey | 4/16 | Alfred Dumas | 4/27 | David Ebersole |
| 4/6 | Rachel Crabtree | 4/16 | Sarah Westenhaver | 4/28 | Allison Burch |
| 4/6 | Cammie Griffin | 4/17 | Molly Sim | 4/28 | William Martin |
| 4/6 | Ryan Lear | 4/17 | John Thompson | 4/28 | Avery Meeks |
| 4/6 | Mary Ann Ryan | 4/17 | Mary Wallace | 4/28 | Donna Plunkett |
| 4/6 | Harvey Winter | 4/18 | Austin Goode | 4/28 | Richard Smith |
| 4/6 | Conway Zeigler | 4/18 | Sarah Goode | 4/29 | Mary Barnes |
| 4/7 | Phil Hickok | 4/19 | Alexandra Barr | 4/29 | Suzi Pease |
| 4/7 | Kendall Metz | 4/19 | Maggie Corlett | 4/29 | Jaquelin Simons |
| 4/7 | Eric Waskowicz | 4/19 | Caroline Horwitz | 4/30 | Gavin Dobbs |
| 4/8 | Andrew Busker | 4/19 | Lindsey Malm | 4/30 | Victoria Howard |
| 4/8 | Keith Dobbs | 4/20 | Katie Hoppe | 4/30 | Dick Rogers |

Announcements

(Continued from page 5)

to divide players into teams. For any players who want to make a full day playing 36 holes starting at 7:30 am, the fee will be \$150. Please check with Father Malm if you are interested in the 36-hole option since space is limited.

Prizes will be awarded to the winning team and to those closest to the pin on several holes.

All profits will go to the 2010 budget "fund raising" line item for income. The Golf Tournament and the Chili Bowl are the two main fundraisers for the budget this year.

Interested in learning more about ministries and programs at Grace Church? Go to www.gracealex.org and click on *Programs*.

Grace Notes Going Online

Starting with this year's summer issue, for cost-saving reasons and to save a few trees, we will no longer publish and mail out this paper version of Grace Notes. We will post each issue on our website (www.gracealex.org) as we already do, and notify parishioners via email when the issue has been posted. Please try reading Grace Notes online, or print a copy and share it with members of your household. A printed version can be made available in the office.

To ensure that everyone continues to receive Grace Notes, please complete this form. You can mail it to the church office or place it in the Sunday offering bag... or you can complete and submit a similar electronic form posted on our website. If we don't hear from you, we will assume that you will read it online.

- ✧ I will read Grace Notes online or print my own copy.
- ✧ I will pick up a printed version from the church office.
- ✧ I would like to receive a printed version by first class mail. (Please consider making a donation to cover the cost of postage, about \$1 per issue.)