

# Grace Notes

THE NEWSLETTER OF GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2008

VOLUME IX, NO. 1

## The Rector's Message . . .

Dear People of Grace,

The party is over and hopefully by the time you read this the clean up is over as well. One of the best times after a good party is sitting back and remembering the good parts. There were many good parts to remember this Christmas. It was a beautiful night, clear, starry, cold. Just as it should be. The poinsettias were redder than I have ever seen them. The music was fabulous. And you were there to celebrate. The Brown Bag Pageant at the early service was of its own making with lots of participation from young and old alike. The later service took on a different feel, a little more serious, a little quieter. Together we celebrated the birth of Jesus. Together we worshiped our God and Savior.

As we march right on through the New Year, which will fast become the old year, take some time and remember the best parts for you of this time together. Keep the miracle and blessing of Christmas on the edges of you memory, ready to be recalled at an instant's notice, to be pulled out and relived during special times, during times of need, or just when you want to. Keep it alive so that it is not just one more holiday gotten through, but rather a holy moment that brought you joy and peace and reassurance of God with us.

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May this new year be another one full of blessing, hope, and above all, peace in the world.

God's peace be with you,

Pastor Anna




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Upcoming Calendar Events . . .

**Bishop's visit, Jan. 20**  
**10:30 a.m.**

*Confirmations*

*Reception following in Parish Hall*



**Grace's Annual Meeting**  
**Sunday, Feb. 3 at 11:30 a.m.**

*Potluck Lunch following*

*Vestry Candidates:*

*Pat Diamond, Tom Marshall,  
Fred Tennille*

**Ash Wednesday Svc. at  
Grace Church**

**Wed., Feb. 6 at 12 noon**

*St. Albans: 7:30 p.m.*

*St. David's: 7:00 p.m.*



**Valentine's Dinner**  
**Sunday, Feb. 17, 6 to 8 p.m.**

**Renewal of Vows Ceremony**

**Following**

**Cost: \$30/couple**

*Check website link to keep current  
with Church Calendar dates!*



**Public Auction**

**Grace's Parish Hall**

**Saturday, Feb. 23**

**12 noon to 3 p.m.**

Looking for something to do in February?? J2A is holding a **public auction** on Sat., February 23 from 12 noon to 3 p.m. A professional auctioneer is donating his time for this effort. We are looking for donations of items to auction. Items do not have to be in the high value range - perhaps a neat piece of furniture, a unique piece of jewelry, an antique, a piece of artwork, etc. Another type of auction item could be a service - if you provide a service and would consider donating this for the auction, we would be very interested. If you are not sure if something is appropriate, please call Sandy Poplos at 302-798-1711. Also, if you have something that needs to be picked up, please call Sandy. All proceeds will benefit the youth mission trip (see article on page 5). Plan to attend this fun day at Grace and support our youth. Who knows???...you may find the buy of a lifetime!!

## *Vestry Briefs . . . . (from Nov. 15 Mtg)*

- Pastor Anna introduced Robert Reder. He will be serving the 2 year term vacated by Robert Eppes.
- Drew Holler, Grace Parishioner and Boy Scout, gave a presentation on his proposed Eagle Scout project — the renovation of the landscape in front of and on the South side of the church. Drew will be consulting with Garden Valley Nursery. He plans to hold a bingo night and will accept donations of time and money. The Property Committee had already granted Drew their support, and the Vestry also gave their approval. Drew will now send his paperwork into the Scout Council in Dover for final approval.
- Treasurer's Report — At this point our total income is above budget and expenses pretty much on target. Oil was budgeted at \$18,000, we have expended about \$16,600. Stained Glass Window Fund now reads "0" as it has been paid off. The leaves for the Memorial Tree are being redone as the first ones were of poor engraving quality.
- Stewardship Campaign — 107 pledges have been received, 13 members to still be contacted. Currently \$213,433 has been pledged. Finance Comm. will be putting together the 2008 proposed budget based on pledging. Jeff Beck thanked Cam Martin for doing a great job coordinating the campaign this year.
- Property News — the new sign should be up the first week in Dec. A piece of fascia is missing from the front of church, and tree and trimming work needs to be done around the property. Vestry granted authority to Irv Hollingsworth to oversee this work.
- Cemetery — In last 10 years, 36 plots have been sold. Jeff Beck, Finance Comm., is asking the vestry to address the purpose of the graveyard before any other issues are discussed (price increases, allowing purchase by non-members, etc.). The vestry needs to define graveyard procedures.
- Caring Commission — Sandy Poplos reported that the J2A youth will be selling luminaries; she is in talks with Greek musicians about a spring concert; and caroling is planned for Dec. 21st. On Friday, Nov. 16, food will be delivered to the Claymont Food Pantry.
- Giving Commission — We are still in need of help in the Nursery for Sunday mornings.
- Recycling Program — Pastor Anna announced we will try to begin recycling at Grace. We already have recycle containers; she will ask for volunteers via sign-up sheets and see how it works out.

**2007 Year-End Statements** were mailed out on Jan. 8. If you wish to finish fulfilling your 2007 pledge, be sure to mark that on the outside of the envelope you give your donation in, so the Counters will notify the pledge secretary of the correct posting. Many thanks!



## Caring Commission . . . .

### Ditty Boxes

The Seamen's Center sends its thanks to all who participated in providing the 100 boxes for the seamen at Christmas. Many hands made the wrapping and packing go very quickly. Special thanks to all the knitters who provided the 120+ hats and scarves that were also wrapped and given to the Seamen's Center for their ditty box program.

*\*\* See the note on the bulletin board from Exec. Director Joan Lyons*



### Brown Bag Concerts are a hit!

Once again, the Holiday Brown Bag Concerts were extremely well received and well attended! Many thanks to Mount Pleasant and Concord High School's Chorales and Brass Choir. Robert Welch and Friends brought in more singers and the church was rockin' to hit Christmas music. Thanks to all the greeters and to Fred/Eve Tennille, Joan/Walt Schoenleber and Irv/Anne Hollingsworth for coordinating.

*\*\*See notes on the bulletin board from members of the public thanking Grace!*

### Mark your Calendar!

Lenten season will soon be here and with it our **Spring-in-Talleyville Concerts**. The dates scheduled are Fridays, Feb. 29, March 7 and March 14 at 12:15 p.m.



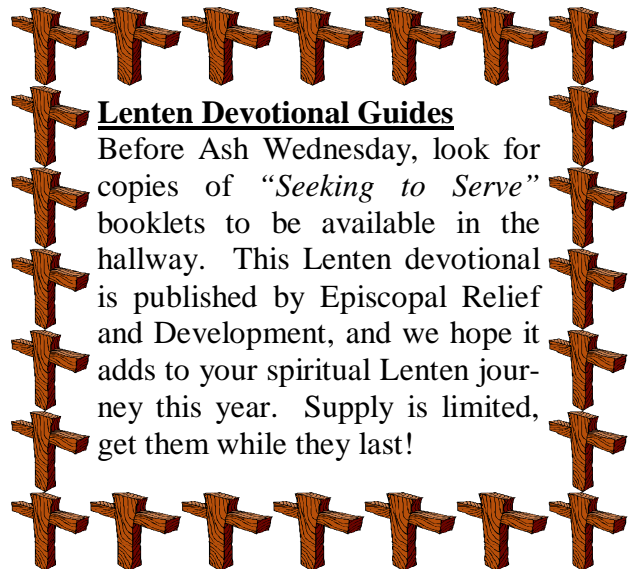
### Newcomer's Dinner

The vestry will host a Newcomer's Dinner on Sunday, Feb. 10 at 6:00 p.m. for those parishioners who are still relatively-speaking "new" to our congregation. The evening will give them a chance to learn more about our parish and ask questions.



### Valentine's Dinner

J2A Youth will host a romantic Valentine's Dinner on Sunday, Feb. 17 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Following the dinner, there will be a Renewal of Vows ceremony in the chapel. Cost: \$30/couple. All proceeds benefit the youth's mission trip (see article next page).



### Lenten Devotional Guides

Before Ash Wednesday, look for copies of "Seeking to Serve" booklets to be available in the hallway. This Lenten devotional is published by Episcopal Relief and Development, and we hope it adds to your spiritual Lenten journey this year. Supply is limited, get them while they last!

## ***Study Commission . . . .***

### **J2A Youth Mission Trip Details. . .**

Five high school seniors and Leader Sandy Poplos will leave on March 22 for Belize, Mexico. They will be doing work through *Praying Pelicans Missions* to help with youth sports camps and assist in repairing and building homes for impoverished families (some of whom are hurricane victims). The cost of the trip is \$875/person along with a now sky-rocketing airfare cost of \$800-900/person. Airfare has gone up recently and that's why their fundraisers have to be very aggressive and they are reaching out to every single one of the congregation to help. The group will return on March 29. In addition to their work duties, the group will have the opportunity to experience an overnight trip on one of the remote islands to go cave snorkeling and do jungle zip lines.



**J2A Youth**

### **Many Thanks!**

The J2A group thanks all who purchased **luminaries** in memory or celebration of a loved one. A photo of the lighted luminaries is displayed on the hallway bulletin board. Approx. \$650 was made in profits towards our trip!

Unfortunately the youth caroling party was cancelled this year due to inclement weather, but we hope to try again next year!

Also in the works —

**A Concert by Greek Musicians** around Easter. Watch upcoming bulletins for more info!

**Education for Ministry** - aka "EFM" - will restart on Monday, January 21 at 7 pm in the Memorial Room. There are seven participants as we begin this particular school year in January versus the normal September. If you are interested in participating, it is not too late. We have room for a couple more. Please speak to Anna Waid or Cindy Larned if you'd like more information or want to join up.

### **Tweens and Teens Classes Update**

Our next unit of Workshop Cycles is "The Miracles Of Jesus", beginning on January 6. This five-week unit focuses on seven of the miracle stories. The following cycles can be used to provide the children with different insights and views of these miracles: Art, Cooking, Science Experiments, Drama, Music, Movie, and Computer Games.

**Still looking for a few computers to implement the computer workshop!**



### **Creative Call Group**

This group will begin a Lenten book study on Wed., Feb. 13 at 7:00 p.m. Pick up a copy of **Praying in Color** by Sybil MacBeth and join us! We will explore this innovative approach to prayer through use of drawing/doodling. No skill in drawing necessary!

**Cemetery News**

The cemetery commission welcomes new members: Matt Bailey, Pat Diamond, and Howard Simpkins. They join with Edie Realey to form the new commission. Bill Corbishley, after many years of dedicated service, has left the commission, and Walter Schoeneleber will soon be rotating off after the new members are trained on the many responsibilities involved.

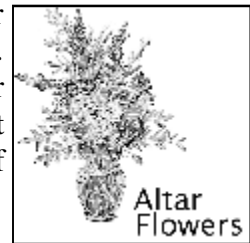
The commission welcomes anyone who wishes to become involved in this important ministry. Speak to any of the current members if you wish to join them and share the responsibilities to keep this ministry ongoing.



**Altar Guild News**

Thank you to those who helped decorate the garden, church and chapel and prepare the altars for all the Christmas services: Mercia Caley, Nancy Simpkins, Gail Haley; Aline, Bryan and Drew Holler; Irv and Anne Hollingsworth, Joan Schoeneleber, Pat Saraga, Natty Long, Lil Miles, Marti Foley and Patti and Taylor Brosious. Special thanks to Tom Quinn for installing the aisle candle stands; to Bill Corbishley for the garden tree and to Irv for the lights. Everything looked especially beautiful and we are grateful for everyone's help.

We still have openings for placement of altar flowers. If you have forgotten to sign up, it is not too late. Call secretary Linda Owens (478-9533) or Fran Allmond (762-2281) to sign up for a Sunday and arrange payment (\$30/vase). It is customary at Grace that we have no flowers at the altars during Lent. You may give one or as many arrangements as you desire to remember or honor loved ones. Thank you for your attention to this important endeavor for the Glory of God.



In the Lord's service,  
Sarah Long and Fran Allmond  
Co-Directors



*First Sunday  
in Lent  
February 10*



We congratulate Grandmom *Joanne Ryan* on her fifth grandchild, Kelly Corbett Gregori, born on Nov. 29 at 6 lbs. 12 oz.

The Grace parish offers condolences to *Eve and Fred Tennille* on the recent death of her brother Joe shortly after the holidays.

A very heartfelt thank you to the *Altar Guild* and our *Grace musicians* for the Christmas celebrations. Our church and chapel were so beautifully decorated, and the superb music lent an even greater spirituality to this important season.

Secretary Linda wishes to thank *Joan Schoenleber and Pat Saraga* for their help in the office during the hectic Christmas season. Your help is so very appreciated!!

***What does Love mean?*** A group of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 to 8 year-olds:

When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love. Rebecca- age 8

Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen. Bobby - age 7

If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate. Nikka - age 6

You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget. Jessica - age 8

Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day. MaryAnn -age 4

## A Little Chuckle for the Day

### New Year's Recipe

Take 12, fine, full-grown months, see that these are thoroughly free from all old memories of bitterness, hate and jealousy; cleanse them completely from every clinging spite: pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past; have them as fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time.

Cut these months into 30 or 31 equal parts. This batch will keep for just one year. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many persons spoil the entire lot in this way), but prepare one day at a time, as follows:



Into each day put twelve parts of faith, eleven of patience, ten of courage, nine of work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavor of the rest), eight of hope, seven of fidelity, six of liberality, five of kindness, four of rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad, don't do it), three of prayer, two of meditation, and one well selected resolution.

Put in about a teaspoonful of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor.

Cook thoroughly in a fervent heat; garnish with a few smiles and a sprig of joy; then serve with quietness, unselfishness, and cheerfulness, and a Happy New Year is certain!



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**The Rev. Anna M. Waid, Rector**

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 Email: [graceplace3@comcast.net](mailto:graceplace3@comcast.net)  
 Office Hours: Mon—Fri, 9 am to 1 pm

**Service Times:**  
 Sunday Holy Eucharist, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.  
 (Nursery is available at the 10:30)  
 Godly Play, 10:15 a.m.  
 Tweens & Teens, 10:15 a.m.  
 Wednesday, Eucharist/Healing Service, 12 Noon



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



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