

# Grace Notes

THE NEWSLETTER OF GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2008

VOLUME IX, NO. 5

## The Rector's Message . . .

Dear People of Grace,

What a summer I had! Being a grandmother is the best! There is something special about holding a little bundle of baby, watching her grow, and thinking about all the things you want to do with her as she grows from infancy to childhood. Disneyworld is on my list. But there are more serious things I think about and want for her, like a safe world to live in, good schools for education, opportunities to explore the world and expand her horizons, and a place where her spiritual life can be nurtured and expanded. Some of this I can influence, but most of it will depend on the community in which we find ourselves. It truly takes a whole village to raise a child. And the church is the village I want my grandchild to be raised in. That is a priority of mine and I hope it is a priority of yours to provide such a place.

We all feel the economic squeeze that we find our world in, a squeeze we have no control over and yet are impacted by. We all are worried about paying the oil bill this winter and know that we will have to cut back somewhere to pay these bills. Our vestry has passed a plan that will help us in conserving our oil use this winter at Grace if our winter is very cold. It is the responsible thing to do. But it is not responsible to become so afraid that we close up shop and no longer carry out our ministries. We are a Christian community with a prime responsibility of spreading the gospel. This is our commitment

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as Christians and as members of this Christian community. There is no other reason for us to be here!

Along with conserving our use of oil, the vestry is planning several fund raisers beginning with the Bluegrass concert on Nov. 1. For these to be successful, all of us have to get behind these efforts. In Oct. your pledge commitment will be requested. It may be tempting to cut your pledge, and I hope you won't give into that temptation. I hope you can find ways to continue your support of God's work in this place. I hope your commitment to Grace will be a priority that will help us keep this a viable village where all children, young and old, can come for spiritual growth and nurture, where there is a vision of a future that reaches beyond this generation and many generations to come. Together we can get through these tough times without losing what we have worked so hard to achieve for Christ's sake.

May God continue to generously bless you, and may you generously bless God.

Peace,  
Pastor Anna



Sun. Sep 28	Rite-13/J2A begins, 10 a.m.
Sun. Sep 28	Blessing of Animals, 10:30
Sun. Oct. 5	Study Group Begins, 9:15 AM
Wed. Oct. 8	Creative Call Group meets, 7 pm
Sun. Oct. 19	Stewardship Packets available
Sun. Oct. 26	Pledge cards returned
Sun. Oct. 26	Newcomers Dinner
Sat. Nov. 1	<b>Fundraiser Bluegrass Concert,</b> 7 pm (bring friends/family!)
Sun. Nov. 16	Book Club Nite, 7 pm
Sun. Nov. 23	Ingathering for Claymont Comm. Ctr. Food Pantry
Sun. Nov. 30	Ditty Box Items due
Fri. Dec. 5	Holiday Brown Bag Concerts Begin, 12:15 pm

Do you have a gas grill in working condition that you would like to donate to the church? The one that we have been using here at Grace for our picnics has recently expired. Many thanks!

*Someone recently asked the office about the Sanctuary Candles listed in the Sunday bulletins. You may sponsor the candles for a Sunday service for \$2.50. The candles may be given as a memorial or thanksgiving. Contact Linda in the office (302-478-9533). Dates still open in 2008 are: Oct. 19, Nov. 2, Nov. 9, Nov. 16, Nov. 30, Dec. 21, Dec. 28.*

## *Vestry Briefs . . . . (from August 21, 2008 Mtg)*

- Vestry has lengthened the meeting, setting aside special time for Spiritual Growth
- The pledge income is \$8,000.00 below the budget. The expense for heating is over budget by 6,000.00. Other expenses are over by 2,000.00. Our total deficit YTD is 16,000.00
- Summer is a difficult time, pledges should pick up in September.
- The Finance committee will present the preliminary budget for 2009 to the Vestry next month.
- Jo Ann Koskol, our new Seminarian was introduced to the Vestry. She has been with Widener University, as a tenured professor for 24 years. She will be working with us at Grace for a year. She is attending Palmer Seminary, and will graduate in 2010 with a Masters of Divinity.
- The Cemetery Committee is getting proposals for some landscaping on the property, to clean up “deadwood” and removal of stumps. The cost will be covered by the Perpetual Care Income Fund.
- Small group Dinners will be starting in the winter of 2009.
- Vestry will be hosting a cleanup day on October 18.
- The Property committee will be presenting to the Vestry a new Energy Plan.

The vestry will be sponsoring a series of work days at the church. The first of these is scheduled for **Saturday, Oct. 18** and is billed as a **“Clean Out” Day**. They will be starting at 8:00 a.m. and anyone is welcome to join and help! Lunch will be ordered for those who want it.



**Some of the padded folding chairs from the Parish Hall???** They have come up missing. Please let Irv Hollingsworth know of their whereabouts ASAP.

Please be sure to call the office (478-9533) and log out with Secretary Linda Owens any items you plan to borrow from the church.

**FUNDRAISER**

***A BLUEGRASS CONCERT***  
**AT GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**BY THE**



***TUESDAY***  
***MOUNTAIN***  
***BOYS***

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2008**  
**DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM, CONCERT AT 7:00 PM**



**PRICE: FREE WILL OFFERING**  
**\$10.00 PER PERSON SUGGESTED**

***PLEASE MARK THIS ONE ON YOUR CALENDAR, COME AND BRING FRIENDS; THE CHURCH NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!***

## Finance Committee . . . .



Grace Church will kick off their campaign during the week of Oct. 6 with a mailing to the parishioners' homes. Here's some important dates:

**Sun., Oct. 12** — Introduction of campaign during services

**Sun., Oct. 19** — Presentation on our plans/needs immediately following both services. Pledge packets available.

**Sun. Oct. 26**—Return of pledge cards

Thanks in advance for your support of the Fall 2008 Stewardship Campaign!

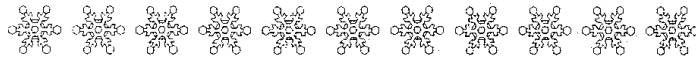
*Due to the expected increase in energy costs (oil heat) for this coming winter, the following measures have been put in place.*

### Vestry-Approved Energy Plan for Winter 2008/09

- 1) As for area usage, the four rooms that are heated by heat pumps are to be used as much as possible which means that they will need to be shared. (Memorial Room, Ivy Room, 2 upstairs classrooms above Ivy Room)
- 2) The Church to be used as normal except possibly the months of Jan., Feb., and March when all services would be in the Chapel, as long as the Chapel would accommodate the size of the congregation. The ceiling fans are to be used when this facility is being heated for use.
- 3) The Chapel to be used as normal except the months of Oct., Nov. and Dec.; the healing service would continue in the Chapel and all other service would be in the church.
- 4) The Parish Hall would be used on Sunday for coffee hour and only as needed when other rooms would not accommodate the size of the function. The ceiling fans are to be used when this facility is being heated for use.
- 5) The heaters would be turned on Oct. 1st and turned off May 1st except in the staff offices where the temperatures will remain comfortable during occupancy.
- 6) Programmable thermostats will be installed. A security code will be required to change the settings. They will be set so that no room temperature will exceed 68 degrees. A comfortable temperature will be determined for the staff offices. The set back temperature will be 50 degrees.



## Outreach Commission. . . .



**Christmas At Sea**  
**Seamen’s Center of Wilmington**  
**Port of Wilmington, Delaware**  
**302-575-1300**

The goal of the Christmas At Sea Program is to give a Ditty Box, a shoe box filled with gifts, to every seafarer arriving in the First State during December. Last year the Seamen’s Center provided gifts to 1,200 mariners. The Boxes are filled with essentials like toothpaste, razors and soap, a knitted cap and a few goodies. You can participate by filling a box or simply donating some of the wish list items listed below.

- |                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Toothbrush</b>        | <b>Toothpaste</b>  |
| <b>Comb</b>              | <b>Deodorant</b>   |
| <b>Knitted hat/scarf</b> | <b>Shampoo</b>     |
| <b>Razors</b>            | <b>Chap Stick</b>  |
| <b>Playing Cards</b>     | <b>Hand Lotion</b> |
| <b>Cough Drops</b>       | <b>Candy</b>       |
| <b>Pens</b>              | <b>Stationery</b>  |
| <b>Sewing Kit</b>        | <b>Soap</b>        |

**Place items in Seamen Ctr. bin in hallway.**  
**DUE DATE for Items: Sun., Nov. 30**  
**WRAP BOXES: Sun., Dec. 7**



### Ditty Boxes

Reminder that items for the ditty boxes can be brought in at any time. We have many shoe boxes, but need the contents. Especially needed are hats and scarves to be knit as well as the small hotel shampoos, lotions and conditioners from your summer travels. Please leave items in the box in the hallway. . **Deadline for all items will be November 30.**



Knitting instructions for the caps and scarves are available on the wall (above the Seamen Ctr. Bin) in the hallway.

### Pennies from Heaven

So the song goes, we have our own penny collection. There are “bears” in the back of each Church for your loose change. The pennies go to **Meals on Wheels** for seniors in our area. This is an important ministry to those who are unable to get out and provide for themselves. Our last donation of \$81.00 from the penny jar was gratefully received. Please don’t hesitate to empty those pockets as you “pass the bear”.



**Meals on Wheels**

**Harvest Ingathering**

Early reminder about our food gathering for **November 23**. It benefits the Claymont Community Center Food Pantry and all families are asked to bring a bag of groceries for that collection. Items will be left in the back of the Church.



In the meanwhile, collections go on every Sunday for canned goods and nonperishable items that can be left in the baskets in each Church. Please help us to keep this important ministry going as the need continues to grow.



**Holiday Brown Bag Concerts**



Yes, the holidays are right around the corner and the concerts are set for this December. They will be:

- December 5: Brandywine Harp Christmas
- December 12: Concord High School Chorale, Madrigals and Brass Choir
- December 19: Robert Welch & Friends: Music of the Season

Fred and Eve Tennille can use all the greeters possible for this popular series. Please let them know (610-793-2661) if you can help out on those Fridays.

**Caring Commission . . . .**

**Game Night Recap**

Many thanks to Richard and Sandy Powell for organizing the Game Night last Saturday. About 30 people attended, adults & kids, and enjoyed an evening of card games and board games. A table full of delicious desserts tempted us all!



**Newcomers Dinner**

Plans are underway for the vestry hosted Newcomers Dinner on Sunday, Oct. 26 at 7:00 p.m. This is an opportunity for those new to our church to meet our leadership and get any questions they may have answered.



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## *Study Commission . . . .*

### Teens and Tweens

Our group meets Sunday mornings at 10:15. We have begun our first workshop cycle; "In the Beginning." We will spend five weeks learning about Creation. We will discover the magnificent world God has given us to live in. We will look at the role we play as stewards of God's creation. Our goal is to have each child understand that God is the source of all life and that life is good. All of God's creation is a gift and worthy to be celebrated and cared for.

We will use the following workshops to accomplish this goal:

Drama - Children will take pictures representing each day of creation and make a collage using these pictures.

Storytelling - We will review different creation stories from other cultures. The children will write their own creation story.

Kitchen - We will make a snack with seven different items, each representing 1 day of creation.

Movie - We watch the movie "God's Trombone" while enjoying our snack.

Garden - We will decorate flower pots and plant bulbs.

Computer - We will use Software to reinforce our lesson.

Art - We will decorate recycling cans for use in the church.

Please contact Brenda Trageser (610-361-9537) if you are interested in helping with any of these activities.

### Rite-13 and J2A Youth

The Rite-13 program is for youth 12 and 13 years old. Students who turn 12 within the school year are welcome. The J2A program is for youth 14 through 17 years old.

Our meetings will be every other weekend **beginning Sept. 28th**. The meeting time will be 10 am so the children can join their families for communion. **October 12th is our kick-off breakfast**, parents are asked to come meet the teachers.

Our schedule for the fall season is:

Sept. 28, Oct. 12 and 26

Nov. 9 and 23, Dec. 7, Jan. 18

### Adult Education this Fall

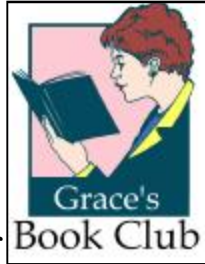
**"Where Is Your Heart — The Great Commandment"**. A six-week Sunday a.m. study series (9:15 am in the Memorial Room). Lead by seminarian JoAnn Koskol.

Pastor Anna will lead an **Inquirer's Class** in October for those interested in confirmation/reception or review. Sign-up sheet in the hallway.

During the Family Eucharist Service on Sun., Sept. 14, the Grace children presented a check to a representative from Habitat for Humanity for \$651.43. This was monies donated during our summer Vacation Bible School. Sixty-seven children attended the Habitat-themed VBS in July.

### Book Club

Our next Book Club discussion night will be **Sunday, November 16** at 7pm. Our next selection is *The Seven Daughters of Eve: The Science That Reveals Our Genetic Ancestry* by Bryan Sykes. To have a copy ordered for you, sign up on the sheet in the church hallway. Cost of book is \$13.00.



Synopsis of book from *Library Journal*: Sykes (genetics, Oxford Univ.; editor, *Human Inheritance: Genes, Language, and Evolution*) is passionate about his work in decoding mitochondrial DNA and about using this knowledge to trace the path of human evolution. To lure readers into this specialized work, he relates personal and historical anecdotes, offering familiar ground from which to consider the science. A discussion of the history of genetics and descriptions of the early landmark work of Sykes and his associates culminate with his finding that 90 percent of modern Europeans are descendents of just seven women who lived 45,000 to 10,000 years ago. Brief biographies serve to place these "seven daughters" into historical context as understood by archaeology. This is an example of good popular science writing that makes difficult concepts accessible and relevant to the general reader.

### MEET OUR SEMINARIAN



JoAnn Koskol

JoAnn is a professor in Engineering at Widener University. She holds a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering. JoAnn was responsible for the establishment of an Interfaith Center at Widener. Her home parish is St. James Episcopal, Mill Creek. JoAnn is a student in the Masters Divinity program at Palmer Theological Seminary in Wynnewood, PA. During her stay at Grace, she plans to work closely with the Worship and Christian Education commissions.

And here's your first opportunity to work with JoAnn . . . **Oct. 5 thru Nov. 9** she will lead a 6-wk. study group between the services (9:15 am in Memorial Rm). Name of the study is "**Where Is Your Heart — The Great Commandment**". Plan to join her!



*In honor of St. Francis Day . . .*

### **DOG'S PURPOSE FROM A SIX YEAR OLD**

Being a veterinarian, I had been called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolfhound named Belker. The dog's owners and their little boy, Shane, were all very attached to Belker, and they were hoping for a miracle. I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family we couldn't do anything for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home.



As we made arrangements, the parents told me they thought it would be good for six-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt as though Shane might learn something from the experience. The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time, that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away. The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion. We sat together for a while after Belker's death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives. Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why."

Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me. I'd never heard a more comforting explanation. He said, "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life -- like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?" The six-year-old continued, "Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long."

*\*\*Printed in loving memory of Buddy and Max  
— Pastor Anna's and Linda's 'old boys'\*\**



**Fred and Eve Tennille** will celebrate the wedding of their daughter Susan Tennille to Bruce Flyer on September 28 in the Outer Banks, NC. The couple will reside in Columbus, Ohio where both work for the Hyatt Corporation.

Do you know **Linda Adams**? You do even if you are not aware of it! Linda McLaughlin recently had her name legally changed to her maiden name, Adams.

The church recently had this voice mail message left: *I drive by your church each morning and evening to work. Your sign messages are so helpful and encouraging. I look for them each day. I encourage your congregation to continue this — it is a real service to those of us who drive by.* —

*Anonymous*

The **Allmond family** thanks everyone for their cards and prayers and kindness following Charles's accident. He is now at their home under the care of Nurse Fran.

With thanksgiving, **Irv and Anne Hollingsworth** announce the birth of their granddaughter Megan Rose Arnold. She was born on Sept. 21 at 7:50 a.m. and weighed 9 lbs. 1oz. and was 22" long. Megan is the daughter of Todd and Debra Arnold and the great-granddaughter of Albert Hickman.

**Ryan Quinn**, son of Tom and Debbie Quinn, is a member of the National Spanish Honor Society and will be inducted into the National Honor Society on Oct. 4.

## A Little Chuckle for the Day

### Children are funny . . .

I was driving with my three young children one warm summer evening when a woman in the convertible ahead of us stood up and waved. She was stark naked! As I was reeling from the shock, I heard my 5-year-old shout from the back seat, 'Mom, that lady isn't wearing a seat belt!'

While taking a routine vandalism report at an elementary school, I was interrupted by a little girl about 6 years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked, 'Are you a cop?' 'Yes,' I answered and continued writing the report. 'My mother said if I ever needed help I should ask the police. Is that right?' 'Yes, that's right,' I told her. 'Well, then,' she said as she extended her foot toward me, 'would you please tie my shoe?'

It was the end of the day when I parked my police van in front of the station. As I gathered my equipment, my K-9 partner, Jake, was barking, and I saw a little boy staring in at me. 'Is that a dog you got back there?' he asked. 'It sure is,' I replied. Puzzled, the boy looked at me and then towards the back of the van. Finally he said, 'What'd he do?'

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'

### Softball in Heaven

Two 90-year-old women, Rose and Barb, had been friends all of their lives. When it was clear that Rose was dying, Barb visited her every day. One day Barb said, 'Rose, we both loved playing women's softball all our lives, and we played all through high school. Please do me one favor: when you get to Heaven, somehow you must let me know if there's women's soft-ball there.' Rose looked up at Barb from her death bed and said, 'Barb, you've been my best friend for many years. If it's at all possible, I'll do this favor for you.' Shortly after that, Rose passed on.

At midnight the following Friday, Barb was awakened from a sound sleep by a blinding flash of white light and a voice calling out to her, 'Barb, Barb.'

'Who is it?' asked Barb, sitting up suddenly. 'Who is it?'

'Barb -- it's me, Rose.'

'You're not Rose. Rose just died.'

'I'm telling you, it's me, Rose,' insisted the voice.

'Rose! Where are you?'

'In Heaven,' replied Rose. 'I have some really good news and a little bad news.'

'Tell me the good news first,' said Barb.

'The good news,' Rose said, 'is that there's Softball in Heaven. Better yet, all of our old buddies who died before us are here, too. Better than that, we're all young again. Better still, it's always springtime, and it never rains or snows. And best of all, we can play softball all we want, and we never get tired.'

'That's fantastic,' said Barb. 'It's beyond my wildest dreams! So what's the bad news?'

'You're pitching Tuesday.'

Life is short... So Remember to Live Well & Laugh Often!

**Grace Episcopal Church**

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Wilmington DE 19803  
302-478-9533

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

**Grace Place Office**

4906 Concord Pike  
Telephone: 302-478-9533 Fax: 302-478-9535  
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 and Tweens & Teens, 10:15 a.m.  
Rite-13 and J2a, 10 a.m. (every other Sun.)  
Wednesday, Eucharist/Healing Service, 12 Noon



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

Click on the link for the **online parish calendar** and stay up to date on events at Grace Church!

**VESTRY OF GRACE**

**Tom Marshall, Sr. Warden (2011)**  
**Irv Hollingsworth, Jr. Warden (2010)**  
**Jeff Beck (2009)**  
**Jean Burton (2009)**  
**Patrick Diamond (2011)**  
**Carrie Fayda (2009)**  
**John Haley (2011)**  
**Jill Englund Jensen (2009)**  
**Linda McLaughlin (2010)**  
**Christopher Raab (2010)**  
**Robert Reder (2010)**  
**Fred Tennille (2011)**



Happy Halloween — Trick or Treat!