

Grace Notes

THE NEWSLETTER OF GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE



MAY/JUNE 2009

VOLUME X, NO. 3

The Rector's Message . . .

Dear People of Grace,

It is time to turn in those blue boxes filled with money given in thanks. We do this once or twice a year, and many of you are very faithful in filling these boxes. But some of you are unaware of what UTO is all about. It has a wonderful history.

It grew out of the missionary work led by the women of the church. Until the 1960s and 70s, women were not allowed to serve at the altar, serve on the vestry, be deputies to diocesan and General Conventions or be ordained. Up until then, from the foundation of the Episcopal Church USA, women organized themselves into a number of organizations to do mission work for the church. In 1868 the Woman's Auxiliary was developed as an extension of the Board of Missions. Its purpose was to coordinate the work formerly done by the unrelated women's missionary societies. It originally was called the Ladies Domestic Missionary Relief Association, but soon became known as the Women's Auxiliary. "It originally functioned chiefly in supplying boxes of clothing and other goods to supplement the salaries of the missionaries and to provide them with materials for relieving others, but after the institution of the United Thank Offering of prayer and material gifts in 1890, it became an important source of financial support as well." (A HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH by William W. Manross, 1950)

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The first United Thank Offering was collected in 1889. This first offering was inspired by the missionary collection of 1886 taken at the Triennial meeting of Women who had prayed for and saved for building a church in Anvik, Alaska and sending Miss Lisa Lowell as a missionary to Japan. The offering reached \$2,188.64. Today that offering is between two –three million dollars!

The UTO is still a ministry of the Episcopal Church that provides a way for men, women, and children to give daily thanks to God with a sense of gratitude. The discipline begins at home by placing coins in the “Blue Box” which is used for grants for mission and ministry. I remember my mother faithfully putting coins in her ceramic blue box every day in thanksgiving for something. It sat on the window sill over the kitchen sink, a place where it couldn’t be missed. I have and use her ceramic blue box and try to be faithful in filling it with thanksgiving.

On Pentecost Sunday, the birthday of the church, what better way to celebrate than to bring in your thanksgivings represented by your daily offerings in your Blue Box. 100% of what you give goes to outreach and ministry throughout the world. I ask that you count your change and write a check to make it easier for the counters.

God’s Peace,

Pastor Anna



Important Calendar Dates To Note!

- Sat. May 16 **FLEA MARKET and Chicken Barbecue Dinner, 9 AM-3PM**
- Sun. May 17 **Property Comm. Meeting, 9:30 a.m.**
- Wed. May 20 **Finance Comm. Meeting, 7:00 p.m.**
- Thurs. May 21 **Vestry Meeting, 7 p.m.**
- Mon. May 25 **OFFICE CLOSED for Holiday**
- Sun. May 31 **Pentecost Sunday, WEAR RED, Baptisms at 10:30 service**
- Sun. June 7 **Last Family Svc. for season; Parish Picnic following the 10:30 svc.**
- Sun. June 7 **Food Pantry Ingathering, start of Nets for Life campaign**
- Mon. Aug. 3 **Vacation Bible School, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (Mon-Fri.)**

Vestry Briefs (from March 19 Mtg)

- Meeting started with study and discussion. The topic was church mission and vision. What makes us exciting and how do we build community?
- Treasurer's Report was presented by Bruce Phillips. He reminded vestry members that the deficit would decrease as the year progressed. The church is financially sound.
- Sr. Warden Tom Marshall announced that Chris Raab has resigned from the vestry, which now creates two open positions.
- Irv Hollingsworth reported that so far in the 2009 season, the concert series has made \$1,900; there will be two concerts in the fall. Pat Diamond reported that the St. Patrick's Dinner netted \$500.
- Part 2 of the church cleaning project has been deferred to late summer or early fall rather than the original plan for this spring. Tentative date is set as Sept. 19.
- The Grace Church delegates for the Diocesan Convention on March 27/28 are Sandy Tonjes, Linda Adams, and Richard Powell. Anna Waid and seminarian JoAnn Koskol will also attend.
- Due to vacation schedules, the April vestry meeting will be held April 30.



Office News

Watch in the mail for the **first of the 2009 pledge statements**. Please check your statement over; and report any discrepancies ASAP to Linda in the office (302) 478-9533. If

you do not currently have a supply of offering envelopes and would like some, please request them through the office.

Open Dates for Regular Sunday Altar Flowers:

May 31, Jun 21, Jul 5 & 12, Aug 9 & 16 & 23, Sep 13, Nov 8

Sponsorship of flowers is \$35/vase. Flowers may be given in memorial or thanksgiving. Call the office to reserve a date.



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Thanks to Josiah Gilman
LEPERS ... I HEAL LEPERS



**Grace Church's
Annual Flea Market
(and Chicken Barbecue)**

Sat., May 16, 2009
(Rain Date May 30)
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

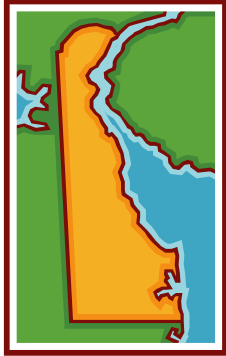
Plenty of shopping & good deals — over 60 vendors, crafters and garage sale tables!



Gary Poplos will have **Breakfast foods** available in Parish Hall in the a.m., and Pat Diamond will be cooking up **barbecue chicken** for your lunch/dinner. (*Pat will be selling dinners beyond 3 p.m.*) No Need to Cook! — take home a chicken dinner for \$10/dinner. Includes: ½ chicken, potato salad, coleslaw, & roll.

Pray for good weather, come and shop, and get your take-out chicken dinner!





SLAVERY in DELAWARE

*Report produced by the
Committee on Slavery of the
Diocese of Delaware
~2009~*

At the 2006 General Convention of the Episcopal Church USA, there was a resolution passed requesting every diocese to look into the history of slavery in their area. The Diocese of Delaware established a committee to do just that, and the report is out and interesting. **You will find a few printed reports on the hallway table between the church and the chapel.**

Some of you might well ask why this was necessary to do. The quick answer is that if you don't know your history, you are doomed to repeat it. The longer, harder answer to understand is that when something is never really settled in the mind of a person or of a people, that something tends to live on and prevent the necessary healing to take place. Why do people yell in an argument or keep saying the same thing over and over? Because they don't feel they have been heard. Slavery is something most of us never think about because we were not affected; but those who have ancestors who endured slavery need to put it to rest. They need to feel they have been heard. And publishing this report is one way to help them do that. Naming and claiming is important to the healing process. We should never forget about slavery in our country. We should

never forget about the holocaust that took place in Europe. We should never forget about the Trail of Tears the Native Americans walked. We should never forget about any of the many inhumane actions that took place and still take place in the world. Remembering is part of our pastoral care of those who hurt.

The Rev. Anna Waid



Campbell

"Naming me Solomon didn't work."

Outreach Commission. . . .

FOOD PANTRY INGATHERING

We will have another food ingathering for the Claymont Community Center Pantry on **June 7, the date of the picnic.**

When you are gathering your food together to enjoy that date, think of those in need who don't have as much as we do. Share a bag of nonperishable foods to put in the back of the church that day. Arrangements will be made to transport it to the Community Center Pantry and many thanks for helping those who have less. We will continue to collect during the summer and it is a great way to give thanks for all that God has given us.



The NetsForLife program will begin in June at Grace. This is to purchase nets which have been treated with insecticides to prevent malaria in the many poor areas of Africa. Malaria takes the life of 3,000 children each day in Africa. Episcopal Relief and Development has made this a major goal and now it's easy for us to participate and collect the \$12 needed to buy each net. There will be a display to show how this is so helpful in preventing the spread of this deadly disease. Look for more information in your bulletin.

COSTUME CLOSET

Did you ever wonder what you were going to do with those old prom dresses, suits and hats/ties/sweaters that you don't want anymore? Goodwill and St. Johns Next-to-New Shop are great ideas. But many of those might make wonderful costumes for the theatre. Tom Marshall is collecting items such as suits/sport coats/gowns/dresses/pocketbooks/hats, etc. for use with the Concord High School and other theatre groups. Call him at 437-4423 if you have items that you think might make great costumes.

DITTY BOXES

Don't forget as you travel this summer, to pick up those hotel toiletries that might be useful to the sailors in our local port. Collecting for the Ditty Boxes is a year round event. Pens, pencils, playing cards, socks and toothpaste are only a few of the items needed to fill our 100 boxes. Leave the items in the Ditty Box collection box in the hall outside of the Chapel.



**Sunday
May 31**

Wear Red!



Vacation Bible School 2009
Camp EDGE—Experience and Discover God
Everywhere
Aug 3rd – 7th from 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Programs for 5 years old to Adults!

REGISTRATION OPEN ONLINE

www.cokesburyvsbs.com/GraceCampEdge/ce/

Our program will start at 5:30 p.m. with dinner in the Parish Hall. Following the meal, we process into the chapel for a short service. At this time the participants will separate into their units. The adults will follow Pastor Anna to continue their program. The children will then go on a journey to a biblical destination. Here they will begin the Camp EDGE program- *Experience and Discover God Everywhere*. Camp EDGE brings children closer to God by discovering that God is with them at all times, in all places, and in all circumstances, always ready to help and guide them. A daily journey helps the children discover God in different places. Children then travel to four different stations; each will reinforce the daily message. Adults and children join together at the end of the evening for an ending worship service in church.

Items Needed for Crafts at VBS: (Sign-up for items on the sheets in the hallway!)

assorted colors poster board, 13" X 9"

paper plates

Elmer Glue

newspapers

yarn

paper towels

fabric pens

paper clips

hand wipes

large cardboard box tops; i.e. box tops from office paper boxes

Large rectangular cloth backed table clothes (white) 54" X 90"

gold and silver glitter glue

regular size craft sticks

river rocks

hole punchers

golf balls

paper cups

packs of embroidery floss

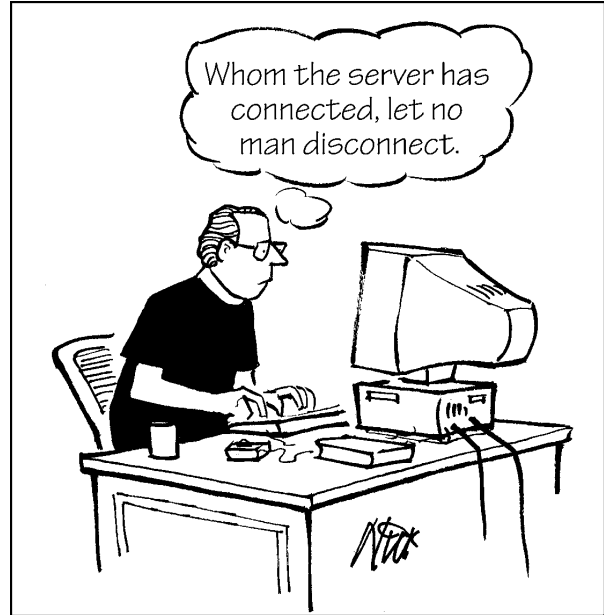
scotch tape





Trying to Quit???

The Claymont Counseling Center has teamed up with Delaware Quitline Smoking Cessation Program to offer free face-to-face counseling for any adult interested in quitting smoking. Face-to-face counseling consists of an intake session and two follow-up sessions and provides the info, counseling and support to help you learn the most effective ways to quit and stay quit. Also, if anyone is interested in Nicotine Replacement Therapy, information will be provided as well as a voucher for free stop-smoking aids, if client is eligible. For more info, contact the Claymont Counseling Center at 302-792-2757, ext. 118.



Do you know someone who struggles with hearing loss?

The Starkey Hearing Foundation has a program, **Hear Now**, that serves low income individuals residing in the U.S. to acquire hearing aids. All applicants must meet the program's financial criteria, complete the application process and be approved for hearing aids. **Hear Now** works with licensed practitioners in the applicant's area. The applicant is responsible for the cost of the hearing evaluation and a nominal processing fee to the program. The recipient is also financially responsible for the cost of batteries and repairs. Once an application is approved, the aids are given at no additional cost.

Visit the foundation at their website: www.sotheworldmayhear.org, and call the **Hear Now** program at 1-800-328-8602.



Happy Gardening!

SPOTLIGHT ON . . .

The Schneider Family

Ann, Grace, Bridget, and Chaz



This young family started attending Grace in the fall of 2008. Baby Bridget was baptized at Grace on Dec. 28, 2008. Ann is an Episcopalian who has attended St. Thomas, Newark and St. Andrews and Matthew (SAMs) in Wilmington. She and Chaz were married at SAMs in 2005. Chaz is a member of the Roman Catholic Church. He teaches in the Red Clay School District and Ann works in the field of Finance.

Ann says they decided to stay at Grace after their initial visit because they all felt comfortable here. “Our daughters, Grace and Bridget, especially love the nursery, coffee hour, and Linda Adams!” (We understand girls — we all love Linda too!)

THE GRADUATION



They walked in tandem, each of the ninety-two students filing into the already crowded auditorium. With their rich maroon gowns flowing and the traditional caps, they looked almost as grown up as they felt. Dads swallowed hard behind broad smiles, and Moms freely brushed away tears.

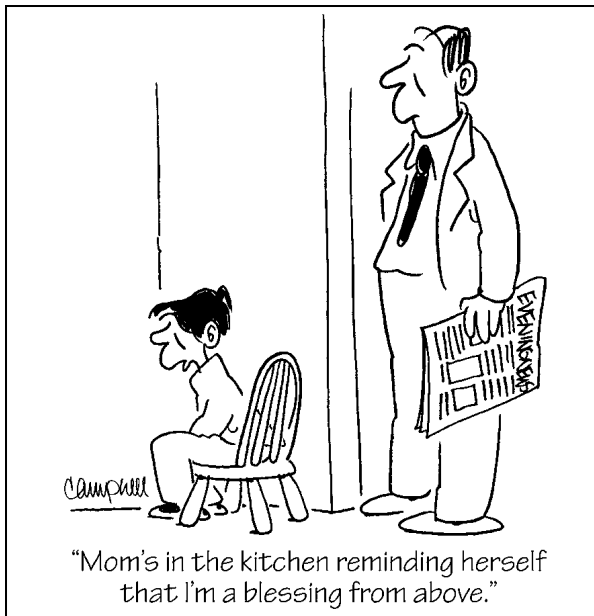
This class would NOT pray during the commencements--not by choice, but because of a recent court ruling prohibiting it. The principal and several students were careful to stay within the guidelines allowed by the ruling. They gave inspirational and challenging speeches, but no one mentioned divine guidance and no one asked for blessings on the graduates or their families. The speeches were nice, but they were routine.....until the final speech received a standing ovation.



A solitary student walked proudly to the microphone. He stood still and silent for just a moment, and then it happened. All 92 students, every single one of them, suddenly SNEEZED. The student on stage.. simply looked at the audience and said, 'GOD BLESS YOU, each and every one of you!' And he walked off stage...The audience exploded into applause. This graduating class had found a unique way to invoke God's blessing on their future with or without the court's approval.

Summer Camp Opportunity

St. David’s Episcopal Day School, 2320 Grubb Road, will offer a **Mad Science Specialty Camp** for children ages 4-6 and school aged kids 7-12 for the week of June 22—June 26. The camp runs from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon, each day. Cost is \$160/child. Contact school at 302-475-3747 or st_davids_day_school@verizon.net for more information.



AROUND the CONGREGATION



Congratulations Graduates!

J.J. Larned, son of Cindy and John Larned, is graduating from Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. He’ll receive a B.A. in Psychology on May 31. Next year J.J. plans to join the armed forces.

Kelley Helie, daughter of Wil and Linda Helie, is graduating in May from the University of Delaware with a bachelor’ degree in Psychology and a minor in Spanish and Accounting. She has been on the dean list all four years. Kelley was accepted into the School Psychologist graduate program at the University of Delaware and will be continuing her studies in the fall.

Heather Claus, daughter of Don and Wendy Claus, graduates from The United States Naval Academy on May 22 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. Heather will be starting Basic Officer Training for the Marine Corps.

Jacob Owens, son of church secretary Linda Owens, will graduate from the Univ. of Delaware with a bachelor’s degree in English, with a concentration in Journalism. Just a few credits shy of a second degree in International Relations, Jake may return to UDel this fall to finish that program. He would like to take some time to work with a non-profit service organization.

A Little Chuckle for the Day

REAL NEWSPAPER ADS

FREE YORKSHIRE TERRIER.

8 years old. Hateful little dog. Bites.

NORDIC TRACK

\$300 Hardly used, call Chubby.

FREE PUPPIES...

Mother, AKC German Shepherd.

Father, Super Dog...able to leap tall fences in a single bound.

GEORGIA PEACHES

California grown - 89 cents lb.

JOINING NUDIST COLONY!

Must sell washer and dryer \$300.

WEDDING DRESS FOR SALE.

Worn once by mistake. Call Stephanie.

FOR SALE BY OWNER:

Complete set of Encyclopedia Britannica, 45 volumes, Excellent condition, \$1,000 or best offer. No longer needed, got married last month. Wife knows everything.

When the graveside service had no more than terminated, there was a tremendous burst of thunder accompanied by a distant lightning bolt and more rumbling thunder.



The little old man looked at the Pastor and calmly said, 'Well, she's there.'

An elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%. The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, "Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again."

The gentleman replied, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!"

A Little Church Humor . . .

Procession: The ceremonial formation at the beginning of svc. consisting of altar servers, the celebrant, & late parishioners looking for seats.

Amen: The only part of a prayer that everyone knows.

Bulletin: Your receipt for attending service.

Choir: A group of people whose singing allows the rest of the Parish to lip-sync.

Hymn: A song of praise usually sung in a key three octaves higher than that of the congregation's range.

Incense: Holy Smoke!

Pew: A medieval torture device still found in churches.

Ushers: The only people in the parish who don't know the seating capacity of a pew.

Recessional: The ceremonial procession at the conclusion of the Eucharist led by parishioners trying to beat the crowd to the parking lot.

Relics: People who have been going to svc. for so long, they actually know when to sit, kneel, and stand.

Grace Episcopal Church

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The Rev. Anna M. Waid, Rector

Grace Place Office

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Email: 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, 9:30—10:25 a.m.
Wednesday, Eucharist/Healing Service, 12 Noon



www.graceepiswilmde.org

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



**Monday
June 29**

VESTRY OF GRACE

Tom Marshall, Sr. Warden (2011)
Irv Hollingsworth, Jr. Warden (2010)
Linda Adams (2010)
Jean Burton (2012)
Patrick Diamond (2011)
John Haley (2011)
Paul Miles (2012)
Julie Simone (2012)
Fred Tennille (2011)
Brenda Trageser (2012)

