



THE EPISTLE

A NEWSLETTER OF GRACE CHURCH IN NEW YORK

Volume 11, Issue 9

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September, 2007



Letter from the Rector - The Reverend J. Donald Waring

One of my sons – 5-year old Luke – has decided to align himself with the New York Yankees. That’s a painful sentence to write for a second-generation Mets fan, and I have tried to preach, teach, and woo my little lost sheep back into the fold of truth and goodness. All to no avail. After an appropriate period of ritual grieving, I

decided that the bigger part of fatherhood was calling me to support Luke’s being a baseball fan at all despite his choice of team. Thus one day I went to the Yankees’ website to purchase tickets to a game in the Bronx.

While online I decided to have a look at the renderings of the new Yankee Stadium set to open in April of 2009. I was pleasantly surprised. It strikes me that the new stadium is going to look more like the original “House that Ruth Built” than what is there now. As most of you know, in the early 1970’s Yankee Stadium underwent such a drastic renovation that most if not all its unique appeal was lost. To be sure, renovation was necessary, and a generation ago the renovators did the best job they could. They followed the spirit of the times. But I’ve never heard a single word in praise of the overhauled park’s aesthetics. Happily, plans for the new stadium seem to reach behind the dubious results of the 1970’s, and restore the former glory – most especially the frieze, or façade of arches that used to line the roof over the upper deck. One can almost imagine that the Babe himself would approve.

The Mets are doing something similar. The Mets exist because in 1957 the Brooklyn Dodgers and the New York Giants forsook their fans and fled to California. Ebbets Field, beloved home of the Dodgers, a neighborhood icon, even the soul of Brooklyn succumbed quickly to a wrecking ball that was mockingly painted to look like a baseball. The Polo Grounds, where the Giants played, lived on for a few more years to house the first two seasons of the Mets. But that grand old park also fell as soon as Shea Stadium was ready. I have many happy memories of Shea Stadium that include going to games as an 8-year old, and now taking my own 8-year old son James there and watching him become a third-generation Mets fan. But the truth is, Shea Stadium has always been an awful place to watch a game. Again, those who designed and built Shea Stadium did the best job they knew how to do, and followed the spirit of the times. But if

their charge was to build a stadium without a trace of architectural interest, and with seats in a different zip code from home plate, then they were successful.

In April of 2009 the Mets will also have a new home. And the new Mets stadium, like the new Yankee Stadium, also reaches back to recapture a glory that was lost. Citi Field appears to be highly reminiscent of Ebbets Field. No, it won’t be in Brooklyn, and in the middle of a vast parking lot it will lack urban charm. But you can’t look at the renderings of the new stadium and miss what is more than a tribute to Ebbets Field.

So why am I writing about baseball stadiums in our church newsletter? Because we also have an opportunity to reach back and reclaim a masterpiece that was lost. By now most of you should have received the Background Information Statement that makes a preliminary case for an upcoming capital campaign at Grace Church. In 2008 we will celebrate our bicentennial. But even if our 200th anniversary were not immediately upon us, we would still have many facilities issues that are in critical need of attention. Chief among them is our organ, which has been ready to give up the ghost for over a decade.

The history is complicated and fascinating. But in a nutshell, it is a story – and an opportunity for us – that is not unlike that of the Yankees and the Mets and their stadiums. In the 1960’s the organ of Grace Church was one of the finest, most historically significant instruments in the country. It was also in need of much repair. Our predecessors here were guided by the spirit of the times and made the best decision they could with the information at hand. In hindsight, we now know that a careful restoration of the EM Skinner would have been the far better course. Instead, a great masterpiece was removed and replaced by an instrument that is now falling apart and beyond repair. What is more, the current organ never has worked well with the acoustics that prevail in the church.

The opportunity is this: to learn from our history and do it right this time; to reach back and recapture the glory that we had and lost. If you haven’t yet read the background statement, please do so. And please say yes to participating in the Feasibility Study that is ongoing now to assess all the ways we will want to celebrate 200 years of Grace Church.

JDW

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER AT GRACE CHURCH						
2007						
1						
PENTECOST XIV 2 9:00 Holy Eucharist 11:00 Holy Eucharist 6:00 Holy Eucharist	3	8:00 Bible Study 6:00 Choral Society	6:00 Holy Eucharist 12:20 Bach at Noon	8:00 AA Meeting	7	8
PENTECOST XV 9 9:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Morn Prayer 4:00 Organ Meditation 6:00 Holy Eucharist	10 10:00 CL WOLFE Art Club Board Meeting	7:00 Boys Choir 8:00 Bible Study 12:20 Bach at Noon 5:30 Choral Evensong 6:00 Vestry Meeting 9:00 Compline Service	7:00 Girls' Choir 10:00 Womens Bible Study 12:20 Bach at Noon 6:00 Holy Eucharist 7:00 Wed Bible Study 7:00 Parish Choir	7:00 Boys Choir 8:00 AA Meeting 12:20 Bach at Noon	7:00 Girls' Choir 12:20 Bach at Noon 1:45 Novice Choir	9:00 Terrorism Violence & The Work of Reconciliation Workshop 4:00 Organ Meditation
PENTECOST XVI 16 9:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Adult Ed Class 11:00 Morn Prayer 4:00 Organ Meditation 6:00 Holy Eucharist 7:00 Adult Ed Class	17	7:00 Boys Choir 8:00 Bible Study 8:00 AA Meeting 12:20 Bach at Noon 5:30 Choral Evensong 6:00 Choral Society	7:00 Girls' Choir 10:00 Womens Bible Study 12:20 Bach at Noon 6:00 Holy Eucharist 7:00 Wed Bible Study 7:00 Parish Choir	7:00 Boys Choir 8:00 AA Meeting 12:20 Bach at Noon	7:00 Girls' Choir 12:20 Bach at Noon 1:45 Novice Choir	4:00 Organ Meditation
PENTECOST XVII 23 9:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Adult Ed Class 11:00 Morn Prayer 4:00 Organ Meditation 6:00 Holy Eucharist 7:00 Adult Ed Class	24	7:00 Boys Choir 8:00 Bible Study 8:00 AA Meeting 12:20 Bach at Noon 5:30 Choral Evensong 6:00 Choral Society	7:00 Girls' Choir 10:00 Womens Bible Study 12:20 Bach at Noon 6:00 Holy Eucharist 7:00 Wed Bible Study 7:00 Parish Choir	7:00 Boys Choir 8:00 AA Meeting 12:20 Bach at Noon	7:00 Girls' Choir 12:20 Bach at Noon 1:45 Novice Choir	4:00 Organ Meditation
PENTECOST XVIII 30 9:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Adult Ed Class 11:00 Morn Prayer 4:00 Organ Meditation 6:00 Holy Eucharist 7:00 Adult Ed Class						

Dr. Christopher Marshall to Lead *The Work of Reconciliation* Workshop on September 15



Dr. Christopher Marshall will lead a workshop at Grace on Saturday, September 15 entitled, "Terrorism, Violence, and the Work of Reconciliation." that examines violence and terrorism and outlines ways in which Christian communities can work for reconciliation. We asked Dr. Marshall to give us a background on Restorative Justice and what he will be covering at the workshop.

What topics will you be exploring on the day of the workshop?

At the Saturday workshop I want to explore the religious dimensions of contemporary terrorism, and some counter-terrorism as well, then reflect on how the Christian community should respond to this epidemic of religiously sanctioned violence. I will mention four or five kinds of responses that are needed, including fresh attention to the task of developing a peace theology or a theology of reconciliation. I will offer some observations on the teaching and practice of both Jesus and Paul as a starter for such a theology.

What does Restorative Justice mean? What is the movement's philosophy regarding violence and terrorism in these times?

Fundamentally, "restorative justice" refers to a process whereby those affected by an incident of wrongdoing come together, in a safe and controlled environment, to share their feelings and opinions truthfully and resolve together how best to deal with its aftermath. It seeks, above all else, to address the needs created by the crime, especially the needs of victims, and to do so in a way that stresses the accountability of the perpetrator to meet those needs. The process is called "restorative" because it is concerned primarily with restoring, insofar as is possible, the dignity and well-being of those harmed by the incident. From this it follows that justice processes may be considered "restorative" only inasmuch as they give expression to key restorative values, such as respect, honesty, humility, mutual care, ac-

countability and trust. The values of restorative justice are those values that are essential to healthy, equitable and just relationships. It strives to be a collaborative and peacemaking approach to conflict resolution, and can be employed in a variety of settings (home, business, school, judicial system, etc.).

How does a relatively peaceful democratic society even begin to relate to the terrorist thought process?

Restorative justice is not, of course, a panacea for all the ills of the world, including terrorism. In fact, at first sight, it seems to depend on the very values and processes that terrorism explicitly repudiates. But there are some examples of the victims and perpetrators of terrorist acts coming together in a restorative justice manner to confront the sufferings of terrorist violence. This happened during the TRC in South Africa. But there have also been cases of it happening in Northern Ireland. I may cite one or two such examples at the Saturday workshop.

What would you like those attending to take away from your workshop that can be applied to their everyday life?

If people take from the workshop a deeper understanding of the mindset that feeds terrorist violence, and a sense that the peacemaking principles of the Christian gospel have something to offer as we struggle to respond to it, I will be more than happy. I am no world expert in terrorism. But I am a Christian who strives to follow the Prince of Peace, so I *have* to struggle with such questions as this, and hopefully can at least provide a framework for us all thinking creatively together about it.

The conference fee is \$25. Checks may be mailed in or paid on the morning of the event. You can also pay by credit card. Please RSVP to Bill Nave at 212-254-2000 or via email at bnave@gracechurchnyc.org.

Dr Christopher Marshall is the St John's Associate Professor of Christian Theology in the Religious Studies Department at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Dr. Marshall will be the guest preacher on Sunday, September 16 at the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services.

Is it Feasible?

In the years 2008 and 2009 we will mark the bicentennial of Grace Church. It was on December 21, 1808 that the first building was consecrated downtown, on the corner of Broadway and Rector Street, directly across from Trinity Church. Then on January 11, 1809 the Vestry convened for its first meeting.

To mark these historic anniversaries we will want to have many celebrations that highlight the rich and varied story of Grace Church. But we also want to signal that we intend to be here for the next 200 years as well. As you may know, the organ is failing, many stained glass windows that were not repaired in the 1990's now need work, lighting and electric needs updating, plaster, paint, and stonework need repair inside and out all over the facility.

To address these issues the Vestry has contracted with CCS, a Manhattan fund-raising firm, to conduct a feasibility study at Grace Church. Every member will be contacted to provide input. At this stage we will solicit no funds, but rather your input as to what needs to be done, and how committed you may be to help get the job done.

The Feasibility Study Committee consists of Abby Carr, Dana Foote, Charlie Johnston, Bob Martini, Kevin Rotheroe, Charlie Stewart, Leslie A. Wheaton, Susan White, and the Rector. When you are contacted, please agree to participate.

JDW

September & October Adult Education at Grace

SEPTEMBER 16

10 a.m.

Terrorism, Violence, and the Ministry of Reconciliation, Part 1

Dr. Christopher Marshall

Noted New Testament scholar and author Dr. Christopher Marshall, in residence for a weekend of preaching and teaching at Grace Church, will outline ways in which Christian communities can work for reconciliation in a world where violence and terrorism command the headlines. Dr. Marshall holds the St. John's Senior Lectureship in Christian Theology at Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand.

7:15 p.m.

Praying with the Scriptures

The Rev. Benjamin Thomas

The Rev. Benjamin Thomas, newly ordained deacon and doctoral student at General Seminary will introduce class participants to a practical discipline of prayer that is guided by the Scriptures.

SEPTEMBER 23

10 a.m.

Terrorism, Violence, and the Ministry of Reconciliation, Part 2

The Rev. Dr. William J. Danaher, Jr.

Dr. Danaher will respond to Christopher Marshall's presentation, and help us further explore opportunities to seek and work for reconciliation in our lives, church, and community. Bill Danaher is Professor of Christian Ethics and Moral Theology at General Seminary, and Associate Priest at Grace Church.

7:15 p.m.

Praying with the Scriptures

The Rev. Benjamin Thomas leads Part 2 of Praying with the Scriptures.

SEPTEMBER 30

10 a.m.

Juvenile Violence and the Ministry of Reconciliation

Judge Michael Corriero

How can the principles of reconciliation apply in the juvenile court system? Judge Michael A. Corriero presides over

Manhattan's Youth Part, a court set aside within the adult court system to deal exclusively with the cases of 13, 14, and 15-year-olds who are charged with the most serious and violent crimes. He is the author of *Judging Children as Children*, and has traveled the world presenting his theories on juvenile justice.

7:15 p.m.

Relief trip to New Orleans

The Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee of Grace Church presents a report on their June 2007 relief trip to New Orleans, and our ongoing partnership with Grace Church New Orleans in that still struggling city.

OCTOBER 7

10 a.m.

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7:15 p.m.

One God, Three Faiths (Trinity Foundation for Christianity and Culture Course)

One God: Three Faiths is a course prepared by the Trinity Foundation for Christianity and Culture. Under the leadership of the Rector and Professor Nick Birns, over seven weeks we will explore the similarities and differences between Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. Like the other TFCC course we have used, this one is intended to strengthen participants in their Christian life and enable them to engage positively with the challenges and opportunities of living in a culturally and religiously diverse society. For more information on the Trinity Foundation for Christianity and Culture, visit their website at: www.tfccinternational.com.

OCTOBER 14

10 a.m.

200 Years of Grace

The Reverend J. Donald Waring and Archives Committee

Is it possible to fit the 200-year history of Grace Church into one grand narrative? The Rector thinks so, and with the help of the Archives Committee will talk about three distinct eras of our history and the bridge years in between them. The narrative will serve as the outline of a Bicentennial commemorative book that is being planned. Come to learn more and share your memories.

7:15 p.m.

One God, Three Faiths

Class 2 of One God, Three Faiths.

OCTOBER 21

10 a.m.

200 Years of Grace

The Reverend J. Donald Waring and Archives Committee
Part 2 of 200 Years of Grace.

7:15 p.m.

One God, Three Faiths

Class 3 of One God, Three Faiths.

OCTOBER 28

10 a.m.

Children and Spirituality

Stephanie Bauman

Every adult with children or teens would like to know how to foster in them a living, life-giving spirituality. Stephanie Bauman, Director of Youth and Family Ministry at Grace Church will lead a conversation about her work with children and young people at Grace Church, listen to your ideas, and present the "best thinking" that's out there on the topic of Children and Spirituality.

7:15 p.m.

One God, Three Faiths

Class 3 of One God, Three Faiths.

Remembering September 11

- The church will be open until 10 p.m. for those wishing a quiet place for prayer and reflection.
- Prayer suggestions appropriate for the day will be available.
- The church bells will toll at the times of the attacks on the World Trade Center towers and their collapse.
- “Bach at Noon” organ meditation commences at 12:20 pm.
- The Junior Choristers will sing Choral Evensong at 5:30 pm.
- The Adult Choir will sing Compline at 9 p.m.

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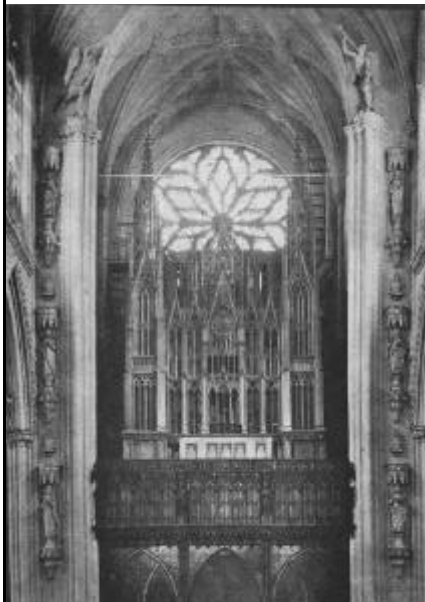
Thank you to FP Design

Thank you to Elana Foundos and her colleague Robin Presslaff at FP Design Inc., who so enthusiastically and professionally designed our Music Events and Music Mediations for Evening brochures. Can you discover where in our buildings the concepts for the covers of the brochures came from? I am so grateful for their warm hearts, creativity and generosity. Say Thank you and pray for them!

Please keep all our musicians in your prayers as the new season begins and we set about making a joyful noise in praise and thanksgiving to the Almighty.

Patrick Allen
Organist and Master of Choristers

From the Grace Church Archives



This photo from the 1920's shows the Grace Church organ as it appeared in the gallery until the 1960's. The elaborately carved wooden case was designed by the new church's young architect James Renwick, Jr.

Children & Youth News

Dear Grace Church Families,

Welcome back! I hope you all had joyous and relaxing summers and are getting ready to jump back into the action at Grace Church! It's been a quiet and productive summer, but I missed seeing all of your children on Sundays and throughout the week.

Looking ahead on the calendar, I wanted to make sure that everyone had some important dates and events marked down for the upcoming months.

September 9th

Sunday School resumes

October 5th-6th

Acolyte Festival in Washington, D.C.

October 20th

An afternoon of apple and pumpkin picking in beautiful upstate New York

October 28th

10 a.m. Adult Education class on the topic of *Children and Spirituality*

December 24th

Grace Church Christmas Pageant, 4 p.m. (Various auditions and rehearsals take place beginning Nov. 6)

The Youth Group will continue to meet on the **FIRST** Sunday of every month, while the Children and Youth Committee will continue to meet on the **THIRD** Sunday of every month. However, as can be expected, these dates may occasionally need to be altered. Please be sure to remain alert to such notices!

Details will be posted as the dates near, but feel free to contact me for specific information about any of these upcoming events. I'm looking forward to our time together.

With love and gratitude,
Stephanie
sbauman@gracechurchnyc.org
212-254-2000, ext. 113.

A Community for Everyone Celebrating Excellence in Music & God's Love of All

A community for everyone celebrating excellence in music and God's love of all. This is the mission statement that the music program of Grace Church adopted in the fall of 2006. The words came about as we thought about our work and vision for ministry and tried to define who we are. It was very exciting to be a part of the conversations that led to this statement and the last year of living into it was exhilarating.

New Season Upon Us

The new season is upon us! Where has the time flown? New initiatives have been born as the dialogue between musicians, choir families, music committee and our Rector continued, and in a short time much growth and new energy has been generated. The new training scheme for the choristers has resulted in over seventy children being enrolled in the choir program for the fall! The week-day Evensong program has matured into a sung liturgy at 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday that Grace Church School is in session. The combined boy and girl Junior Choristers offer this service in the church.

Artist in Residence

By the time this article goes to press a new "Artist in Residence" will have been appointed. As we examined the growth and success of the program in the spring and early summer it became clear that we needed to adjust the use of our resources in supporting the offerings of our musicians. We are discontinuing the Internship and introducing several new staff positions to take its place. The "Artist" will accompany our choirs and provide support at the organ and piano.

Welcome Karen Coker

Karen Coker, a member of our Adult Professional Choir joined the staff as a Part Time Music Administrator in January. She has also been teaching voice to many of our choristers and coordinating those efforts. She will take on a new part time position as Choir Manager and Head of the Chorister Vocal Studies Program. Karen's new role might have once been called "Choir Mom" but she brings outstanding professional musical experience to this and will be carrying out a

producer's role with our professional singers, choristers and their families.

A native of Greensboro, North Carolina, Karen received her Master of Music degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 2000. She performed many roles there, including Magda Sorel in Menotti's *The Consul*, (1st-place winner in the National Opera Association's Competition of 2000). Throughout her collegiate career, she began and maintained a strong studio of private voice instruction, primarily for non-voice majors. Karen's affiliation with the Episcopal Church also began in her college years, as she served as a choir member at St. Mary of the Hills in Blowing Rock, N.C.

Upon graduating Karen was employed as an apprentice with Pittsburgh Opera, and with the Ezio Pinza Council for American Singers of Opera (EPCASO) in Italy. During the 2004-2005 season she toured England with Opera North of the UK as the title role of Venus in production of Kurt Weill's *One Touch of Venus*. She reprised that role at the Ravenna Festival in Italy, and again in performances at London's Sadlers Wells.

Karen is currently involved in an exciting new project—Libby Larsen's new operatic adaptation of the 1953 Pulitzer prize-winning play *Picnic* by William Inge. This production will be developed in workshops throughout 2008 and opens in spring 2009 in North Carolina. Karen will play the leading role of Madge Owens. As a concert performer, she has appeared with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, as well as several liturgical performances at churches throughout Manhattan.

Congratulations to Holli Harrison

Holli Harrison has been offered two contracts with the Metropolitan Opera this coming season. She will spend the fall working on *Die Zauberflöte* by Mozart and will follow with Wagner's *Die Walküre*. Holli won the Metropolitan Opera Young Artist Competition last year. She has been active at Grace as a member of the Adult Choir, teaching choristers' voice and working with and supporting the musical direction of the Church Christmas Pageant. This is such an exciting opportunity for her!

Sunday 9 a.m. Parish Choir

The Parish Choir that was founded last September will resume work in the middle of September. Please contact the music office for information about rehearsals and other details if you are interested in joining. The Choir will begin singing again at the 9 a.m. Sunday service on 7 October.

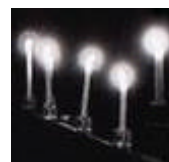
New Chamber Organ

The new chamber organ is scheduled to arrive from Virginia in the middle of September. The first service to celebrate this new instrument will be Evensong on Sunday afternoon 7 October at 4 p.m.

2007-2008 Music Brochures

The Music brochures for the new season have been placed in the mail and additional copies are available at the church reception and in the narthex. Please take extra copies and give them to friends. Word of mouth and the excitement of the congregation is the best way to bring more people into our wonderful community. Share the good news!

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**Compline
Tuesday
September 11
9 p.m.**

This gentle evening office will be offered according to the old Sarum Rite in English with The Men of the Adult Choir.

Keeping the Focus on New Orleans

For all of you who were part of the Outreach mission trip to New Orleans this year or last year, and for all who might have an interest in participating next year, there will be an organizational meeting on Monday, September 24 at 6:30 p.m. We tentatively plan on going back down to New Orleans during the week of May 13-18, 2008, and would love to have all willing returnees and new participants. Below is the text of an op-ed piece we submitted to the New York Times in August (the piece was not printed) discussing the need our mission is designed to meet and what we have accomplished so far.

Katrina Op Ed Outline, August 6, 2007

When Katrina struck New Orleans in the summer of 2005, Claire Meunier, a young New Orleans native living in New York, felt compelled to help. She masterminded and organized a trip in June of 2006 for a group of twelve volunteers from the Outreach Committee of Grace Episcopal Church of New York. Another group went in June of 2007--this time twenty-two strong.

The first trip in 2006 involved tearing down, or "mucking out" houses, the beginning of any rebuilding program. One of the houses was only one block from the Ninth Ward's 18th Street levy, which had failed as a result of the storm. That house was a "clean house," meaning that the contents, including the putrid garbage, had been removed. The second house had not been opened since it was evacuated. We also refurbished exterior and interior spaces at Grace Episcopal Church in New Orleans, where water had stood five feet deep for several weeks.

During the 2007 trip, twelve of the twenty-two volunteers slept on cots at 120 S Cortez Street in New Orleans, while the other ten volunteers stayed with hosts in various Episcopal parishes. Each day of the week we had a breakfast briefing at 7 a.m. to outline the day's

work--community service involving framing out new houses with Ameri-corps in the St Bernard Parish, salvaging the useable woodwork in a house being demolished in Lakeview Parish, and working with members of the "Beacon of Hope" removing debris restoring lawns in Lakeview Parish. We also worked with Habitat for Humanity, framing out a house in St. Bernard Parish where the damage level was rated at 100%. By fall, this program will complete 150 new homes, which will house the families that work at several large oil refineries. Each day our assignments involved working with dedicated volunteer organizations, without governmental oversight.



The Rev. Linda Bartholomew cleaning up an abandoned house in the Gentilly area from the 2006 trip.

On Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, eight of our volunteers joined Deacon Quinn Bates on the Mobile Relief Unit, stationed in the parking lot of abandoned shopping center lots in the Nine Ward and Jefferson Parish. In preparation for each day's work, Deacon Bates briefed us on the day's work, instructing us to give out "two rolls of toilet paper, one bottle of water, one roll of paper towels, one tin of canned meat, and a bag of dog food to those who want it." Each of us is asked to introduce ourselves to the relief recipient, saying, for example, "Hi, I'm Win from New York." We are told that our work is important, but it is more im-

portant to talk to the residents who want to talk, and "listen to their story."

On our arrival at the mobile relief site on Saturday, we learned of an 81-year old homeowner, Mrs. McCormick, whose drainpipes had backed up with sewage. She had a doctor's appointment scheduled, but would not go unless she could take a proper bath. Win Chamberlin rented a power snake from Home Depot, and with the help of another volunteer, Ken Ziegler, broke through the blockage and got the plumbing to work. Watching a toilet flush and a shower flow is simple stuff, but that day it was cause for celebration.

Our last event was a barbeque in the back yard of Grace Church. Invitees included local residents, host families who had housed volunteers, and Deacon Quinn's Mobile Care Unit. We fed more than 100 people hot dogs, hamburgers and traditional New Orleans dishes brought by our guests. It was a joyous occasion and a beautiful way to celebrate our success. We learned that evening about another mission that we are currently embarking upon--helping raise money to refurbish the kitchen of the Grace Church Child Center, which is trying to return to its former service, providing education and care for 60 children so their parents can go to work knowing their children are safe and well cared for. The Center has served the community for 37 years, on the basis of need and not church affiliation.

What we did that week is replicated daily by the hundreds of volunteers who come to New Orleans. Not unlike 9/11, the people came. The difference is the lack of government leadership at the national, state and local level. Next year, we will be back in New Orleans; the question is: "Will our leaders show up?"

Become a Sunday School Teacher!

It doesn't matter what you do professionally—if you love children and feel passionate about enhancing them in mind, body and spirit, you should consider volunteering as a Sunday School teacher! With their fantastic energy and life, the children of Grace Church are vital to our community and ministry. We have asked our Sunday School teachers to say a bit about themselves and why this ministry is important: We spoke with Nic Birns about his role as a Sunday School teacher:



What's special about your class?

It's spontaneity and a sense of joy. Also, the way the children care for and support each other.

What is a highlight from your years of teaching?

I would say whenever the children's delight in nature comes out in their stories and drawings; there is a real sense of delight in God's creation. It is the hymn "For the Beauty of the Earth" epitomized.

Now you know a little more about some of our talented Sunday School teachers. Please pray for them throughout the year, as they continue to help our wonderful children grow! If you're interested in becoming a Sunday School teacher, please contact Stephanie Bauman at sbauman@gracechurchnyc.org or 212 254 2000, ext.113.

Why do you teach Sunday School?

To have an impact on the next generation, and to see faith and spirituality at work among those in a sense most in touch with it. Also (since I am a teacher in my "real" job) teaching Bible stories to this age group has made me a much better and accessible teacher to other age groups.

Do you need a specific background to be a successful Sunday School teacher?

Not at all.

What would you like the parents and parish to know about you? What is your favorite hobby or free time indulgence?

I spend (too) much time watching sports. Aside from that, my family, friends, cats, and work take up my days.

NEWCOMERS BRUNCH

Sunday September 30

After the 11 a.m. service (about noon)
Reception Room (in the Parish House)

Reservations are appreciated (Bill Nave, 212-254-2000 or Bnave@gracechurchnyc.org) If you are new to Grace and would like to meet other newcomers, clergy, and a few involved parishioners please join us for this informal festive get together.



September Preaching Schedule

SUNDAY, September 2
PENTECOST XIV
9 a.m. & 11 a.m., 6 p.m.
Bill Danaher

Wednesday, September 5
6 p.m. – Don Waring

SUNDAY, September 9
PENTECOST XV
9 and 11 a.m.
Don Waring
6 p.m. - Linda Bartholomew

Wednesday, September 12
6 p.m. - Linda Bartholomew

SUNDAY, September 16
PENTECOST XVI
9 and 11 a.m.
Dr. Christopher Marshall
6 p.m. - Linda Bartholomew

Wednesday, September 19
6 p.m. - Ben Thomas

SUNDAY, September 23
PENTECOST XVIII
9 and 11 a.m.
Don Waring
6 p.m. - Bill Danaher

Wednesday, September 26
6 p.m. - Don Waring

SUNDAY, September 30
PENTECOST XVIII
9 and 11 a.m. 6 p.m.
Don Waring

GO Project Wraps Up 39th Summer Session

The GO Project's 39th summer session wrapped up on August 3rd after four weeks of learning and fun. This was GO's biggest summer to date, serving 260 1st through 5th grade students and their families. The students spent the mornings in intensive academic classes strengthening their reading, writing and math skills and enjoyed enrichment classes in the afternoon.

This summer GO Piloted a summer program for our fifth grade students. The intention of the program was not only to continue to strengthen academic skills, but also to work on the transition to middle school that the students would be experiencing in the fall.

During the three hours of core teaching, the students got to adapt to changing classrooms by moving back and forth between their language arts and math classrooms. Each room was set up differently so they truly experienced changing settings, which is a major transitional element that begins in middle school. The children became more confident socially. They eagerly arrived early every day to play "Set," a mathematical pattern game they all enjoyed that encouraged expressive language and pattern recognition.

Diana Gasperoni, GO's social worker, helped the students to develop team building strategies and organizational skills during weekly meetings.

The kids sought out "poetic" objects in the park, looked for postcards to write about, wrote bios about the dogs in the dog run, deciphered window menus in foreign languages, and discussed the history of the neighborhood. All in all, the fifth grade pilot program was a huge success and we hope to be able keep our students through the fifth grade in the future!

Calling All Tutors!

Looking for a way to give back to the community? Become a tutor for the GO Project! There has never been a better time become a GO volunteer tutor. Starting this year, GO will be adding professional teachers to help guide activities and to give support to our dedicated volunteers. All tutors will be paired up with two to three students and are required to attend the 22 Saturday sessions from October through April from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you are interested, please contact Dot Portella via email at: goprojecttutor@gmail.com.

Callie Siegel

GO Project Development Director



Members of the Grace Church softball team Pia Valerina, Mary Ann Gass, Irving Yee, Don Waring, Paul Demartini, James Waring, Ben Stevenson.

GRACE CHURCH SOFTBALL!

If you missed the first game, here's your chance to get in on the fun and join the Grace Church Softball Team!

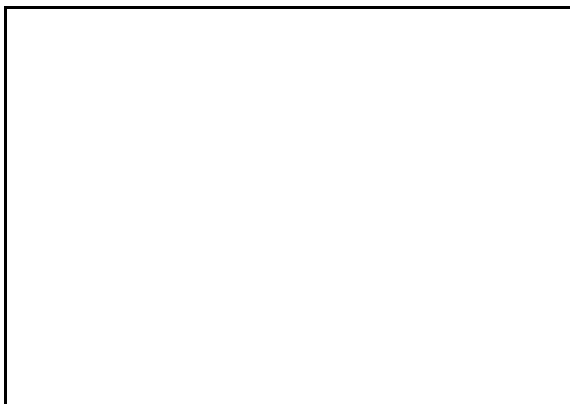
Casual Scrimmage

Saturday, September 29 at 12 Noon
At Central Park, the Great Lawn right in the East side of the park off 86th Street

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Dr. Patrick Allen
Organist & Master of Choristers

**TERRORISM VIOLENCE, AND
THE WORK OF RECONCILIATION**

A Workshop at Grace Church with
Biblical Ethics Scholar
Dr. Christopher Marshall
Saturday September 15 at 9 a.m.

As New Yorkers know all too well, terrorism and violence are arguably the greatest fear and obstacle to reconciliation between communities in the world today. Without belittling these fears or minimizing these obstacles, this workshop will examine violence and terrorism and will outline ways in which Christian communities can work for reconciliation. Throughout the day, our concern will be to avoid degenerating into the convenient polemics and polarization that have characterized these discussions in the past and instead explore the concrete ways that Christian communities can make a difference in our city.

The conference fee is \$25. Checks may be mailed in or paid on the morning of the event. You can also pay by credit card. Please RSVP to Bill Nave at 212-254-2000 or via email at bnave@gracechurchnyc.org.