Over 150 Years in the Heart of White Plains







The Rector's Letter

New Beginnings

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Corinthians 5.17

As we move from summer to fall, I think of *New Beginnings*. I cannot believe that fall is already upon us. Folks are finalizing their last-minute vacations. Schools are about to begin. And our new church year is upon us. I love this time of year, a time to rejuvenate, a time to begin new activities and a time to appreciate the change in season - summer to fall - warm to cool and hot sunny days for beautifully colored leaves.

And with our new season, Grace Episcopal Church presents new opportunities. We have Sunday and mid-week worship; we have amazing music (Sunday worship, Downtown Music, other concerts); we have various community events (see the church calendar); we have educational events (young and mature); we have advocacy gatherings; we have several outreach opportunities and so much more. In sum, we are a very blessed congregation and with so many talented members.

Within this vein of New Beginnings is the opportunity to learn more about our beloved parish and Episcopal history and tradition. Therefore, I have developed a new class, beginning late September, that is for both young and mature adults. This class will focus on 'What it means to be Episcopal' and it will give some background on our history, structure, worship, doctrine, and so much more. Please stay tuned for more details. Furthermore, there will be additional educational events throughout the year.

Please join us for a fantastic year at your beloved Grace Episcopal Church! God Bless,

Father Chip

Thank you, Maria Campos



At the core of our Grace Church administration you'll find Maria Campos in action daily coordinating, communicating and facilitating. Managing our office, she works with our volunteers, develops and prints worship service bulletins, keeps parishioners current through e-newsletters and is always available to answer inquiries.

Being bilingual, she communicates readily with our Spanish-speaking parishioners ensuring that they feel comfortable whenever they visit, telephone or correspond with the office. Maria also provides tours of our facility to newcomers and promotes the location to commercial renters.

Supporting our clergy, she schedules various ministries meetings through coordinated calendars. Her can do, will do attitude provides pivotal support to our community. Thank you, Maria.

Grace Church - Rector's Notes - Summer 2019

Grace Church members,

I have been your rector for 6 wonderful months and feel very fortunate to be here. I love the worship here and your passion for music, in-reach, outreach, education and so much more. It is my prayer that we will continue to build together upon Grace's amazing history and tradition. Furthermore, I wanted to share with you what I now see occurring at our parish.

Within the past month, I sat down with the Search Committee, headed by Carlos Muñoz and Linda Gallo, and reconfirmed the process and priorities employed in their search for a new rector that culminated in my coming to Grace. The committee advised that this process began in August of 2017 and ended with my arrival this past January 2019.

The Search Committee's priorities first, was to have Grace benefit from the leadership of a solid preacher, one that would connect ancient scripture to our contemporary lives. Second, they desired a rector that would focus on pastoral care, loving and being present for our parish members. Third, they wanted a rector capable of administration, one who would help organize and lead the parish in its daily activities.

Fourth, they desired a rector that would help build our community, further cementing Grace and La Gracia, and connect our parish to the greater White Plains community. And Fifth, they wanted a rector who would help grow our parish. It is my plan to focus on these items, realizing there are many necessary activities not included in this list such as stewardship, education and many other important church ministries. And we will focus on these as well. I share these priorities for two reasons. First, to confirm that your voices have been heard and valued. And second, that your choices have become my priorities as your rector. My activities and leadership will strive prayerfully to fulfill and support these endeavors.

Our success will heavily depend on the community bond we create as we follow Jesus Christ, the Son of God, manifest through the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. In order to give you a better picture of some of the things now going on at Grace, I've decided to share a list of some of our current activities. Please review the list below and feel free to discuss any of these with me at your convenience.

You can email me or call me to set up a personal 'coffee time'. Please know that I love Grace La Gracia and look forward to our working and worshiping together well into the future.

Current Projects at Grace La Gracia

- Working with our wardens and vestry on the daily operations and finances at Grace Church
- Working with and supporting Fr. Adolfo and our La Gracia congregation
- Developing a new Confirmation Education class for this fall
- Finalizing our new women's bible study (BSF) to begin in September
- Working with Michael H., Cynthia B. and others to enhance our social media
- Developing a Newcomer System and meeting with 12 newcomers at Grace
- Working with vestry members/others to decrease our financial deficit
- Supporting Michael H./our diocese to enhance our endowment with a Legacy fund
- Developing new relations with our diocese for additional support
- Meeting with other local Episcopal Churches
- Working with Linda Gallo, Barbara Biles and others on my institution service July 20th
- Continuing to learn and improve my Spanish language skills
- Working with Sandy McAllister to enhance our Pastoral Care
- Working with Brinda Bradley to enhance our Altar Guild
- Supporting Clyde Hicks and his Archives Committee
- Working with Donna Louis and others to enhance our Youth Education
- Working with Lauren Reid to enhance and support our acolytes/worship services
- Working with Maria Campos to develop a new administration manual
- Working with Cynthia Brown and others to enhance our stewardship program
- Supporting Walter Simon in Building and Grounds (grant applications, other)
- Working with Sylvia Simon and others to support our future Coffee Hour
- Developing a process for Long Term Planning for Grace Church
- And trying to support my two daughters and our two dogs (impossible)

As my note comes to an end, I wanted to share a few areas in which I need your help.

- 1. Pray for our beloved Grace Church, that it prospers, growing in faith and love for one another in Christ Jesus.
- 2. If you have 90 minutes one day per month, please consider helping our Altar Guild and contact Brinda Bradley at <u>brinbradley@optonline.net</u> or contact our office.
- 3. If you have 75 minutes during one Sunday per month, please consider helping our youth and contact Donna Louis at donnalouis628@gmail.com or contact our office.
- 4. If you are not currently supporting Grace Church with a financial pledge, then please pray about it. If interested, please fill out a pledge sheet in the back of the church, place it in an envelope and drop it in our Sunday offering plate; or contact our office.

Thank You for the opportunity to serve you at Grace Episcopal Church. God bless, Fr. Chip

New Beginnings

Father Chip Graves started as the rector of Grace/La Gracia Church in January 2019. This time period from January to the present represents a "New Beginning" for our church. Father Graves is focused on the priorities laid out by the vestry and search committee. These priorities include the growth of our parish and the parish community. With this in mind the stewardship committee is focusing on a year-round campaign.

Our stewardship campaign will focus on inspiring a deeper understanding of true giving and how it helps the individual who gives. Giving of our time, talent and treasure helps us express our gratitude and thanksgiving to God. Giving is an important part of being Christian.

The 2019-20 stewardship campaign will begin in October. Please start thinking and praying about the ways in which you would like to contribute to our church's stewardship campaign, growth, and prosperity. Pledge Sunday will be on November 17th.

Charlotte Roberson

Nuevos Comienzos

El padre Chip Graves inició como rector de Grace / La Gracia en enero de 2019. Este período de tiempo desde enero hasta el presente representa un "Nuevo comienzo" para nuestra iglesia. El padre Graves se centra en las prioridades establecidas por el comité de la junta parroquial y de búsqueda. Estas prioridades incluyen el crecimiento de nuestra parroquia y la comunidad parroquial. Con esto en mente, el comité de mayordomía se está enfocando en una campaña durante todo el año.

Nuestra campaña de mayordomía se centrará en inspirar una comprensión más profunda de las verdaderas donaciones y cómo ayuda a la persona que da. Dar nuestro tiempo, talento y tesoro nos ayuda a expresar nuestra gratitud y acción de gracias a Dios. Dar es una parte importante de ser cristiano.

La campaña de corresponsabilidad 2019-20 comenzará en octubre. Comience a pensar y a orar acerca de las formas en que le gustaría contribuir a la campaña, el crecimiento y la prosperidad de nuestra iglesia. El domingo de promesas será el 17 de noviembre.

Charlotte Roberson

Fr. Chip – Questions & Answers

Every so often members want to hear a bit more about the rector, their thoughts and insights. Therefore, I've included some *Questions and Answers* on a few topics.

Question: What do you love most about Grace Episcopal Church? **Answer:** I love the historical transition of Grace Church. Until the final quarter of the twentieth century, Grace Church was primarily a traditional Episcopal Church and without variance in membership. However, our parish now includes all types of people and from many diverse backgrounds. This is a blessing and it was a draw for me to come here as your new rector.

Question: Tell us something about you that we probably don't know. **Answer**: At the age of 12 (1973), I broke the Guinness Book of World Record for marathon handclapping. I realize this sounds a little crazy but it's true. I contacted their English office to obtain the requirements. I then handclapped for 19 ½ hours without

stopping, utilizing an 80-year-old neighbor, a local tv person and a local newspaper writer as witnesses. The news spread through newspapers, television and radio outlets throughout the United States. I was famous for a week. But unfortunately, later that year, my record was broken by two young men in Britain; and therefore, I was not included in the following year's publication.

Question: What do you hope for at Grace Episcopal Church? **Answer:** I pray that our members find peace and joy in their relationship with God, realizing that they are loved abundantly by God through his son, Jesus Christ. Furthermore, in response to God's grace, I pray that our members will participate in the various ministries here at Grace Church.

Thank You For Your Service

An Interview with Barbara and Charles Wiggins

On a warm afternoon in July, I had lunch with Barbara and Charles Wiggins. I asked Barbara why she joined the Army. It wasn't an occupation that young girls aspired to at that time. She said she was the oldest child of four and needed to pay for college and help her family. She was from Brooklyn and Charles was from White Plains. They are the product of working-class families, both American born and naturalized citizens. From childhood, they were given strong messages about the importance of education, personal values, religious training and lifelong



commitment to family and others in general community who need help. Either together or separately they have lived in eight US states. several Far East countries, and several European countries.

Barbara and Charles met in 1963 and married a year later. When they married in 1964, a military officer couple was relatively unique. When Barbara submitted a request to change to her new name, it triggered some of their unique characteristics which the Pentagon noted. They each had more than five years of active military service, college degrees, security clearances, administrative military occupational training and favorable performance reviews. This suggested that with their new marriage, they had a possible interest in continuous active service until retirement or resignation of one or both experienced officers. Very quickly they received orders for Orleans, France (close to Paris) for a three-year tour which included travel to Europe on a luxury ship departing from Brooklyn. N. Y. What a wonderful way to begin their marriage and prepare for future separations including assignments in combat areas.

When they returned, Charles was assigned to Saigon, Vietnam, and Barbara to a Career Officer course for her Corps. They experienced several joint or separated assignments up to military retirement and after more than twenty years of continuous active service they began new post retirement career initiatives.

Asked what attracted them to Grace, Barbara, a cradle Episcopalian, (Charles confirmed in France), said the congregation reminded them of her home church in Brooklyn, and the clergy was very welcoming and well known in White Plains. She sought information about Grace Church Community Center and was asked to participate on a temporary Church committee. Eventually she was asked to join the Grace Church Community Center (GCCC) Board. She is still a board member of (LUW) Lifting Up Westchester (new name for GCCC). During this time, she began working for a large civilian company in New York City. Charles was living in their former home in Maryland until it was sold.

What they like best about Grace is that the church is not "standoffish". The location and the history of Grace is also a factor. They appreciate also that over the years it continues to attract all majority and minority groups and congregants from other denominations.

Barbara's official title is: E. Barbara Wiggins, Lt. Colonel (US Army, Retired) A graduate of the University Maryland, College Park, Md. and George Washington University, Washington, D. C. with a specialty in Human Resources Management and Organizational Development

Charles' official title is Charles W. Wiggins, Lt. Colonel (US Army, Retired)

A graduate of Morgan State University, Baltimore, Md., and Medical Service School, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas, with a specialty in Medical Service Administration.

Barbara's sister is Vice President of CUNY Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn.

We at Grace thank you both for your service to our Country, our Church and to Lifting Up Westchester (LUW) and are proud and blessed to have you in our midst.

The Lord is my strength and my song; He has given me victory. Exodus 15:2

Submitted by:

Irene Alves



La Gracia's Annual Retreat: Life in the Spirit Seminar

On July 26, 27 & 28 La Gracia held its annual retreat called **Life in the Spirit Seminar**. The Life in the Spirit Seminar (LISS) is an invitation to make or renew a deep personal commitment to Jesus Christ in openness to the Holy Spirit and His gifts. It serves as an introduction to a life in the power of the Holy Spirit. It provides teaching, guidance, and prayer leading to a new and deeper relationship with the Lord. Participants came and experienced the presence of the Lord, through praise and worship with community!



During the three days participants were part of a spiritual process of seven teaching sessions, each one building upon the previous one.

The retreat included speakers from both New York and New Jersey and was accompanied by joyful and spiritual music, prayer times and small group meetings where the participants shared their point of views, asked questions and formed a small community. More than 80 parishioners participated in this annual retreat which has an objective to: 1) Begin, renew or deepen a relationship with Jesus, 2) Motivate parishioners to a fuller participation in Parish Life, 3) Developed greater appreciation of Eucharist, 4) Deepen prayer life and 5) Increase study of Scripture.



Many who have attended a Life-in-the-Spirit Seminar have experienced God and the Holy Spirit in a way they had never done before. It is not unusual for people to fall more deeply in love with the Eucharist, with Jesus Christ and the Trinity, and with the Bible. Many received the **Gifts of the Holy Spirit** just as the Apostles did in the upper room on Pentecost; gifts which are given to improve our lives and the lives of our families, the church and our community. This is the second time La Gracia has had this type of retreat the first one was almost three years ago, and we are looking forward for many more to come.



A PRAYER FOR OUR PASTOR

O God, our heavenly Father, who didst raise up thy faithful servant **CHIP** to be a pastor in thy Church and to feed thy flock (at Grace Church): Give abundantly to all pastors the gifts of thy Holy Spirit, that they may minister in thy household as true servants of Christ and stewards of thy divine mysteries; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

From: The Book of Common Prayer, page 197

MISSION STATEMENTS

By Mary Baker

Grace Church has a mission statement. It is printed on the front of our program each week, which is some indication that it must be considered an important statement to be read regularly.

"Grace Church is a diverse congregation committed to a common life sustained by worship.

We bear witness to God's love in Christ through our life together and our service to the wider community. All are welcome."

This mission statement is meant to define in a community manner that we consider of primary importance (a diverse congregation committed to a common life). It tells what our church does (worships, bears witness to God's love in Christ, and serves the wider community). We want others to know that we welcome anyone who wants to join us in this purpose.

Many groups have seen the wisdom of taking time to state the primary reason for their existence and what they want others to know about them and their purpose.

When I became the Editor of this Angelus, I felt it was important for me to know in my own mind what it was that I was going to try to do and what I would try to accomplish. That is why I began by writing a Mission Statement for the Angelus.

"The mission of the Angelus is to inform its readers about the ongoing life of the parish. In words and pictures, it hopes to encourage more active participation in its activities and to inspire a deeper commitment to our Lord and to each other."

I would like to suggest that it could be very important for each individual to take the time to write a personal mission statement. In a few defining sentences, tell what you want others to know about you that is unique and what you consider to be your own personal purpose in life. Even if no one ever reads your statement, it is important that YOU know what it is. It lets you know WHO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF TO BE and what you consider your PURPOSE in life to be. Write it down and keep it in your wallet. Ponder it from time to time.

The same can be true for a family. What an impact it might make to have all family members get together and come up with a family mission statement! Print it out and

hang it in a prominent household spot. Check it out once in a while as a family to see how the family is doing.

In the old days, a family might have had a family crest or coat of arms which embodied important images or words that the family cherished. Perhaps a creative person in your family could come up with such a family crest for your family. Schools and universities have a crest. Your family can too.

Whether or not it is our intention, we are always presenting ourselves to the world in ways that distinguish ourselves from others. Our actions have a way of telling others what our purpose is in life. By our deeds we are known. The same goes for churches, schools, businesses and other groups. It is wise to think about this and make a deliberate effort to determine what you want this image to be.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

When you feel down and out......call Romans 8:31 For understanding of Christianity.....call 2 Corinthians 5:15-19 When the world seems bigger than God......call Psalm 90 When you want Christian assurance......call Romans 8:1-30

Emergency numbers may be dialed direct. No operator assistance is necessary.

All lines to Heaven are open 24 hours a day! Feed your faith, and doubt will starve to death! Pass it on!!

THE BIBLE EXPLAINED BY KIDS

Our Sunday School is beginning a new year taught by our able and faithful staff of teachers. We recognize that education is a very important ingredient in our growth as Christians and we want our children to be well informed. However, despite our very best efforts, sometimes the facts that are taught get mixed up and twisted around in the minds of children.

Here are some of the ways a group of children (not <u>OUR</u> Sunday School children, of course!) retold what they had learned about early biblical history:

-In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas. The Bible says, 'The Lord thy God is one,' but I think He must be a lot older than that. Anyway, God said, 'Give me a light' and someone did. Then God made the world. He split the Adam and made Eve.

-Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet. Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden. Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars.

-Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel. Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something. One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check.

-After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat.

In our next Angelus edition, we will continue this history with events that happened from Moses until the time of the New Testament.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Reported by George O'Hanlon

The Sunday School completed another full year, and the class reports follow below. We give special thanks to our dedicated teachers, who make our program possible.

Little Lambs Pre-K – Teachers Linda Gallo and Lyndsey Wall

The youngest members of our Sunday School program continued enthusiastically with their Christian education through crafts, stories and games. They were among the highest energy participants of Sunday School Recognition Sunday, and included Hailey Lynch, Joel Richards and Emmi Woodberry.

Primary Grades 1-3 Teachers Leigh Burton and Andrea Lacourciere MacLeish

The class members continued busily with a variety of class related activities, including the rose planting event in the front of the Church, in addition to being equally enthusiastic members of Sunday School Recognition



Sunday. This year's members included Aadi Kumar, Sebastian Lopes, Savannah MacLeish and Mario Junko Sechuran.

Primary Grades 4-6 – Teachers Michael Heffner and Cynthia Brown

The Intermediate class wrapped up the 2018/2019 school year with a focus on the importance of the message/meaning of Ascension. The following extraction from the Virginia Theological Seminary's lessons seemed to resonate with the students:

"Consider how often we use the expression, "to rise above." We advise one another to rise above our troubles, or to rise above our conflicts with others, or to rise above pettiness and meanness we encounter. The message of Ascension Day is that Jesus Christ has risen "above" with the Father in heaven. And because he has

been lifted up, we have the assurance that our own life journeys will end in the everlasting presence of our Lord and Savior."

Cynthia Brown and I are very pleased with how the children progressed this year and look forward to working as a team again in the fall. This year's members included Eve Bradford, Rohan Kumar, Kendal Mangum, Ivana Richards, Mirna Sanchez and Aaron Woodberry.



Rite 13 (Grades 7-8) -- Teachers Donna Louis and George O'Hanlon

Rite 13 concluded the year on a high note. We concluded our study on "Choices", created our annual Easter raffle baskets, assisted with rose planting in front of the Church and with the Father's Day Breakfast, and then participated in our annual end of the year luncheon with J2A, before also participating in Recognition /Graduation Sunday. We thank Jordan Acevedo, Priya Kumar and Vika O'Hanlon for their contributions to our class over the past two years and wish them the very best as they move on to J2A this fall. In addition to our 3 graduates, our participants this year were Sebastian Maldonado, Cameron Owens, Gabrielle Parkinson and Harrison Richards and Eric Woodberry.

Journey to Adulthood (J2A: Grades 9-12) – Teachers Rudye Breach and Lauren Reid

J2A had a busy finish to the year as well. In addition to participating in the rose planting event at the end of year, the class joined Rite 13 for our annual end of the year luncheon, and proudly saw three seniors graduate on Graduation Sunday. We will miss Sam Brown, Nikolas O'Hanlon and Kaylee Owens as they graduate from our class, and wish them the very best as they move on to their respective colleges.



We hope to see them back at Grace Church during school breaks. In addition to our 3 graduates, our other participants were Aaron Bradford, Chris Brown, Spencer Carden, Maya Daughtry, Shane Daughtry, James Heffner, Waverly Mangum, Anna Kristina O'Hanlon and Lawson Roach.

The Angelus

Quarterly Newsletter of Grace Church (914) 949-2874 www.gracewhiteplains.org

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Chip Graves

Editors: Mary Baker and Michael Heffner

Contributors: Karen Odom, Mary Baker, Irene Alves, George O'Hanlon, Melanie Jackson, Michael Heffner, The Rev. Dr. Chip Graves, Linda Gallo, Charlotte Roberson, Chris, Claire & Harrison Simoglou, The Rev. Adolfo Moronta, Joseph Gallo

Distributor: Maria Campos

The Deadline for The Winter Angelus Is November 15th.

As Always, Thank You For Your Contributions!

NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AT GRACE CHURCH

God's Word for Today's World

Bible Study Fellowship is a global community of men, women and children who seek to know God as He has revealed Himself, in His Word – the Bible. In BSF, through personal study, combined with weekly group discussion, recorded live lecture and insightful notes, you will have the opportunity to discover who GOD says that He is and the relevance that His truths have in your life.

This year we will study the books of Acts, Hebrews, 1 Corinthians, 1 Peter, 1&2 Thessalonians and James. A new Satellite Discussion Group will meet, right here, at Grace Episcopal Church, on Wednesday evenings from 7:15pm-8:45pm. We start on Wednesday, September 11th. There is no fee to join. Please contact nycdw590@gmail.com to register or for additional information.

Adult Education Series – Episcopal 101

Fr. Chip is holding an adult education series over three consecutive Monday evenings at 7:00 PM (September 9, 16 and 23) in the library. The series is entitled "Episcopal 101" and will include a quick review of the basic tenets of the Episcopal faith to include history, worship, faith, etc. The class is for young adults and mature adults. The class can also be used for Confirmation, allowing the attendee to be Confirmed by a local bishop in the next year.

This class utilizes two books, the Book of Common Prayer which will be provided by the church, and another book that can be purchased on Amazon, entitled My Faith My Life, a teen's guide to the Episcopal Church, written by Jenifer Gamber. It is not essential but highly recommended that all participants purchase this book. Please don't let the title fool you, it's not just for teens. This book is considered one of the best Episcopal Confirmation resources within the Episcopal Church. Please register for this class through Maria Campos at mcampos@gracechurchwhiteplains.org.

Senior Warden's Report

I hope all are having a wonderful summer season and have been enjoying the warmth of the summer. Following are some progress items I would like to highlight:

Father Chip Graves

Father Chip has been with us over six months and has made significant inroads in learning what Grace Church is about and getting familiar with the parishioners. The institution of Father Graves occurred July 20th and the turnout was fantastic. I hope he found Grace as welcoming as I have and I welcome his family, Mother Lisa Graves and his daughters Bella and Kat, as well as all his dogs (sorry I don't know the dog's names).

The Rectory on North Street

Many thanks to Walter Simon and Nate Hogan and the Buildings and Grounds committee for the wonderful job on the rectory. The new windows are installed, fresh painting inside and out, the leaking in the house has been rectified, and the yard has been fenced in.

The Organ

We all appreciate the music that has been blessed to us by Peter Roberts and our magnificent organ. I would like to share some facts regarding the organ with you. The value of the organ is over \$1,000,000. Bill Biles, who chairs the committee, continues to have studies done to properly prepare a plan of action on the renovation and maintenance of the organ. A long-term maintenance strategy and upgrade are currently being evaluated. A report is due imminently.

The Parish Elevator

Thank you to Mr. Cappelli, our elevator is now operational. At great expense to the Cappelli organization, all engineering and repairs are complete. Mr. Cappelli decided to fund the entire project. Please send your thanks and prayers to him, as it saved Grace in excess of \$ 300,000

Grace Church Documents

We have undertaken a summer project to correctly and efficiently codify as well as store Church documents. Spearheaded by Clyde Hicks, Irene Alves and Mary Baker, church documents date to the early 1800's, and are properly being restored and listed for future reference. Due to the age of many of the documents, this is truly a "white glove" affair. Maria Campos is also converting current contracts and documents to be properly stored and filed on the church server. Documents have been sent to the Diocese for safe keeping and proper storage. Do not fear; the documents still belong to Grace, and we can request them at any time. Many thanks to all parishioners involved in this process of restoring our files. As a reminder, if you have any original documents, please return them to the church to either me or Maria Campos. We will make sure you have a copy, if you like.

Men of Grace

Thanks to Brian Owens for agreeing to pick up the challenge of resurrecting this welcomed organization. They hosted the Mother's Day breakfast and will be redeploying after the summer.

Finances

This is the one area that always is a challenge. Father Graves and I had a forum on the status of our finances. The Vestry has committed to constantly evaluate the budget vs actual results. Although pledge is running behind what was committed, we are making progress in other areas. Please keep in mind that this is your Church, and we need your input and dollars to keep us on track. Remember, if you can perform a service for the Church that we need to pay for, it is as good as cash. You will receive credit for the value of the service.

Future Projects

As always, there is a lot of activity going on in the background in our continued effort to move Grace forward. We are currently renegotiating our leases with Lifting Up Westchester. We are applying to the Bedell fund for financing several projects, which I will define later.

As you can imagine, there is a lot going on behind the scenes. I assure you we are making every effort to move these projects along efficiently and as prudently as possible. If you have any questions or wish more details, please feel free to contact

me at any time. I am looking forward to a continued healthy, coming year. Please keep committee members and the Vestry in your prayers and continue to provide your positive support.

Thank you for your blessings, **Joseph C. Gallo**Senior Warden

How to be part of a healthier food system and give back to our local community



By being part of a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) at Scarsdale Synagogue you help the United Interfaith Food Bank and donate weekly vegetables to Grace Church Soup Kitchen.

Stoneledge Farm is a community supported farm and is a partnership

between the farmers and its customers...Our customers know where their food comes from and who grows their food. They have a direct relationship with the farmers and the land. Our customers trust us to farm in a regenerative way and to produce the freshest and highest quality food possible at a fair price. With every vegetable share \$18 is earmarked for the United Interfaith Food Bank. For every 10 shares, the farmer sends an extra share to be donated to Grace's Kitchen in White Plains through Lifting Up Westchester. Every Thursday morning, Maria Campos (Grace Church administrator) stops by Scarsdale Synagogue to pick up our unused vegetables. In addition to vegetable shares, there are fruit, coffee, mushroom and goat milk shares.

For more information about our CSA program, please visit us online at https://www.sstte.org/community-supported-agriculture-program.html or contact Amy Huang, ayh2c2002@yahoo.com, 914-314-2056.

CSA Site: Scarsdale Synagogue Temples Tremont and Emanu-El is a Reform Jewish congregation located at 2 Ogden Road, Scarsdale, New York 10583. We strive to be an inclusive, caring and visionary community. If you would like more information about the synagogue, please call Temple Administrator, Fawn Mendel at 914.725.5175 fawn@sstte.org.

Farmer: Stoneledge Farm, 145 Garcia Lane, Leeds, NY 12451 https://www.stoneledge.farm/csa-program/

Welcoming Our New Members

Chris, Claire & Harrison Simoglou

The Simoglou family is thrilled to be new members of Grace Church, and we appreciate the overwhelmingly warm welcome!

Claire was raised in Englewood NJ and grew up as an active member in the Episcopal Church. She attended Drew University for her undergraduate degree, and Boston University for her masters in Television Management. After living in Los Angeles for eight years, she returned to the East Coast in 2011 and made Westchester her home. She works at The History Channel in Manhattan.

Chris was raised in Westford MA and grew up in the Greek Orthodox faith. He attended Cornell University for his undergraduate degree, and after living in Miami for seven years, went to Penn State for his MBA (fun fact: Claire's dad was one of his professors – that's how we met!). He currently works at PepsiCo in Purchase.

We were married in October 2012 at St. John the Theologian Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Tenafly, NJ. Our reception was on the banks of the Hudson River in Jersey City, and one-week later Hurricane Sandy hit and flooded the venue for months. Talk about feeling blessed!



We bought our fixer-upper house in Eastchester in 2016, and with lots of love, sweat and tears, it's finally home. All are welcome!

Harrison James was born in October 2018 and is the happiest, smartest, cutest, and most well-behaved baby boy ever (in this mother's opinion!). After many challenges for us, he is the greatest gift from God and has made our family complete. We look forward to celebrating Harrison baptism at Grace Church in July.

Grace Church is exactly the spiritual community our family was looking for – local outreach, diversity, and a commitment to the values that draw us to the Episcopal faith. We feel comfort and joy from the services, share warmth and laughs with fellow congregants, and appreciate the love and support from Father Chip, Father Adolfo, and all the acolytes, vestry, and ushers that make us feel at home on Sundays.

GOOD NEWS AT GRACE CHURCH

We have a lot of great things going on at Grace Church. Please see a brief list below.

- -We had three baptisms on Sunday, July 28th. What great news!
- -We had a fantastic Institution Service and Reception held on July 20th with Bishop Glasspool. A special thank you to the co-chairs, Linda Gallo and Barbara Biles, for their amazing work.
- -We continue to have several newcomers each month and we're following up to ensure they feel welcome at Grace Church.
- -We completed many repairs and the repainting of the rectory. Thank you to our Building and Grounds director, Walter, and the rectory point person, Nate Hogan.
- -We are working with Bill Biles, Peter Roberts, Tim Lewis and others to explore ways in which to fund raise for the maintenance of our organ.
- -We are working on a few grants that could pay for much needed building maintenance.
- -We are developing several new adult education seminars for this fall. Please stay tuned.
- -Our Advocacy Committee is marching forward in new ways to explore how we can better help those in need. If you have interest, please contact our office for more information.
- -Amy Owens has developed an amazing calendar of Youth Events. Please stay tuned.

The Rev. Dr. Chip Graves



2019-2020 Sunday School, Rite 13 & J2A Calendar SUNDAY, 10:00am – 11:00am

Pre-K (age 4) to Grade $6-2^{nd}$ floor classrooms Rite 13 (Grades 7-8) -1^{st} floor Library J2A (Grades 9-12) -1^{st} floor Parlor

	<u>2019</u>		
	September 1		Labor Day Weekend – Enjoy!
	September 8	10:00 AM	Book bag Blessing sponsored by Family, Faith & Fellowship (FX3)
		11:30 AM	Sunday School, Rite 13, J2A Registration
	September 15	11:30 PM	Sunday School, Rite 13, J2A Registration
	September 22	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Begin
	September 29	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Meet
	October 6	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Meet
		11:30 AM	Saturday Bowling w/ R13/J2A/La Gracia teens
	October 13	10:00 AM	No classes: Columbus Day Weekend
	October 20	10:00 AM	Family Service - ALL in Church
	October 27	10:00 AM	ALL classes meet
	November 3	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Meet, All Saints' Sunday (Turn clocks back!)
	November 10		No Classes – Veteran's Day Weekend
	November 17	10:00 AM	Family Service - ALL in Church: Stewardship Sunday
	November 24		ALL Classes Meet
	December 1		No Classes-Thanksgiving Weekend
	December 8	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Meet
		11:30 AM	Christmas Pageant Prep
December 8 3 PM – 7 PM Santa's Workshop spo		3 PM – 7 PN	A Santa's Workshop sponsored by J2A (TBD)
	December 15	10:00 AM	Family Service - ALL in Church
		11:30 AM	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
	December 22	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Meet, Christmas Pageant Prep
		11:30 AM	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
	December 24	2:30 PM	Children arrive for pageant costuming
		4:00 PM	Christmas Pageant & Family Mass

No Christmas Day Service

No Classes – Christmas Vacation

December 25 December 29

10:00 AM

2020		
January 5	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Meet
January 12	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Meet
January 19	10:00 AM	Family Service-ALL in Church MLK, Jr. Weekend
January 26	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Meet
·	11:30 AM	Annual Meeting (J2A attends); Game Day sponsored by Rite 13
February 2	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Meet; Rite 13 Prep for Celebration Liturgy
February 9	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Meet; Rite 13 Prep for Celebration Liturgy
February 16	10:00 AM	Family Service-ALL in Church
February 23	10:00 AM	No Classes – Mid-Winter Vacation
March 1	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Meet; Rite 13 Prep for Celebration Liturgy
March 8	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Meet; Rite 13 Prep for Celebration Liturgy; Parents &
	Celebrants	
		meet with Fr. Chip
March 15	10:00 AM	Family Service, ALL in church; Rite 13 Liturgy Celebration
March 22	10:00 AM	ALL classes meet
	11:30 AM	Shop & assemble Easter Baskets for ECW Raffle
April 4	4-6:00 PM	Palm Saturday Event Holy Week/Stations of the Cross/Last Supper
April 5	10:00 AM	Palm Sunday; ALL Classes meet
April 12	10:00 AM	Easter Sunday: No classes
April 19	12:00 PM	Family Service-ALL in Church
April 26	10:00 AM	ALL Classes meet
May 3	10:00 AM	ALL Classes meet
May 10	9:00 AM	Mother's Day Breakfast: Intermediate, R13 & J2A servers
May 17	10:00 AM	Family Service - ALL in Church
May 24	10:00 AM	No Classes – Memorial Day Weekend
June 7	10:00 AM	ALL Classes Meet– End of Year Class Celebrations
	11:30 AM	Rite 13 & J2A – Out to Lunch
June 14	10:00 AM	Family Service - ALL in Church; Sunday School Recognition/Grad
Awards		
June 21	9:00 AM	Father's Day Breakfast: Intermediate, R13 & J2A servers (<i>TBD</i>)

End of August – Summer Youth Conference (SYC) - Episcopal Youth Ministry Summer Camp open to students entering grade 6 thru entering college

Grace Church Book Club Update Join us the 2nd Tuesday of Every Month



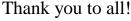
The Book Club will open an exciting new season of reading adventures (and mark the beginning of our 20th year!) with a September Saturday luncheon. Details will be announced soon. Also, on our luncheon menu: discussing **The Art of Hearing Heartbeats** by Jan-Philipp Sendker, and our summer read, **An American Marriage** by Tayari Jones. We'll be back in our regular meeting location on the 2nd Tuesday in October (Oct 8), when we will set our schedule of book selections for the 2019-2020 season. Interested in the Book Club? (Contact Karen Odom (karenodom@yahoo.com).

Theater Outing

The Episcopal Church Women organized an outing to the Westchester Broadway

theater to see "On Your Feet, the story of Emilio and Gloria Estefan" on Sunday July 28.

Forty-four parishioners, friends and family were in attendance. We fellowshipped over a meal and enjoyed a wonderful musical production.







United Thank Offering

The Grace La Gracia Spring UTO collection was \$923.90. We are very thankful people!

However, our ministry of thankfulness does not end with the Spring collection. We are meant to recognize the good things in our lives *each* day, give prayerful thanks to God for those blessings and make an offering for those blessings by placing coins in a UTO Blue Box. 100% of the money collected goes to mission grants. The grants transform the lives of people all over the world. Your blessings become blessings for others.

Thankfulness is a vital part of our spiritual lives. When we focus on being thankful for our blessings, we are less prone to focus on what we feel we lack, less prone to want more or to envy what others have. Living a life of gratitude leads to less stress and anxiety and more contentment and generosity.

Blue UTO boxes will be available in the back of the church. Our fall collection will take place on October 2, 2019.



Melanie Jackson ECW

WELCOME TO THE RECTORY



Our new priest and his family are living in the Rectory that we provide for them at 535 North Avenue, which is right across from the White Plains High School. We hope that they are learning to love it as well as getting acquainted with living in the City of White Plains.

GRACE LA GRACIA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monthly Weekly Events

- ❖ Tuesdays & Thursday at Noon The Holy Eucharist in Chapel
- Wednesdays at 12:10 PM DTM at Grace 9/18/19 through 5/27/20 (No DTM concerts on 12/25, 1/1/20 or 2/26/20 Ash Wednesday)
- ❖ Wednesdays at 1:30 PM SAGE Meeting Library 10/2/19 through 6/3/20
- Wednesdays at 7:15 PM BSF Study Parish Hall
- ❖ Wednesdays at 3PM to 6PM Ada's Outreach Parish Hall 9/18/19 to 6/24/20
- ❖ Thursdays at 7:30 PM La Gracia Santa Eucharistia
- ❖ 3rd Sunday of Every Month Family Service at 10:00 AM
- ❖ 4th Sunday of Every Month Healing Service 9/2019 to 1/2020

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 1st

Labor Day Weekend: Services at 9:00 AM & 12:30 PM

Monday, September 2nd

- Parish Office Closed
- 8:30 AM to 12 Noon Grace's Kitchen Labor Day BBQ: Hosted by Grace Church

Sunday, September 8th

- Worship Services Resume at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 12:30 PM La Gracia
- 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal Music Room
- The Choir Returns at 10:00 AM Worship Service
- Fx3 Back to School Book-Bag Blessing at 10:00 AM Service
- Nursery Care begins at 10 AM Service
- 11:30 AM Sunday School Registration in the Parish Hall
- 11:30 PM St. Nicholas Choir Rehearsal Music Room

Monday, September 9th

- 6:30 PM Walk the Labyrinth prayer before Fr. Chip's Episcopal 101 Adult Ed.in library
- 7:00 PM Fr. Chip's Adult Ed.: Episcopal 101 -Library (3 consecutive weeks)

Wednesday, September 11th

• 7:15 PM Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) Women's Bible Study in Parish Hall

Saturday, September 14th

12:30 PM The Book Club Luncheon at Via Garibaldi, 1 N Broadway, White Plains

Sunday. September 15th

- 9:15 AM St. Nicholas Choir Rehearsal Music Room
- 11:30 AM Worship Committee Meeting 2nd floor conference Room
- 11:30 AM Sunday School Registration in the Parish Hall
- 11:45 AM ECW Meeting Library

Monday, September 16th

- 6:30 PM Walk the Labyrinth prayer before the class in parish hall.
- 7:00 PM Fr. Chip's Adult Education Series Episcopal 101 -Library

Wednesday, September 18th

- 12:10 PM Downtown Music Concerts at Grace Begins 2019-2020 Season
- 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM Ada's Outreach- Parish Hall (1st Meeting)
- 7:00 PM Sunday School Teacher's Meeting Library

Saturday, September 21st

12:00 PM -4:00 PM Ada's Outreach "Back to School Celebration – Parish hall

Sunday September 22nd

- Sunday School. Rite 13 and J2A Classes Begin
- 11:30 AM Planned Giving Forum Parish Hall

Monday, September 23rdh

- 6:30 PM Walk the Labyrinth prayer before Fr. Chip's Episcopal 101 Adult Ed.in parish hall.
- 7:00 PM Fr. Chip's Adult Education Series Episcopal 101 -Library

Tuesday, September 24th

7:30 PM Vestry Meeting -Library

Saturday, September 28th

5:00 PM to 10:00 PM Fiesta de Recaudación de Fondo – Parish Hall

Sunday, September 29th

11:15 AM "Conversations of Grace" during Coffee Hour

Monday, September 30th

• 6:30 PM Evening Service at St. Bart's – All Parishioners Are Invited to Attend

Wednesday, October 2nd

• 1:30 PM S.A.G.E. Kickoff Party - Library

Friday, October 4th

Francis of Assisi

Saturday, October 5th

- Blessing of the Animals Church front yard (Time TBD)
- 11:30 AM Bowling with Rite 13, J2A & La Gracia Teens

OCTOBER

Sunday, October 6th

- 8 AM Rite One Liturgy, 10 AM Rite Two Liturgy, 12:30 PM la Gracia
- Stewardship Season Begins-
- Sunday School/ Rite 13 / J2A Meet
- Alzheimer's Workshop La Gracia after 12:30 PM service (DTM)

Tuesday, October 8th

7:00 PM The Book Club – Library (1st meeting)

Sunday, October 13th

- 11:15 AM "Long Term Care" Leigh Burton at Library
- No Classes- Columbus Day Weekend

Monday, October 14th

Columbus Day

- 8:30 AM 12:30 PM Columbus Day Holiday Lunch at Grace's Kitchen: Hosted by Grace Church
- Parish Office Closed

Sunday, October 20th

- 11:45 AM ECW Meeting Library
- "Thoughts on Stewardship" (Poster board for parishioners to write their thoughts during the coffee hour).
- 12:30 PM La Gracia Dia del Señor de los Milagros

Tuesday, October 22nd

7:30 PM Vestry Meeting – Library

Saturday, October 26th

- 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Pastoral Care Retreat Library & Parish Hall
- •

Sunday, October 27th

11:00 AM Bilingual Service

- Fr. Chip's Stewardship Letter in English & Spanish in Bulletin
- 10:00 AM All Classes Meet

Friday, November 1st

All Saint's Day

LUW Store Clothing at 8 AM to 12 Noon until Saturday in Library

Saturday, November 2nd

 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM.L.U.W. Winter Clothing Give Away- Parish Hall (Excess Clothing will be removed that day)

NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 3rd

Turn clocks back!

- 8:00 AM Rite One Liturgy, 10:00 AM Rite Two Liturgy, 12:30 PM La Gracia
- 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM All Saint's Sunday: Listing of Names in Bulletin
- 10:00 AM All Classes Meet
- Stewardship Minute Talks during 8 AM & 10 AM Services- Stewardship Letter in Bulletin
- 11:15 AM During Coffee Hour Captain Joe Castelli WP PD Discussion on Immigration

Wednesday, November 6th

• 1:30 PM SAGE – Library

Saturday, November 9th

• 4:30 PM DTM Concert, 3PM Church, 4:30 PM Parish Hall (reception)

Sunday, November 10th

- 10:00 AM Requiem Service to honor All Souls Choir
- 10:00 AM No Classes Veteran's Day Weekend
- Stewardship Minute Talks during 8 AM & 10 AM Services

Monday, November 11th

Veteran's Day – Parish Office Closed (TBD by Fr. Chip)

Tuesday, November 12th

7:00 PM Book Club – Library

Thursday, November 14th

1:00 PM Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon – Library

Sunday, November 17th

- Stewardship Pledge Sunday -Minute Talks during 8 AM & 10 AM Services
- 11:45 AM ECW Meeting Library
- Fx3 Meeting after 10 AM services Library

Tuesday, November 19th

- La Gracia Día de Santa Catalina Celebración (Sat 23rd or 24th TBD)- Parish Hall
- 7:30 PM Vestry Meeting Library

Sunday, November 24th

Christ the King

- Stewardship Minute Talks during 8 AM & 10 AM Services
- All Classes Meet

Wednesday, Nov. 27th -

- LUW Store supplies at 12 noon Library or parlor (TBD)
- 7:30 PM to 10 PM La Gracia Día de Acción Church & Parish Hall

Thursday, November 28th

- 7AM to 3PM LUW Thanksgiving Dinner Parish Hall & Kitchen LUW Request a Sexton from 7 AM to 3PM
- 7:30 PM to 10:00 PM La Gracia Thanksgiving

Friday, November 29th LUW Pick-Up unused supplies by Noon

Parish Office Closed

DECEMBER

Sunday, December 1st

11AM Bilingual Service

No Classes – Thanksgiving Weekend

Monday, December 2nd

- 6:30 PM Walk the Labyrinth prayer before Fr. Chip's Adult Ed in parish hall.
- 7:00 PM "Fr. Chip's Adult Ed "Pondering the Sacred"- Library

Wednesday, December 4th

1:30 PM SAGE Meeting -Library

Friday, December 6th

• 4:00 PM Macpherson/Patierno Wedding Rehearsal with Coordinator

Saturday, December 7th

- 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM Christmas Socking Decoration Ada's Outreach Parish Hall
- 2:30 PM Macpherson/ Patierno Wedding Church (The Rev. Margaret Hodgkins) Church Using organist and choir from Trinity Episcopal, Southport, CT

Sunday, December 8th

The Second Sunday of Advent

- 10:00 AM All Classes Meet
- 11:30 AM Christmas Pageant Prep
- 3:00 PM 7:00 PM Santa's Workshop sponsored by J2A (TBD)

Monday, December 9th

- 6:30 PM Walk the Labyrinth prayer before Fr. Chip's Adult Ed in parish hall.
- 7:00 PM "Fr. Chip's Adult Ed "Pondering the Sacred"- Library

Tuesday, December 10th or Wednesday, Dec. 11th

• 12PM to 4PM - Deck the Halls - LUW Grace's Kitchen Decorations are set up

Tuesday, December 10th

7 PM Book Club (TBD due to Holidays)

Wednesday, December 11th

8:30 PM La Gracia Misa Virgen de Guadalupe -

(Set- up La Gracia Library 8 AM to 4PM & 12PM to 4PM Parish Hall -TBD)

Friday, December 13th

La Gracia Posadas (Dates & Times TBD)

Saturday, December 14th

4PM Informal Caroling Infront of Grace Church – Everyone is Invited

Sunday, December 15th

- 11:30 AM Pageant Rehearsal
- 11:45 AM ECW Meeting Library

Monday, December 16th

- 6:30 PM Walk the Labyrinth prayer before Fr. Chip's Adult Ed class in parish hall.
- 7:00 PM "Fr. Chip's Adult Ed "Pondering the Sacred"- Library

Tuesday, December 17th

- 7:30 PM Vestry Meeting
- 7:30 PM to 10 PM La Gracia Cena de Navidad (20th or 21st TBD)

Saturday, December 21st

- 12PM to 4PM Ada's Outreach Christmas Party Parish Hall (TDB)
- 7:00 PM La Gracia Christmas Party (set up timeTBD) Parish Hall & Library

Sunday, December 22nd

- 10:00 AM Advent Service of Lessons & Carols
- 10:00 AM All Classes Meet, Christmas Pageant Prep
- 11:30 AM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
- ECW Holiday Raffle: Ticket sales begin during coffee hour

Tuesday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

- 12:00 PM LUW to store Supplies in Library or Parlor (DTM)
- Office Closed 12/24, 12/25, (12/26 & 12/27 TBD by Fr. Chip)
- 2:30 PM Pageant Participants Costuming
- 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Family Service with Pageant
- 7:00 PM Fiesta de la Navidad de Nuestro Señor
- 10:00 PM Festive Service of Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, December 25th Christmas Day

- No Christmas Day Service
- 7 AM to 3PM LUW Christmas Dinner Parish Hall & Kitchen: LUW Request a Sexton from 7 AM to 3PM

Sunday, December 29th

10:00 AM No Classes – Christmas Vacation

Tuesday, December 31st

- 3:00 PM Wedding at Grace (TDB) Site Rental
- 11 PM to 12 Midnight Church Open for Prayers New Year's Eve

Wednesday, January 1st 7 AM to 3PM LUW New Year's Dinner – Parish Hall & Kitchen: LUW Request a Sexton from 7 AM to 3PM

Celebration of a New Ministry – July 20, 2019

