



## JANUARY 2009

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Parish Office:** (845) 358-1297 Fax: (845) 358-1443  
**The Rev. Richard Gressle, Rector** – ext. 11  
**The Rev. Emily Sieracki, Assistant to the Rector** - ext. 12  
**Robert Barrows, Organist/Choirmaster** – ext. 13  
**Bonnie Parsekian, Assisting Musician**  
**Maija Kupris, Assisting Musician**  
**Jennifer Marraccino, Church School Coordinator** – ext. 14  
**Thayer Woodcock, Parish Administrator** – ext. 10  
**Kim Adele Rosner, Property Administrator** – ext. 17  
**Elaine Dempsey, Receptionist** – ext. 10  
**GraceMusic** – ext. 16 **Grace's Thrift Shop:** (845) 358-7488  
**Grace Church Website:** www.gracechurchnyack.org  
**Grace Church E-mail:** parishoffice@gracechurchnyack.org  
**Newsletter Submissions:** twoodcock@gracechurchnyack.org

### Wardens

Moriah Olsen  
 moriahso@yahoo.com  
 Katharine Fulmor

### Treasurer

Charles Richardson  
**Assistant Treasurer**  
 Sally Ann Mock

### Vestry

Jim Cochran  
 Diane Deveau  
 Don Hammond  
 Victoria Hertz  
 Christine Howe  
 Jeanette Matthews  
 Caran Pullen  
 Terence Rock  
 Geoff Torrens

**GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
 130 First Avenue, Nyack, NY 10960

### GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH NYACK

*The Rev. Richard L. Gressle, Rector*  
*The Rev. Emily Sieracki, Assistant to the Rector*

#### Assisting Clergy:

*The Rev. Alan Chisholm, The Rev. Suzanne Hope Graham*  
*The Rev. Dr. Kenneth Mann, The Rev. A. Meigs Ross*

**Office Hours** Mon-Th 9:00 – 4:00pm Friday 9:00-11:00am

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Sundays** 8:00am - Holy Eucharist - Rite One  
 9:30am - Holy Eucharist - Family Service  
 10:30am - Choral Eucharist  
 6:00pm - Sunday Nite Lite (Bradley Chapel)  
**Wednesdays** 7:30am - Holy Eucharist (Bradley Chapel)



## EPIPHANY 2009

### RECTOR'S LETTER

#### *Good People:*

In the ancient Roman culture, the god Janus was pictured with two faces on his head, one looking backward, the other looking into the future. This is the derivation of the name of the month of January. It comes from looking both ways, a moment of assessment so that our history is not trivialized, and yet does not become a place where we dwell, for time is moving us onward. So too the Church in her own way calls us to look both ways from time to time. When Christ says, "Do this to remember me," in the Eucharistic feast, the invitation is to remember the Way, but hardly to plan to live in the upper room surrounded by the fear and excitement that was the disciples' place then. They seemed to have understood the message, for those men and women went on to share the Good News with the world.

We can look back at the season of preparation, of Advent and the run up to Christmas, as a wonderful celebration of possibility in the future which is pregnancy for all, no matter what gender or orientation or circumstance. If one is following the spiritual journey, the Church has called her people to 'get pregnant' with God. In Epiphany, the season of Light, this same tradition calls the people of Faith to bear witness, to show forth the Light of Christ to the world. In this community of the Way, Grace Church, that's happening. The witness of the hands of Christ might be seen in the Helping Hands program of sheltering the homeless led by our Commission on Social Ministry: Light to the world. The Youth Commission is planning a joint exercise in understanding diversity for all the older youth of the parish and all the youth programs from Amazing Grace Circus to the Boy Scouts to the Confirmation class: Light to the world. Adult Spiritual Formation has maintained the Saturday Morning Bible Study but has also planned a gathering with Bishop Roskam on February 1 to discuss the future of the Episcopal Church. As many of you know, the Anglican Communion is in turmoil over how the baptismal covenant is defined when one affirms that the role of membership in Christ's Body is to 'respect the dignity of every human being.' What is up for grabs is who gets to be defined as human and in a world that has its share of self appointed religious zealots, our community of Faith is not immune. This will be an important gathering for all of us at Grace Church and to engage the issue is bringing Light to the world. The 'Remember' to which the community of Faith is

called by Christ is the fellowship which we share. Is the Taste of Grace cookbook more than having fun? Yes, it is our community expanding the Eucharistic meal to homes and families and the Commission is bringing our relationships closer in the sharing of this important part of human life: Light to the world. In February, the New Member Commission will host another opportunity for newer members of the parish to get to know the parish leadership and learn something of our life together here. The Episcopal Church does not proselytize, we don't believe that everyone should be an Episcopalian to get into heaven. Instead we say, 'Come live with us awhile and if this feels like home, welcome; if not Godspeed and thank you for sharing yourself with us when you were searching.' So the New Member Commission are the living embodiment of that form of bringing Light to the world.

How is the spiritual pregnancy of Advent and Christmas coming to fruition in the parish of Grace Church? Look around, you are the Light of the world and the salt of the earth. You, yes you, are doing what the Savior asked, remembering and bearing light.

May you see many blessings,

*Richard+*

## GRACE CHURCH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2008**

*Following the 10:30 Eucharist*

This is an opportunity to hear about the ministry and mission of Grace Church and to elect leaders for the coming year.

There will be reports and addresses by the wardens and the rector, a chance to celebrate our work together, and time for fellowship. Please plan to attend!

*Commission Chairs:*

*Please submit your reports for the Annual Report to the office by January 26*

# CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

## CHRISTMAS THANKS

Thank you so much to everyone for their contributions towards this year's Christmas Pageant! It would be nice if the weather had given us a break, but instead both the rehearsal and pageant itself were scheduled for two of the snowiest days of the year!



About 15 families — mostly from in walking distance— along with our fearless director **Carlo Pellegrini**, made it to the rehearsal on Friday evening. On Sunday, we were fortunate enough to have close to 60 out of about 100

kids participate in the pageant, again mostly thanks to the proximity of many of our families to the church.

Many of our kids graciously took on roles that they did not rehearse, parents filled in for teachers and the audience was sparse — but the show did go on! Not only do I want



to thank those of you who were able to attend, but also those of you who used your best judgment and stayed home. Unfortunately, a Christmas pageant is not conducive to re-scheduling, but we hope no one felt any pressure to make an unsafe journey to church. Hopefully, next year's pageant will be scheduled for a bright and sunny day!



## CAROLING AT NYACK MANOR

Another thank you to the families that sang **Christmas carols** for residents of the Nyack Manor Nursing Home on Tuesday evening, December 23. We delivered beautiful lap blankets made by the Senior Youth group and roamed the halls singing a variety of Christmas songs, putting smiles on the faces of many residents.

Our Christmas Eve 4:00pm family service was particularly festive with special thanks to the participation of so many of our church school students. **Bonnie Parsekian** led the Joyful Noise Gospel Choir in song, and our St. Cecilia's Choir, led by **Maija Kupris**, performed 2 songs from the choir loft, one of which Maija composed herself with various harmonies for the children. Church school students also participated as acolytes and lectors.

## CHURCH SCHOOL FOR JANUARY

Church School will recommence on Sunday, January 4 and take place on all Sundays throughout the month of January. We will celebrate Martin Luther King Day with a family activity on Sunday, January 18.

## LOOKING FOR 4<sup>TH</sup>/5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE READERS

Please check the sign-up sheet in Memorial Hall during refreshment hour or e-mail [jenmarraccino@hotmail.com](mailto:jenmarraccino@hotmail.com) if your 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade child is interested in doing the reading during 9:30 mass. We have numerous opening throughout the rest of the year.

## E-MAIL ALERTS

All church school families should be receiving periodic e-mail reminders regarding church school related activities using our new Constant Contact e-mail system. If you are not receiving these e-mails and would like to be added to the list, please e-mail [jenmarraccino@hotmail.com](mailto:jenmarraccino@hotmail.com)

Happy New Year!

*Jennifer Marraccino, Church School Coordinator*

## Moving Mantras

Sunday January 11

3:00 & 5:30pm at Grace Church

Suggested Donation \$15

50% of the proceeds will benefit

Grace Youth Group

CYSM Volunteer Service Trips.

*Yoga Dance Choreographed by Betsy Ceva  
A Moving Mantra expresses the body's inner voice through shape, imagery and movement, translating the harmony of meditation into dance. It is a formula of moving symbolism, creative expression and prayer.*

Space is limited ~ reserve your seat by calling 845-358-6409 or email [info@birchwoodcenter.com](mailto:info@birchwoodcenter.com)

## 2009 PLEDGE LIST

204 pledging units \$318,787

### 8 A.M. Service

36 pledgers \$66,819

Karin & Geoff Baere (all)  
Beryl Bethelmy  
Louise Bohr  
The Rev. Alan & Linda Chisholm (all)  
John D. Cullen  
Douglas Doller  
Eugenia Duryea  
Gerald & Marjorie Federico  
Linda Fletcher  
Ruby & Alan Frae  
Nigel & Tammy Fraser  
Eleanor & Harold Hafstad  
Thomas & Judy Humeston  
William Macatee  
Molly MacQueen  
Peter & Ruthann Malcolm  
The Rev Kenneth Mann  
Judy & Mac Martin  
Valerie Mathews  
Roberta & Nils Mathsen  
Harry & Sandra McNeill (& 10:30)  
Sally Ann Mock  
William & Rosemary Owen  
Tom & Marjann Perry  
Winston & Betty Perry  
Frank C. Platt  
Nadine Revheim (& 10:30)  
Roberta Sarvent  
Sally & John Sarvent  
Jeanne Treat Tozer  
Homer & Barbara Wanamaker  
David Wilkinson  
Anonymous (4)

### 9:30 Service

55 pledgers \$66,830

Sally Bell  
Michael Berg  
Barbara Bischoff & Gloria English  
John & Rita Borst  
Susannah & Brendan Bosch  
Laura Cavazzi  
Kate Chisholm & Peter Foley  
Ronald & Ingrid Cobbs  
John & Beverly Colgan  
Olive Crone  
Kim Cross  
Colleen Cummings & Robert Bennett  
Jeanette & Ross Dailey  
Diane Deveau & Kevin Fletcher  
Joe & Suzie Devoe  
Carol Durkin  
Diane Farris  
Shanaz & Herb Fillmore & Family  
Jeff & Cathy Friesen

Madeleine & Peter Gordon  
Vickie Hertz & Rod Greenwood  
Christopher & Heather Haera  
David & Kim Hamilton  
Joseph & Catherine Heider  
Heidi Hill  
Erik Johnke & Siobhan Masterson  
Debbie Kydon & Margaret McCormick  
Christopher & Karen Kyle  
John & Caroline Lindemann  
Bernadette & Gregory Logiodice  
Lauren Malone  
Joe and Jennifer Marraccino  
Jeanne Murphy & Peter Anger  
Brian & Lainie Murrell  
Heather Nelson  
Moriah & Keith Olsen  
Jim O'Toole & Gregory Birchett  
The Palitti Family  
Bonnie & Robert Parsekian (& 10:30)  
Beth & Joseph Paskowski  
Martha Patterson  
Pam & Sergei Primakov  
Caran Pullen  
Terence & Tanya Rock  
Philip & Helen Scala  
Jim & Lynn Schnalzer (& 10:30)  
Ted & Kathleen Sestak  
Mary Jane & Noah Sexton  
Lori & Charles Tauken  
Claudia Uccellani  
Deborah Van Ness  
Jeff & Laura Wanamaker  
Steve & Claudia Wilson  
Anonymous (2)

### 10:30 Service

86 pledgers \$172,005.50

Ruth & Dan Baliotti  
Peter Bannon  
Nigel & Helen Bark  
Verne Becker  
Candice Boyle  
Barbara Braun  
John & Wendy Brown  
Thomas Burns  
Ruth Butler  
Larry & Stephanie Campbell  
Susan & Jerry Carroll  
Pauline Ceccarelli  
Shirley Chalke  
James & Sally Cochran  
Patricia Cose  
Cindy Cox  
Barbara & Charles Cross  
Jeff & Alison Crowther  
Patricia Decker  
Barbara De Francis  
Hilda DeLoatch  
George & Ruth Fee  
Kevin Faherty

André & Gerda Félix  
Barbara Fleischer  
Bernice Fraser  
Vickie & Fred Frelow  
Kickie Fulmor & Theresa Bergen  
Charles & Ruby Ghosio  
Peggy & James Gilbert  
Ed & Suzanne Grant  
Elaine Greeley  
Michael & Betsy Growney  
David Hahn  
Don & Ronna Hammond  
Christopher Harding  
Sondra & Leigh Holt  
Christine & David Howe  
Estelle Hoyte  
Myria & Daniel Jean-Gilles  
Rudolph & Kimberly Knight  
Michael LaPlaca  
Dorothy Larson  
Amy Lehman  
Mia Leo and Dick Kuczowski (9:30)  
Margaret Lehrecke  
John Loftin  
Evelyn Lombardi & Jeanette Matthews  
Loring & Sylvia Manley  
Orville & Sally Mann  
Steven Marsh  
Jeffrey McDowell  
Debbie & Robert McGuinness  
Lauren & Richard Mortlock  
Ellen Nowell  
Mary O'Donoghue  
Jim & Cindy O'Gorman  
Judy Omumbo  
Rachael Pettengill  
Michael John Pfenning  
Karen & Wayne Phelan  
Katharine Pierce  
Millicent Pinckert  
Marc & Kay Polychronis  
Merle Porter  
Charles Richardson & John Weslowski  
Patricia Rosa  
M. Ross & B. Miesch  
Helen Scalici  
David, Alice & Lynne Scharf  
Jennifer Schwanke  
Frank & Betty Seaman  
Sally & Roger Seiler (& 9:30)  
Fran & Semo Sennas  
Sheinman-Rihs Family  
Jennifer Stay & Susan McCann  
Joe Stennett & Margie Winslow  
Carol & Paul Streichert  
The Torrens Family  
Charlotte Trott  
Emily Wilkins  
Pat & Jeff Winter  
Frederica Wyman & Christopher Oldfather

Anonymous (3)

## No designated service (and 5:00)

27 pledgers \$13,132.50

David Ambler & Margaret Auer  
Evelyn Bachert  
Karen Bachert  
Mark Behrens & Marigene Kettler  
Priscilla Boylan  
Helen Cooke  
Elaine Dempsey  
Adrienne Di Blasi  
James & Virginia Dillon  
Marjorie Docherty  
The Fagan Family  
Elizabeth & Lawrence Frers  
Jean Gardner  
Richard Gressle  
Faith Harvie  
Marie Lopez  
Elisabeth Lynch  
Ejane & John MacCartney  
Dyahan Marsland  
Neely & Dennis McCormick  
Gretchen Peterson  
Connie & Mort Pinkus  
Emily Sieracki  
Elisabeth Sydor  
Thayer & Bruce Woodcock  
Inez Wright  
Anonymous (1)

*If you requested envelopes when you pledged, they are now available in the narthex of the church. Please pick yours up when you're here on Sunday, or stop by the office during the week. If you would like envelopes, please call Sally Ann Mock at 358-8014.*

**ITS NOT TOO LATE TO PLEDGE FOR 2009**

**You must be a pledging member to vote at the Annual Parish Meeting Sunday, February 8, 2009.**

## SERVICE MINISTRY SCHEDULE JANUARY 2009

### Sunday, January 4

**8am Subdeacon/Chalice:** J. Humeston/N. Revheim

**Lector:** N. Revheim **Acolyte:** J. Martin

**Elements:** D. Doller/S. Sarvent

**Ushers:** H. Wanamaker, S. Mock

### 9:30am

**Subdeacon:** M. Olsen

### 10:30am

**Subdeacon/Chalice:** P. Gilbert/D. Hammond

**Lectors:** W. Perry/M. Owens **Verger:** P. Cose

**Crucifers:** J. McDowell/R. Pettengill

**Torches:** L. Petricone-Berg/C. Wanamaker

**Elements:** K&W Phelan **Usher Team:** Colgan/Mann

**Hosts:** Volunteer/J. Colt **Greeters:** M. Owens

### Sunday, January 11

**8am Subdeacon/Chalice:** J. Tozer

**Lector:** C. Wanamaker **Acolyte:** J. Martin

**Elements:** D. Doller/S. Sarvent

**Ushers:** H. Wanamaker, S. Mock

**9:30am Subdeacon:** L. Schnalzer

**10:30am Subdeacon/Chalice:** J. Matthews/C. Howe

**Lectors:** E. Wilkins/J. Weslowski

**Verger/Thurifer:** J. Cochran/E. Lombardi

**Crucifers:** P. Cose/J. McDowell

**Torches:** B. DiRocco/C. Prouty

**Elements:** R&S Seiler **Usher Team:** Wanamaker

**Hosts:** S. Seiler/J. Colt

**Greeters:** C. Streichert/B. Wanamaker

### Sunday, January 18

**8am Subdeacon/Lector:** R. Hammond/K. Fulmor

**Acolyte:** J. Martin

**Elements:** D. Doller/S. Sarvent **Ushers:** H. Wanamaker, S. Mock

**9:30am Subdeacon:** I. Graham

**10:30am Subdeacon/Chalice:** L. Host/M. LaPlaca

**Lectors:** S. Holt/G. Torrens

**Verger:** E. Lombardi **Crucifers:** J. Cochran/C. Cox

**Torches:** B. Nelson/S. Marshall **Elements:** B&M Growney

**Usher Team:** Graham

**Hosts:** S. Chalke/J. Colt **Greeters:** B. Growney/R. Fee

### Sunday, January 25

**8am Subdeacon/Lector:** E. Lombardi/J. Tozer

**Acolyte:** M MacQueen

**Elements:** D. Doller/S. Sarvent **Ushers:** H. Wanamaker, S. Mock

**9:30am Subdeacon:** C. Uccellani

**10:30am Subdeacon/Chalice:** C. Cox/J. Richards

**Lectors:** P. Richards/K. Borst **Verger:** J McDowell

**Crucifers:** R. Petteingill/P. Cose

**Torches:** B. DiRocco/M. Sheinman

**Elements:** S&L. Manley **Usher Teams:** Cross/Seaman

**Hosts:** K. Fulmor/J. Colt **Greeters:** H. Scalici/B. Cross

## GRACE CHURCH PARISH RECORD

January 1 - December 31, 2008

### Baptisms

Katherine Anne Harrington -1/13/08

Tyler Patrick Cardenas - 1/20/08

Alexis Nicole Raphaela Robinson -3/30/08

Becket Jefferson Fagan -5/17/08

Justin Laine Graffeo -5/25/08

Chauncey Joseph Lapointe -6/1/08

Blake Gregg White -6/22/08

Caroline Margaret Kern -6/28/08

Paul George Alierio -8/3/08

Blake Christopher Longuiera -8/17/08

Susannah Kate Brumwell -8/24/08

Kayla Mirembe Kemmelman -9/21/08

Mukisa Lee Kemmelman -9/21/08

Anna Lucia Palitti -10/19/08

Isaac Michael Ruschak Weitzman -11/16/08

### Weddings

Amy J. Lehman/Richard L. Gressle - 4/19/08

Dana Renee Leslie/WestonToby Wells - 5/31/08

Klaudia Tamasko/Michael Thomas Reyes - 6/6/08

Kathryn Ross Vogt/Jesse James Shelton - 8/23/08

Susannah Kate Brumwell/Brendan Alec Bosch - 8/31/08

Kate Jaelyn Siccardi/Stephen Louis Denis - 9/19/08

Kelly Carpenter Clark/John Moncure IX - 9/27/08

Jennifer Melone/Christopher Schwanke - 10/5/08

Julia Noelle Pluhowski/Mark Anthony Margagliotta -

12/6/08

### Funerals

Jean Mason Yassky - 4/28/08

Alice Westfeldt Mathews - 5/6/08

Elizabeth A. McGrath - 6/2/08

Mary Emily Hill - 6/7/08

Ester Freeburn -6/21/08

Linda R. Beck -6/24/08

Shirley V. Bunton -7/14/08

Karen S. Wright -7/26/08

David Andrew Wilkinson, Jr. - 9/13/08

Gregory Worthington Knowles -11/1/08

## SCENES FROM ADVENT



### *Making Advent Wreaths*

*A project of the Junior Youth Group. Did you get a wreath this year? Don't forget to return the frame so it can be recycled in Advent 2009!*



### *The Night Tree*



*A favorite Advent tradition inspired by the children's classic by Eve Bunting.*

*Families fill the trees of Memorial Garden with treats for the birds and squirrels, our outdoor congregation.*



## Rockland Parent-Child Center OPEN HOUSE and FREE TRIAL WEEK

Parents are invited to start the new year at the Rockland Parent-Child Center by attending one of two **OPEN HOUSE** Information Sessions: Thursday, January 8 from 9:30am noon for Parents and Toddlers, 1-3:00pm for Parents and Infants, and Friday, January 9, for Parents and Toddlers only, 9:30am -noon. Sessions will be held at the Rockland Parent-Child Center, right across the street from Grace Church. Parents are also welcome to visit during a **FREE TRIAL WEEK**, Monday January 12 - Friday, January 16.

□ **Parents of Infants Group** -- Socialization, support, parenting and health education for parents and their infant children (birth - 1 year) meets Mon. & Thurs. 1 - 3:00pm.

□ **Parents & Toddlers Together** -- Socialization, support, crafts, stories, music and parenting education for parents & toddlers (ages 1-3 years). M - F, 9:30am - noon.

**SATURDAY & EVENING PLAYGROUPS** - Programs are in the works to help working parents spend some quality time with their little ones. Saturday groups will run weekly, 10:00am to noon, for children age 2-5 and their parents. Nominal fee will include storytime, activities, and snacktime. Evening "Bedtime" playgroups will run monthly, the second Monday of the month, 6 -7:30pm. Come in jammies for stories, activities and light snack. Nominal fee. Special guests are invited to do themed children's activities, music, movement, or speak to parents on topics of interest.

**ADULT SUPPORT GROUPS & PARENT PROGRAMS:** Discounted fees for RPCC members. Call 358-2702, ext. 12 or email [wanda@rocklandparentchild.org](mailto:wanda@rocklandparentchild.org) for more information.

□ **Single Mothers Support Group** - Free childcare with dinner, art activities for children and childcare. NO FEE.

□ **Expectant Parents Program:** Includes childbirth classes, pregnancy support groups, birth art, Parenting 101, "Transitioning to Two" workshops, breastfeeding support and parent information.

□ **Adoptive Families Support Group** - First Tuesday of every month, 6:30-8pm. Free childcare with art activities.

□ **Support Group for Parents of Children with Asperger's and High Functioning Autism** - In collaboration with Rockland Jewish Family Service. \$10 per session. Light refreshments served. Schedule TBA

□ **Parents of Adolescents Support Group** - Bi-Weekly, Mondays, 7-8:30pm. \$20 per session

□ **Strengthening Families Program** - A six-week family-skills building program for parents and their children, age 11-14, at the Nyack Middle School. NO FEE.

□ **Helping Your Child Manage Stress Workshops** - NO FEE - A library workshop series coming to your neighborhood soon. Dates and locations TBA.

□ **Parent Support Group at Head Start** - Drop-in program. Meets every Tuesday, 6:30-8:00pm at Head Start, Nyack. Free childcare with expressive art activities for children. NO FEE. Call Kim Cross at 845-358-2600.

**For registration and fee information (sliding scale; one-time annual membership fee, scholarships available), call 845-358-2702 ext. 12, or email [wanda@rocklandparentchild.org](mailto:wanda@rocklandparentchild.org) to register or for more information.**

# JANUARY 2009 CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 1 Feast of the Holy Name**  
9:30am Holy Eucharist

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 3**  
10:00am Circuscize (Memorial Hall)  
9:00pm Helping Hands (Memorial Hall)

**SUNDAY, January 4**  
8:00am/9:30am/10:30am/5:30pm Holy Eucharist  
9:00am Parish Choir  
10:10 Church School Classes  
12:00pm Moving Mantras/CYSM benefit reh. (Memorial)  
3:00pm Amazing Grace Circus rehearsal (Memorial Hall)  
7:00pm Senior Youth Group (Bradley Chapel)  
9:00pm Helping Hands (Memorial Hall)

**MONDAY, January 5** 9:00pm Helping Hands (Memorial Hall)

**TUESDAY, January 6**  
10:00am Staff Meeting (Patterson Hall)  
12:15pm Clericus (Patterson Hall)  
3:00pm Amazing Grace Circus After School (Memorial)  
7:00pm Diversity Workshop (Memorial Hall)  
8:00pm Choir

**WEDNESDAY, January 7**  
7:30am Holy Eucharist (Bradley Chapel)  
7:00pm Confirmation (Bradley Chapel)

**THURSDAY, January 8**  
7:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast (Patterson Hall)

**SATURDAY, January 10**  
9:00am Adult Spiritual Formation (Bradley Chapel)  
9:00am Church School Teachers (Patterson Hall)  
10:00am Midnight Run (Memorial Hall)  
10:30am Commission on Social Ministries (Patterson Hall)

**SUNDAY, January 11- Epiphany**  
8:00am/9:30am/10:30am/5:30pm Holy Eucharist  
10:10 Church School Classes  
12:00pm Moving Mantras/CYSM benefit set up (Memorial)  
3:00 & 5:30pm Moving Mantras/CYSM benefit (Memorial)  
6:00pm Sunday Nite Lite

**TUESDAY, January 13**  
10:00am Staff Meeting (Patterson Hall)  
3:30pm Amazing Grace Circus After School (Memorial)  
8:00pm Choir

**WEDNESDAY, January 14** 7:30am Holy Eucharist

**SATURDAY, January 17** 10:00am Circuscize (Memorial)

**SUNDAY, January 18 – Martin Luther King**  
8:00am/9:30am/10:30am/5:30pm Holy Eucharist  
9:00am Parish Choir/9:30 Senior Choir  
10:10 Church School Classes  
3:00pm Amazing Grace Circus rehearsal (Memorial Hall)  
6:00pm Sunday Nite Lite  
7:00pm Senior Youth Group (Bradley Chapel)

**MONDAY, January 19 Grace Church Office is Closed**

**TUESDAY, January 20**  
10:00am Staff Meeting (Patterson Hall)  
3:30pm Amazing Grace Circus After School (Memorial)  
8:00pm Choir  
**WEDNESDAY, January 21**  
7:30am Holy Eucharist (Bradley Chapel)  
7:00pm Confirmation Class (Bradley Chapel)

**THURSDAY, January 22**  
7:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast (Patterson)  
7:30pm Vestry (Patterson Hall)

**SATURDAY, January 24** 10:00am Circuscize (Memorial)

**SUNDAY, January 25**  
8:00am/9:30am/10:30am/5:30pm Holy Eucharist  
10:10 Church School Classes  
3:00pm Amazing Grace Circus rehearsal (Patterson Hall)  
6:00pm Sunday Nite Lite  
7:00pm Senior Youth Group (Bradley Chapel)

**TUESDAY, January 27**  
10:00am Staff Meeting (Patterson Hall)  
3:30pm Amazing Grace Circus After School (Memorial)  
8:00pm Choir

**WEDNESDAY, January 28** 7:30am Holy Eucharist (Bradley)

**SATURDAY, January 31**  
10:00am Circuscize (Memorial Hall)

## THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

Thank you to everyone who has dropped off CFL bulbs to help in our effort to convert our fixtures to this more efficient lighting. As we enter 2009 there are discount offers available on bulbs in the stores, and we can still use many more. Please consider picking up a few for the church if you see a bargain. Our fixtures mostly use standard bases and we need a mixture of bulbs rated at 23-30 watts (equivalent to 100 watt incandescent bulbs) and 13-15 watts (equivalent to 60 watt incandescent bulbs). We would also like a mixture of "soft white" and "daylight" bulbs to give a comfortable feel to the rooms. Look for the 'This little light of mine' box in the back of the church.

*Jim Cochran, Standing Committee on Property*

## COMMISSION NOTES

### FROM SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMISSION

The cupboards at **Rockland Family Shelter** were bare when Social Ministry arrived with the almost 100 gifts contributed by the parish through the Giving Tree. The staff were surprised, overjoyed and very grateful. You helped make Christmas happier for the women and children who depend on the services of Rockland Family Shelter.

For photographs and information on programs supported through your donations to **CARPENTER'S KIDS**, check out their website: [www.carpenterskids.net](http://www.carpenterskids.net). Look for the NY newsletter link on the left! *Charlie Cross, Chair*

### FROM THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE

I hope that everyone has had an opportunity to walk on the new patio in front of the church. It is truly beautiful. Many thanks for James Walsh's work and Linda Chisholm's design. While checking the drains, we did find problems. Some drains are blocked, backed up or disintegrated. So, construction on the Shakespeare walk and the walk in front of the chapel has been postponed until the spring. In the meantime we are figuring out what needs to be done in order to have clear drains to carry away the water from the roofs.

In the spirit of saving energy, and keeping costs low, if you use a space in the church please make sure that the lights are turned off when you leave. We will be replacing some lights with CFL's which save energy and therefore cost less. Thank you for your help. *Kickie Fulmor, Junior Warden*

### FROM THE FELLOWSHIP COMMISSION

**A TASTE OF GRACE REMINDER.** Thanks to everyone who has already submitted their recipes -- for the rest of you - it's not too late, but soon it will be! [Last chance to submit online is **January 15** [[www.fundcraft.com](http://www.fundcraft.com) — **sign in where it says WEB ID and enter code 12056-08WS,**] Make it your New Year's Resolution to be part of this great collection of recipes. How about a great family recipe, one that's inexpensive and pleases everyone? Or something low fat and healthy to go with the good intentions of January? We especially need items for the child-friendly, beverages, misc and microwave, and breads, rolls & pastries sections. Don't miss this opportunity to add your special touch to *A Taste of Grace*. Questions? Contact Stephanie Campbell at 353-6418. The cookbook will be ready in time to make the perfect Mother's Day gift — watch for order forms.

### INTERPARISH COUNCIL FUNDRAISER

Tickets for the Interparish Council (IPC) of Rockland County Elmwood Benefit theater performance of "A Thousand Clowns" on **Wed. March 25, 2009** are now available for purchase. Contact Nadine Revheim, IPC rep, (#358-6410, [nrevheim@aol.com](mailto:nrevheim@aol.com)) for tickets. Tickets are \$25 and will benefit the Youth Recognition Dinner honoring high school graduates across the 10 Episcopal churches in the county, including our own **Will Adamy, Sam Berman, Camille DiRocco, Luong Fletcher and Astride Jean Gilles.**

## DIOCESAN CONVENTION 2008

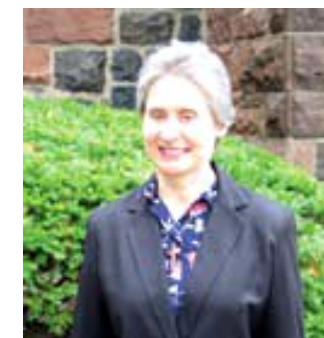
*The 232nd Convention of the Diocese of New York took place November 15 in Mahwah, New Jersey. Among those in attendance from Grace were delegates Linda Chisholm and Charlotte Trott, alternates Paul Barnard and Cindy Cox as well as clergy members Richard Gressle, Emily Sieracki, and Suzanne Graham. This is a report on the experience of one of our delegates, Charlotte Trott.*

I was one of two lay delegates from Grace Episcopal Church to the 2008 Diocesan Convention on November 14 & 15. The purpose of the Convention is to do the business of the diocese – elect people to various diocesan offices, pass the budget, debate and vote on resolutions, etc.

I was interested in the various resolutions that were proposed this year. In addition to the budget, there were four additional resolutions printed in our Calendar of Business and four proposed from the floor of the Convention. All of the resolutions passed without much debate. One of the floor resolutions that I was interested in directed the bishop to study the feasibility of acquiring the 56 acres currently owned by the Order of St. Helena in Vails Gate. The sisters can no longer afford to maintain three convents and are moving to their convent in Augusta Georgia. They hope to be able to find a way to ensure that the Vails Gate property will remain undeveloped. Having the Dioceses acquire the property for a convention and retreat center or some other similar use would meet that goal. As an Associate of the Order, I would love to see the Dioceses have the property. The chapel is beautiful and the grounds wonderful for meditation and walks in the woods.

Another resolution also had to do with caring for the environment – endorsement of the Earth Charter. Two of the resolutions in the Calendar dealt with internal, church related issues – compensation for priests and lectionary use. All of the other resolutions had to do with justice for people who are, or have been discriminated against – raising awareness of how the Church benefited from the work of slaves and perpetuated segregation, calling for temporary protection status and work visas for illegal Haitian immigrants because of the environmental disaster in Haiti, supporting civil unions for same sex couples, and encouraging 100% participation by the parishes of the Diocese in the Carpenter's Kids program.

I was pleased to see so many resolutions passed that expressed care and concern for people and the earth. This is what I think we are about as Christians – loving our neighbors as we love ourselves.



*Charlotte T. Trott*