

GRACE NOTES



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008

Fall Annual Meeting – a first for Grace Church

The new Grace Church bylaws passed at the January 2008 parish annual meeting provide for the parish's annual meetings to be moved to mid-November.

This revision is mainly intended to increase the efficiency of the Vestry and its leadership:

- New members elected in November receive an orientation and attend at least one monthly Vestry meeting before assuming their duties on January 1.

- A Vestry retreat in early January allows for relationship-building and focused strategic planning for the coming year.

- The final annual operating budget is approved in January by the new Vestry that will be responsible for managing it.

This Grace Notes includes additional information on the November 16 Annual Meeting and some prior deadlines that will be necessary to make it a success. Thanks in advance for joining with our Vestry in preparing for a positive meeting.

Grace Church Annual Meeting

November 16, 11:45 am

All members, including newcomers, are encouraged to take part.

October Feasts & Feats

October 4, 10:00 a.m.

St. Francis Day,

Blessing of the Animals

On the steps at the main church entry. Vilas Zoo staff will bring a beast or two – and so can you!

October 10 & 11

Diocese of Milwaukee

Annual Convention,

Racine Civic Center

The convention theme will be *Common Ground: A multiracial, multiethnic, multicultural Church*. See more info. at www.diomil.org.

Mid-week worship

Did you know that we have have a weekly mid-day worship service at Grace Church? The simple Eucharist now takes place **Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m.**



October 12

Grace Food Pantry Tours

9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

CROP Walk, 1:30 p.m.

Please walk or 'rock' or sponsor someone who is. We'll especially welcome Food Pantry donations – food, cash or checks – on that day.

Survey Results Define Profile of "Best Priest"

Recently released results of a national survey indicate the perfect rector preaches exactly fifteen minutes. She condemns sins but never upsets anyone. She works from 8:00 AM until Midnight and is also a janitor. She makes \$50 a week, wears good clothes, buys good books, drives a good car, and gives about \$50 weekly to the poor. She's 28-years-old and has 30 years' experience. She's up to speed on youth ministry and spends all of her time with the elderly. Daily she calls on shut-ins and the hospitalized, and is always in her office when needed.

If your priest does not measure up, simply join the national list of other churches who also seek the 'perfect priest.' Then bundle up your minister and send her to the church on the top of the list. In one week, you will receive the resumes of 1,643 ministers. One of them may be perfect.



Look inside this Grace Notes for a more realistic update on the Rector Search. Also ...

- *All Saints Sunday*
- *Outreach Mission Report*
- *CROP Walk & more*

Preparing for a Joyful and Meaningful Feast of All Saints

All Saints Day, November 1, is particularly appreciated in many Episcopal parishes. Our observation of it this year – on November 2, the Sunday following the feast itself – will be enriched by special music for which our choir is already preparing and features that honor the Mexican/Latin American traditions known as Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead. Some preliminary notes are provided below.

All Saints Sunday Eucharist to Feature Widor Mass and Guest Violinist Suzanne Beia

by Music Director Berkley Guse



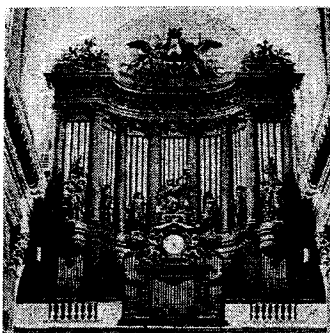
All Saints' Day – commemorating *all* saints, known and unknown – is one of the seven principal feasts in the calendar of the Episcopal Church. Our celebration this year, on Sunday, November 2, will feature the Chancel Choir singing the triumphant Widor's Mass, Opus 36, for the choral Eucharist at 10:00 am. In addition to the Mass, Grace will also welcome well known Madison violinist, Suzanne Beia – UW-Madison Artist-in-Residence Faculty, 2nd Violin Pro Arte Quartet, Co-concert-master Madison Symphony, and Concertmaster with the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra.

Composer and organist Charles-Marie Widor was born to a family of organ builders in Lyon. The French organ builder Aristide Cavallé-Coll, reviver of the art of organ building, was a friend of the Widor family. In 1870, with the combined lobbying of Cavallé-Coll, Charles Gounod and Camille Saint-Saëns, the 26-year-old Widor was appointed as organist of Saint-Sulpice in Paris, the most prominent position for a French organist. The organ at St-Sulpice was Cavallé-Coll's masterwork; the instrument's spectacular capabilities proved an inspiration to Widor, who served as organist at St-Sulpice for 64 years until 1933.

Meanwhile, the Casavant organ at Grace is related to the Cavallé-Coll, which Widor played at St-Sulpice, school of organ building. In the early years some of the reeds in Casavant organs were actually made by Cavallé-Coll and, to this day, Casavant possesses reed blocks for shaping the tongues of reeds, that were made by Cavallé-Coll, as well as "scalings" from that same firm. Indeed the Hautbois and Trompette Harmonique on the Recit organ at Grace, as well as the composition the mixtures and make-up of the flue work, are in this tradition.

Honoring this history, much of the music for our All Saints celebration at Grace will be drawn from composers influenced by the music legacy of Saint-Sulpice. During Communion, Ms. Beia and Organist Greg Upward

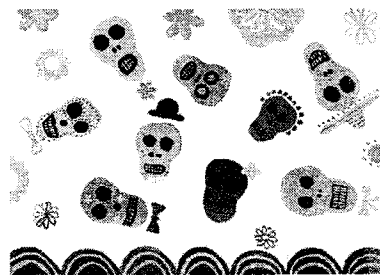
will perform a composition by Josef Gabriel Rheinberger. The Offertory will feature another piece in the St-Sulpice "tradition", the Adagio from the Widor 5th Organ Symphony. The postlude will be a Marcel Dupré Antiphon based on "Ave Maris Stella." Dupré followed Widor as the Saint-Sulpice organist – they served collectively there as Organist Titulaire for 101 years!



Three Ways to Remember the Departed

by Pat Size

1. All are invited to a parish celebration of holy remembering of those who have died in the Lord. On Saturday, November 1, 12:30 – 2:30 pm. We've planned a workshop in the Guild Hall for children and youth to create home altars of remembrance in an Hispanic style.

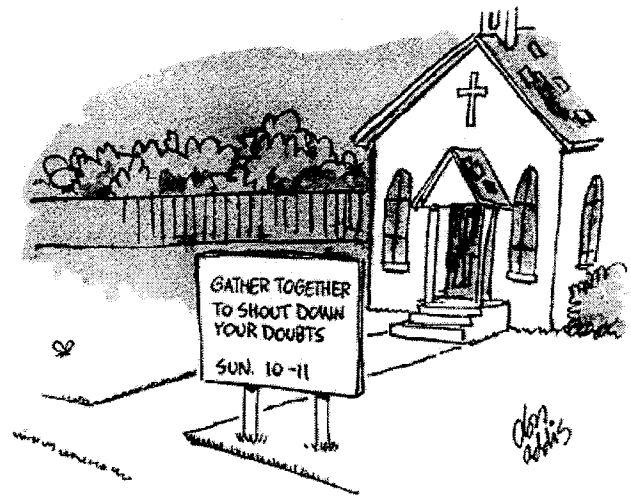


2. Parishioners are welcomed to send an email or written note to our Ministries Coordinator, Kristin Matuszak, including the name or names of those departed to be printed in the All Saints Sunday bulletin, Nov. 2. We will include all names (and only names) received by Oct. 28.

3. The parish clergy and staff and others are in the process of creating a way for interested parishioners to place a name or photo of a loved one on a paper crosses which will be displayed in the church on November 2.

Grace Church Annual Meeting set for Sunday, November 16

Grace Church Vestry members and others have been laying the groundwork for a well run Annual Meeting to be held November 16, starting at 11:45 a.m. in the Guild Hall. Orderly annual meetings with positive outcomes typically rely on a congregation that has been well informed and well prepared in advance. This Grace Notes section aims to familiarize members with a number of upcoming Annual Meeting features. The Vestry asks all members to preview this and other information to be provided in advance of the Annual Meeting and to contribute to good outcomes by sharing ideas, concerns or hopes with the current Wardens, Vestry members or Interim Rector.



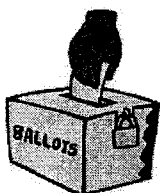
When will the Annual Meeting be held? The Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, November 16, following the 10 am worship service. There will be no Noon Eucharist in Spanish on November 16. Spanish-speaking members of Grace Church who normally take part in that worship service are invited instead, as in past years, to take part in the Annual Meeting. A light meal and child care will be provided.

Who should take part in the Annual Meeting? Who can vote? All are welcome to take part in the Annual Meeting and address agenda items. Before the Annual Meeting, the Vestry will approve and publish a list of individuals who are believed to be adult members eligible to vote. Voting members are those who, whether or not confirmed Episcopalians, are 16-years-old or older and who regularly take part in the worship and other ministries of this parish.

What will be on the Agenda? Most ministry and program reports for the 2008 Annual Meeting will be provided in print only, with highlights addressed in remarks by the wardens and clergy. Main features on the agenda for members' prior preparation include:

• **Elections for the following positions:**

- senior warden and junior warden.
 - three new Vestry members.
 - four delegates to the October 2009 diocesan convention.
 - representatives to the West Convocation of our diocese.
- For all of the above: See Nominating Committee report.*



→
See the following pages for information on nominations
→

• **Presentation of financial report, with presentation of preliminary 2009 operating budget.**

- **Open 'mic' – an opportunity for member's thanksgivings, comments or questions.**

Pre-Annual Meeting Forum • Sunday, November 9, after both worship services

Nominating Committee Seeks Nominations by October 10

Members of the Nominating Committee for the 2008 Annual Meeting – listed below – are now seeking parishioner inquiries and nominations for: • Senior Warden • Junior Warden • Three Vestry Members • Four Diocesan Convention Delegates • West Convocation Representatives.

Most of the information provided in this feature focuses on the work and ministry of the Wardens and Vestry members. Inquiries or nominations for any position may be directed to any member of the Nominating Committee: Patrick Pollock, prp@chorus.net, 233-9334; Padriac Malinowski, pmmalinowski@gmail.com, 238-2570; Jolanda Vanderwal Taylor, jvtaylor@wisc.edu, 246-9621. Nominations are sought by October 10 so that a roster of candidates may be posted by October 19 (per the provisions of the parish bylaws).

WHAT IS A VESTRY? A Vestry is the governing body of an Episcopal parish with accountability under both civil statutes and Episcopal Church Canons (both national and diocesan). Technically, for both civil and ecclesiastical purposes, the entity typically referred to as a 'Vestry' encompasses the rector, the senior warden and junior warden, and elected members who normally serve three-year terms on a rotating basis. The parish Treasurer and Clerk are appointed by the Vestry and are included in many Vestry responsibilities, although they do not vote on Vestry matters unless they are also elected Vestry members.

WHAT ARE A VESTRY'S MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES? A well-developed, intentional vestry typically fulfills two fundamental roles, as follows: ○ The Rector, Wardens and Vestry assume ultimate legal and fiduciary responsibility for compliance with laws and canons, for adequate financial resources to sustain the mission of the congregation, and for identifying and charging lay leadership for the effective administration of the congregation. Functioning in this first general role, a Vestry also has responsibility, subject to a bishop's collaboration and approval, to call a Rector for the parish. ○ A well-developed Vestry also typically functions as a 'council of elders,' gathering and sharing information and resources to continuously renew and lead the mission of the congregation. Long-range strategic planning and specific participation in the development and funding of new ministry initiatives are two activities that fall under this area of Vestry leadership.

SO, THE VESTRY IS NOT MERELY AN ADVISORY BOARD? HOW MUCH TIME IS INVOLVED?

Most parishes, including Grace Church, are best served by hands-on Vestry members who (in addition to attending regular vestry meetings) devote time and leadership in one or more areas of the parish's ministry. When Vestry leadership is well allocated among at least the main areas of a parish's ministry (e.g. worship, outreach, stewardship, Christian Education, buildings & grounds, personnel), benefits typically include improved communications, proactive strategic planning and better overall cultivation of lay leadership. Grace Vestry members normally serve on rotating teams of 'tellers' (to count the Sunday offering), and they assist with parishioner contact during the stewardship appeal.

