

GRACE NOTES

NEWS IN AND AROUND THE GRACE CHURCH COMMUNITY

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HIDDEN MASTERPIECE UNVEILED JULY 22ND

It's finally happening! Saturday, July 22nd, the recently restored "Resurrection Window" will be unveiled, a masterpiece of American stained glass art depicting Jesus and Mary Magdalene holding hands as he bids farewell before ascending to heaven. Hidden by the organ since 1968, this priceless treasure will now be on view, facing Franklin Avenue for all to see. There will be speakers, a service of Evensong led by newly elected Bishop-coadjutor of New York, the Right Reverend Matthew Heyd, a blessing of the window and a reception. Events begin at 3pm. Come enjoy and celebrate!

SUMMERTIME



And the church is busy, though not as busy as in the program year (September to June), and busy in a different way: celebrating, resting, resetting. In this issue of our newsletter you will see pictures of the many things we have done in the year so far: worship, service, Christian education, fellowship. In other words, being church. Let's celebrate what we have done so far.

We are also looking ahead. Not only to celebrate the restoration and new setting of our Resurrection window on July 22, but preparing for new works of art to beautify our sacred spaces. Designs are in the works for new stained glass windows in the Sanctuary and a Celtic cross in the Memorial Garden. Stay tuned.

Planning for the future in a time of rapid change, we are sending a team to the diocesan-sponsored "College of Congregational Development" in late July. Evelyn Garzetta, Valerie LaRobardier, Will Cox and I will join Bp. Heyd and teams from other parishes for a week-long learning program. Open new doors.

And keep vital our deep roots. Along with churches from many denominations around the world, we are preparing to celebrate a "Season of Creation" from September 1 to October 4, the Feast of St Francis. During these weeks we will focus our liturgy and education on exploring our sacred duty of care for God's creation. A big part of our fall program will a focus on children and youth. Again, stay tuned—and contact me if you would like to help.

We are stewards of the earth, of God's sacred mysteries, and of our neighbors in need. What a great work to be part of! If you have yet joined us officially as a member, know that you are most welcome; call the office for information. If you are a member, well, you know what a wonderful place and community Grace Church Millbrook is, for you are part of what makes it so. Thank you attending and supporting Grace. May we continue to thrive and grow, to the glory of God and in service to the world.

See you on Sunday! Matt+



Appreciation for outgoing vestry member Linda Hogan



Padre Rigoberto, Bishop Heyd and Matt at the Bishop's confirmation service



Padre Rigoberto with members of our Spanish language service at the Celebration of the Feast of the Virgin of Guadalupe

THE STORY BEHIND THE "RESURRECTION WINDOW" AND JULY 22ND UNVEILING EVENT



“A Hidden Masterpiece of American Stained Glass Finally And Joyfully Unveiled”

A long-hidden and recently restored masterpiece of American stained glass art depicting Jesus Christ and Mary Magdalene holding hands as he bids farewell before ascending to heaven (the “Resurrection Window”) will be unveiled to the public on the afternoon of July 22, 2023 at Grace Episcopal Church in Millbrook, NY. Newly elected Bishop-coadjutor of New York, the Right Reverend Matthew Heyd, will join the Rector of Grace Church, the Rev. Dr. Matthew Calkins, and other clergy and honored speakers in an afternoon of talks, worship and the blessing of the newly restored window.

From 3:00-4:00pm, the Revs. Elizabeth Broyles and Shane Phelan, of the order of the Companions of Mary Magdalene, and Brianne van Vorst, stained glass conservator and expert consultant on the project, will

speak in the Parish Hall on the significance and uniqueness of this historic window.

At 4:00pm, Bishop Heyd will preside in a service of Evensong, concluding with a Blessing of the window in the Memorial Garden. Following the service there will be a reception on the lawn in front of the Rectory.

The window by renowned stained glass artist Maitland Armstrong and his daughter Helen Armstrong has been hidden since 1968 by a pipe organ placed in the rear of the church which completely blocked any interior view of the window—except for brave souls who climbed to a narrow loft behind the organ. The view of the window from the street was also hidden for many years by a large spruce tree. This was removed in 2003 and a Memorial Garden was placed under the window, but its layered glass construction meant that the street view was still obscured. Today, Femenella & Associates, under the expert supervision of Brianne van Vorst of Liberty Consulting, has removed, cleaned and restored the window, and has placed it back in its original location—now facing the street for all who pass by to admire. Back-lighting will allow its magnificent colors and imagery to once again be viewed by the public. This priceless local treasure will be “unveiled” in all its glory on the afternoon of July 22, the date which the church marks as the feast of Mary Magdalene.

The public is warmly invited to attend this historic event in the life of Grace Church and the village of Millbrook. To learn more about this long-hidden masterpiece of American stained glass art, go to the Grace Church website (<http://www.gracemillbrook.org>) and click on the link to the Resurrection church window.

Background: The stained glass artist Maitland Armstrong and his daughter and artistic partner Helen Armstrong were contemporaries and colleagues of Louis C. Tiffany and John La Farge. Together they led an American renaissance of decorative arts in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Their work in layered opalescent glass was particularly innovative. Several of Maitland Armstrong’s works were commissioned for Grace Church Millbrook under the patronage of John and Adelaide Wing and their children. John died in 1910 and Adelaide, his wife of fifty years, in 1911. The large four panel Armstrong window commissioned in their memory by their children was installed in the rear of the church, in the side facing Franklin Avenue, and dedicated on Easter Sunday 1912. The local newspaper called it the Resurrection Window, as it depicts Jesus and Mary Magdalene in the garden after Christ’s Resurrection. The scene depicts a passage from the gospel of John in which Mary recognizes Jesus, they briefly touch, but then Jesus says she must let go of him, for he has not yet ascended to the Father (John 20:11-18).) Traditional depictions of this scene show Mary at a distance, kneeling, while Jesus lifts his hands to indicate the need to keep at a distance. Yet in Maitland and Helen Armstrong’s interpretation of the iconographical tradition, Jesus and Mary stand side by side, holding hands, while he indicates that he must leave. The window’s memorial inscriptions quote another verse from John: “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you” (John 14:27). The scene as depicted in this exquisite window perfectly conveys this assurance of eternal love, peace, and togetherness.

CONFIRMANDS AT THE CATHEDRAL



(L-R) Ben York, Nicholas Dyson, Will Cox, Jessica Davis and Lucas Pelosi-Rauscher

We were blessed to have two teens who were confirmed this year, Lucas Pelosi and Nicholas Dyson. Together with three adults who took the Journey of Faith class, Will Cox, Jess Davis (former Grace Year fellow) and Ben York, they traveled to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine for confirmation. It was a beautiful service, with our diocesan bishop, Andrew Dietsche, and our bishop co-adjutor, newly consecrated Matthew Heyd, both present. Rachel Bazzaz also completed the Journey of Faith class but had a conflict with the confirmation date. It was a joy to accompany these new members of our church on a new stage of their spiritual journey and we pray for their continuing growth in faith, hope and love as they follow Christ. - Rev. Alison Quin

REVEREND CANON ELLIOTT LINDSLEY PRESENTED WITH BISHOP'S CROSS

In January, Bishop Dietsche awarded our beloved Elliott Lindsley the Bishop's Cross for distinguished lifetime service as church historian and priest. Very well deserved, Elliott!!



FAREWELL TO GRACE YEAR FELLOWS



A visit to Karma Tryana Dharma Chakra Buddhist monastery in Woodstock, one of the many ways the fellows enlarged their spiritual horizons

We celebrated our fifth cohort of Grace Year fellows with a special service on June 25th. Kristin Perkins, Assistant Program Director and Grace Year alum, preached and each of the fellows spoke about their year of service and growth. We had a wonderful year with Kristin and the four fellows, Coco de Marneffe, Kara Moran, Rachael Langston and Ben York.

Kristin will go on to a PhD program at Columbia, pursuing her research interests in theater studies. Kara is also going to graduate school at Yale, pursuing her master's in environmental studies and theology. Coco will be continuing as part-time grant writer for the Jean Krulis Community Garden at St. Thomas, Amenia, but she will be living in New York City and is looking for a job in development with a non-profit. Rachael is moving to Philadelphia and is also seeking a job in the non-profit sector. She is especially interested in affordable housing. Ben will be staying at Grace for another year, to work at Northeast Dutchess Immigrant Services and at Grace Year.

It was a remarkable year in many ways. We had our first alumni reunion and 12 alumni traveled to Millbrook to reconnect with one another and with their time of service and learning at Grace Year. It was truly remarkable to see what they are currently doing with their

lives—working in ministry, environmental protection, teaching, and various other non-profit roles. Several spoke at the Grace Year fundraiser in May about their time at Grace Year and what it meant to them.

We also sent two of the fellows to COP 27, to be part of the presiding bishop's delegation to the climate talks. Coco attended in person in Egypt, and Kara followed the talks online, taking notes for the delegation.

We are proud of the fellows! Rachael put together a "Menu of Hope," a list of resources for new immigrants to our community and was part of advocacy efforts on behalf of immigrants. Ben taught a number of ESL classes, took part in food distribution every week, worked closely with families of immigrants and helped build community through the monthly Spanish service at Grace (first Wednesday of the month at 6pm). Kara hiked many miles across conservation easements with the Dutchess Land Conservancy, checking that the land continues to be dedicated to conservation. She entered data into a nationwide database of conservation land and in general made herself indispensable. She will be in the vicarage through mid-August, working for DLC. Stop by and say hello or invite her over!

We have three fellows signed up for next year and are looking for a 4th. If anyone knows of a young adult (ages 21-29) who is interested in social justice, service, community, spirituality and discernment, please encourage them to apply! - Rev. Alison Quin



Grace Year alumni reunion in May

YOUTH AND CHILDREN GROWING AT GRACE



We were very blessed this spring by a group of children who started attending regularly. Matt and Alison led a series of lessons on Holy Eucharist and we celebrated a special Holy Communion with them. A number of them continued to attend lessons led by Alison for the remaining weeks of the program year.

We hope to continue to grow our children's ministry next year, by holding a monthly family service on the first Sunday of each month, and by continuing Sunday school lessons during church on the other Sundays of the month. We are looking for people who would be willing to teach once a month, and adults who would be willing to be a second adult in the room as well. Please contact Alison at revalisonquin@gmail.com for more info or to sign up.

For our youth next year, we are planning to revitalize acolyte training, with the help of Ben York, for those who would like to serve at the altar. We are also hoping to gather teens and young adults for food and discussion every other week. We also plan to take a group to the Cathedral for an overnight retreat sometime in the fall. Again, contact Alison at revalisonquin@gmail.com for more info. - Rev. Alison Quin

NEDIS (NORTHEAST DUTCHESS IMMIGRANT SERVICES) AND EPIC



ENL 2023 Graduation Class



ENL Dover Class



New La Mesa Garden



The staff of NEDIS



Baptism of Scarlett Sofia Soto



Prayer shawls



Baptism of Olivia Grace Conte



Denis Freeman training future Guiding Eyes for the Blind dog



Greening the church for Advent



Amanda Williams, Fall Festival organizer



Blessing Our Sacred Earth Interfaith Service at Innisfree Garden



Lynda Boissey, Rummage Sale co-chair



Holy Communion class with Fr Matt and Rev Alison



Palm Sunday ecumenical service (with live donkey!)



Blessing of the Creche at Christmas



Shrove Tuesday pancake supper provided by Men@Grace



Flowering of the Easter cross



Serving at Lunchbox



Golf tournament

MID-YEAR STEWARDSHIP APPEAL



Dear friends,

We are halfway through the calendar year here at Grace Church and, as you may see in our summer newsletter, we have much to be thankful for, including inspiring worship services in English and Spanish, impactful food and outreach programs, and strong children, youth, and adult educational events. Baptisms are up, confirmations were encouraging, and new members have joined and become active participants. Grace Year celebrated its fifth anniversary with an alumni gathering—what a blessing for all involved this program has been! We continue to maintain and enhance our buildings, with the restoration and “unveiling” of the Resurrection window a major achievement.

All of this is made possible through your support. Thank you if you have given to Grace Church through regular or occasional donations. If you have not yet given, please consider doing so now. The Vestry has been carefully tracking income and expenses and although we are in the black at mid-year, we expect by fall to be entering into the red. For a number of reasons, we will not be hosting a golf and dinner benefit this year; an event that usually contributes more than \$20,000 to our budget—and gives us a summer cash inflow. We also remain below our target of pledge income, although we are doing well in plate and regular support (a sign of people slowly coming back to church). The bottom line, although we are on target in meeting our budget expenses, we need more income to avoid a deficit. Please prayerfully consider increasing your support of Grace Church.

God bless you,

The Rev. Dr. Matthew Calkins, Rector

Prayer for the Church

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were being cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.