

# THE *Spirit* OF *Grace*

NEWSLETTER OF  
**GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
819 MADISON STREET, SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13210

THE REV. JENNIFER BASKERVILLE-BURROWS, RECTOR  
315-478-0901 • WWW.GRACESYRACUSE.ORG  
**MAY 2011**



Mommy Jennifer baptized her son, Timothy, on Easter Sunday.



Three generations of Jamaya's family witnessed her baptism on Easter Sunday.

## God's Beloved, Now & Forever

**F**our children in the Grace Church family were baptized on Easter Sunday, including Timothy, son of Harrison and Mother Jennifer.

During the beautiful service, the 100+ worshippers sang "Wade in the Water" and were reminded that "All of us are entrusted in the care and well-being of these four children."

At the close of the baptism, Mother Jennifer announced, "Welcome to the world's newest Christians!"

More on Easter on pgs. 6, 7, and 8.



Brothers Joshua and Richie were baptized on Easter Sunday.



## Let Your Alleluias Rise

Dear Ones—

We have had a long winter. Whether you are here in Syracuse or somewhere distant—the location doesn't matter—the world has seemed a little desperate for spring to come. Even though it is May, spring still seems especially late, even for Central New York. Easter was later as well but there is no doubt that Christ is indeed Risen. All I have to do is look around the altar on a Sunday morning as the face of the risen Christ is reflected back to me in our gathered body.

At the risk of being redundant I must say that this is the best time to be at Grace Church (I know, I've said it before but it continues to be true). We had simply glorious Holy Week and Easter celebrations and look forward to having Bishop Skip with us on Sunday the 8th for his official visitation. You may have already heard—literally—that our new sound system has been installed and it will be blessed and dedicated by the Bishop. New life springs forth again in the Garden of Grace that is back in bloom after a year of rest. And there continues to be a vibrancy in our parish that is infectious.

As I think about the great energy and spirit that lifted us up over the past few years I immediately think of John Giammatteo, our Organ Scholar. John graduates this month and will soon be off to London where he will be a Marshall Scholar. We are so proud of him and the way he has helped transform our music and worship. As much as he may have learned while at Syracuse University I believe we received the greater gift. Adrienne Atterberry, who has been among us the past two years, graduates as well. Adrienne has served as clerk of the vestry and as master of ceremonies—helping to coordinate acolytes on Sunday mornings. We will miss her dearly. She will soon be off to spend time in India.

I mention these two young people because they are such powerful signs to me—and I hope all of us—of resurrection hope and promise in the form of young adults who come to be with us for a short time but impact us immeasurably.

There is much to bemoan about the world and it too often seems like a dark time when light struggles to pierce through. But the fact is Christ IS Risen and Easter always comes, and God is always doing a new thing. I'm resolving to stop complaining about all the cold and rain and instead (as the hymn goes) to let my alleluias rise for all the amazing things God is doing for and around us each day. I hope you'll join me.

In peace,

Jennifer+



## Grace Church Office Hours

Monday	4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday	8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday	4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m. to Noon

**Rector's Hours:** The rector will keep office hours at Grace Church on Wednesdays and Fridays, though sometimes she will be out of the office on pastoral calls, for meetings, or other parish business. On Tuesdays and Thursdays she can be found in her office at Hendricks Chapel.

### Staff

Rector	The Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows e-mail: <a href="mailto:jlbasker@syr.edu">jlbasker@syr.edu</a>
Priest Associate	The Rev. Katherine B.L. Day
Parish Warden	Sabrina Coleman
Parish Administrator	Tracey White e-mail: <a href="mailto:trwhite@syr.edu">trwhite@syr.edu</a>
Organ Scholar	John Giammatteo
Children's Formation Teachers	Ernestine Patterson Barbara Slater
Nursery Attendant	Grace Chang

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## Got stories, photos, ideas?

Please help us make the *Spirit of Grace* a great newsletter! Give stories, photos, etc. to Sue Keeter (via email at [keeters@upstate.edu](mailto:keeters@upstate.edu), phone 423-0203, or in the newsletter mailbox).

Most importantly, if we missed something, or someone...please let Sue know. We want to recognize and celebrate everyone!



Please pray for those to be confirmed — TJ Geiger, Thane Joyal and Eddie Tyson — and for Adrienne Atterberry who will reaffirm her Baptismal vows.

## Confirmation/Reaffirmation Service

*Sunday, May 8, 9:30 a.m. worship*

**B**ishop Skip Adams will officiate at a confirmation/reaffirmation service at Grace Church. Sunday, May 8. Bishop Skip will take time to meet with the confirmands and members of the vestry and other lay leaders prior to the service.

## Ministry Fair in the Diocese of Central New York

*Saturday, May 14*

*8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*

**G**ather Around the Table: Be Learn, Inspired, Be Renewed! A variety of workshops for all ages will cover topics such as “Worship and Creative Liturgy,” Ministry and Parish Development,” and “Growth in Faith, Spirituality and Participation.” Ministers and lay people from across the diocese are presenting, including our own Mother Jennifer! \$20 per person includes all breaks, lunch and workshop materials. Held at the Holiday Inn, Liverpool.

## PRESERVING OUR SACRED SPACE

### Building Repairs & Replacements

**T**he sanctuary renovation may be complete, but there are other building concerns that are being addressed as we can afford them or, in the case of the boiler and roof, due to emergency failures.

In November, we had our regular pre-season heating system tune-up and were told that the boiler was rusted and holes had developed that allowed carbon monoxide to be released into the boiler room. As a result, the boiler could not be approved as safe and we were forced to replace the boiler. The work has been completed and we have installed a more efficient boiler that will reduce our heating costs.

In December the heavy snow caused water to leak into the second floor of the parish house, due to water that had leaked between the membrane roof and the structural roof being forced into the building by the weight of the snow. Emergency measures repaired the leak, but the vestry decided to replace the roof to prevent further damage. The weather has not cooperated to allow the new roof to be installed, but the contractor is starting work in early May. The contract calls for installation of new insulation that will reduce heating bills, new scuppers and downspouts, a new cap to the north parapet and a membrane roof. The project is being overseen by David DaSalvia, a roofing consultant and inspector.

Grace received a check from the Church Insurance Company that allows us to repair walls and ceilings where the water caused damage.

The good news is that gifts to the Capital Campaign and several other gifts, combined with the money raised at 2010 fundraisers, will cover all costs of these repairs. The Vestry thanks all who have given to the Campaign and who made added gifts to allow these repairs.

A family approached Jennifer in December and offered to fund the installation of a sound system in the sanctuary based on the design received during the restoration. The system will be dedicated at the service on May 8 and includes four speakers, a wireless amplifier, microphones at the altar and lectern, lavalier microphones for the clergy and a recorder to allow us to record and broadcast or save services and sermons. The system includes a hearing-assist package with five earpieces for those who need extra assistance in hearing the service.

The Property Committee has met numerous times to make decisions about these repairs and to review priorities for the future. Grace will apply for a grant from the Syracuse Connective Corridor Project to replace the windows in the Tower and county grants to help with preventing water runoff from roofs and property.



by Donald Fudge

# The Adventure of Managing Coffee Hour Can Be Yours!

### What Is Involved In Managing Coffee Hour?

Show up, and try to provide coffee, hot water for tea and cocoa, and juice. You will need to put out some milk or cream and sugar.

There is actually more demand for hot water (for tea and cocoa) than for coffee. There is a white thermos that plugs in for making hot water, and you can also keep hot water on a warmer plate on the Bunn coffee machine.

Put out any baked goods you or others have brought, or you find in the freezer.

Put stuff away afterwards.

### Do I Have To Use The Big Bunn Coffee Maker?

No, not necessary at all! There are three regular coffee makers still in the kitchen. We had been using them before, and they are still there. But the Bunn coffee maker is not that hard. See directions below.

Just signing up to bring in some baked goods, no more, is a truly great contribution. Thank you.

### Basic Directions for Using Bunn Coffemaker

A. ROLL THE COFFEEMAKER ON ITS CART INTO THE PARISH HALL AND PLUG IT IN. (This is the way it is turned “on.” And unplugging is the way it is turned “off.” Be careful about the plugging in/out.) There is already water in the “reservoir” in the middle of the machine, and it takes about 25 minutes for all that water to get hot. (At first there is no sound, then a low hum, and then quiet when it is done.) Often someone in the choir will have plugged it in earlier.

B. CARAFES: There six carafes around the kitchen, i.e. plenty of them. Always keep one on the warming plate at the lower left where hot water and coffee come out to catch any overflow. And keep an extra one in reach on the cart shelf below for the same reason. The others can be used to stockpile hot water and coffee on the warming plates.

C. FILTER BASKET: Always keep the black plastic filter basket in place. Otherwise the sprayhead sprays hot water or coffee all over rather than into the basket and into the carafe below. When this happens it is very discouraging.

D. WARMING PLATES: There are three, two on left and one at lower right. They are turned on and off by the switch near each. A red light for each indicates that the warming plate is on.

E. OPTIONAL STEP: This is just to get fresher water. Once the water is hot (Step A) you can take a carafe of fresh water and SLOWLY pour it in through the top right screen, and wait until a carafe placed at the lower left slow-

ly fills up with water. Dump that carafe, and then two minutes later repeat this process, again pouring SLOWLY, and dumping the water from the carafe at the left. Keep an empty carafe on the lower left under the filter basket to catch any extra water.

F. FIRST MAKING A CARAFE OF HOT WATER FOR TEA, COCOA, ETC. (You do this first so that the water does not have any coffee taste.) Slowly pour a carafe of water in through the screen at top right. Hot water from the machine will pour out at the lower left. (If it takes a while, don't worry. The machine--which has a thermostat--is just waiting a minute until the water is hot enough.) Stockpile that carafe of hot water on a warming plate. Put an empty carafe under the filter basket.

ADDITIONAL HOT WATER: Also it's good to make hot water in the white plug-in thermos pitcher in the kitchen. That gives you two sources. It is not unusual to have more customers for water than coffee.

G. TO MAKE COFFEE: Take out the filter basket just below the sprayhead by pulling it forward. Put a paper filter in it. Just how strong the coffee should be might be played with, but initially try putting in ten scoops of coffee. The only trick here is to gently shake the coffee so it is evenly distributed before reinserting the funnel. (This is because the water goes through the sprayhead only once, and depends on the coffee being the same depth across the basket.)

Put one carafe under the basket. Fill another with water, and slowly pour it through the screen on the top at the right. Coffee should slowly pour into the carafe under the funnel on the left. Watch that it does not overflow. You should have a pot of coffee right away. You can stockpile this pot of coffee on a warmer.

H. FOR ADDITIONAL CARAFES OF COFFEE: Remove the basket and dispose of the filter and used grounds. Put in a new filter and new coffee grounds and place the basket back under the spray head. Again slowly pour a carafe of water in the screened hole on top on the right, and fresh coffee should slowly pour into the carafe on the left. You can keep making pots in this manner, making a new pot of coffee or hot water as needed. Using decaf coffee, you can make a pot of, you guessed it, decaf coffee.

I. PUTTING MACHINE AWAY: Be careful as some parts of the machine and the water inside are still hot. Turn off warmers. Unplug machine. Take carafes off for safety. Return machine to kitchen. Wash out carafes and basket and put back with machine.

Do not attempt to empty the water inside the machine. (In fact it is just about impossible to do so.) Just leave machine as it is until the next use.

***Suggestion: Sign up with a fellow adventurer!***

# Marriage Equality & The Civil Rights Movement

From NPR's Talk of the Nation, 4/26/11

Same-sex marriage is a civil rights issue for many gay Americans, but many African Americans disagree. Rep. Byron Rushing (D-Mass.), a straight, black politician, hopes to change that. Thomas Allen Harris explores Rushing's work on behalf of gay marriage in a short documentary film, *Marriage Equality*.

**Neal Conan, host, Talk of the Nation:**

When Proposition 8 appeared on the California ballot in November 2008, exit polls reported that seven in 10 African-American voters supported the ban on same-sex marriage. Many gay rights activists cast what they call marriage equality as a civil rights issue. Many black Americans disagree. In a new documentary short, director Thomas Allen Harris tells the story of a Massachusetts politician striving to bridge that divide.

**State Representative Byron Rushing:**

Many black churches stood up and said they didn't want the civil definition to change, and the argument was that civil rights in this country was defined for black people. To call anything else a civil rights struggle was somehow to disparage the struggle of black people for civil rights, and that was an argument that had to be challenged.

**Neal Conan:**

As Byron Rushing notes in your film, many in the black community have not made believe to embrace gay marriage as a civil right?

**Thomas Harris, film director:**

The black community is so diverse. There's a lot of support within the

African-American community for marriage equality on the level of, let's say, the elected officials, many of whom have a background or come from the civil rights movement. They see the connection. Certainly, lawyers, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund see the connection between being able to get married civilly and the civil rights movement of the '50s and '60s.

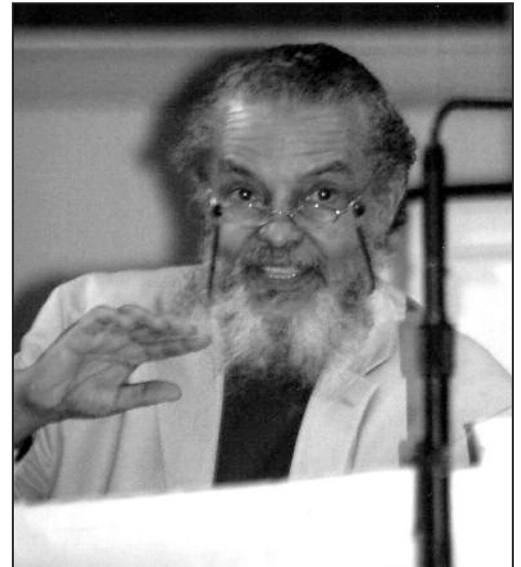
People on the street might feel differently. It has to do with the way we think about marriage. We think about marriage as a church wedding, and less often about the legality of the contract of marriage, which is what is brilliant about the way Byron articulates things.

**Neal Conan:**

How does he arrive at this? He graduated high school in 1960, was part of the civil rights movement, joined the Congress on Racial Equality, and worked in the South. He's a longtime veteran of civil rights.

**Thomas Harris:**

Byron has always been someone who has championed the people who are down and out or need representation. He has done amazing work with regards to the African-American community in Massachusetts — establishing fair housing practices, working on busing and on establishing the African-American Meeting House as a national historic district. He started working on marriage equality — at least advocating around it and for the rights of gays and lesbians — before the LGBT movement embraced marriage equality.



Civil rights veteran Byron Rushing, a member of the Massachusetts legislature spoke at Grace Church's 2007 Walter Welsh Forum on Race and Reconciliation and St. Philip's Homecoming Celebration. He also preached at the installation ceremony for Mother Jennifer in 2004. He is the subject of the film "Marriage Equality: Byron Rushing and the Fight for Fairness." Photo by Marjory Wilkins

**Neal Conan:**

He was a bit ahead of other people.

**Thomas Harris:**

He saw the connection between that and the civil rights movement. When I first met Byron, I had been in relationship for over 12 years, and I didn't think that marriage was something that I should struggle or advocate for, with regards to gays and lesbians.

But after speaking with him and understanding the connection with civil rights and actually working on this, I've become an advocate myself.

## It Takes a Village

The baptism candidates were surrounded by family on Easter Sunday.



Ritchie and Joshua's family



Timothy's family



Jamaya's family

## In Our Prayers



*Mary  
Ellen  
Waller*



*Hollis  
Liddiard*



*Roberta  
Truesdell*



*Peggy  
Wood*

Please pray for Mary Ellen Waller as she recovers from pneumonia, Hollis Liddiard as she recovers from an infection, and Roberta Truesdell as her health declines— she misses you all dearly. Peggy Wood and her daughter, Yvonne Asamoah: Peggy is at the Cunningham Nursing Home on Brighton Ave. and Yvonne is in the adjacent Fahey Center, recovering from a fall.



The Grace Church sanctuary was "filled to the brim" on Easter Sunday.

## Thank You & Congratulations

**G**race Church organ scholar John Giammatteo graduates from Syracuse University this month and is moving to London. There, he will be working on two master's degrees at two universities in one year. Wow!

John, we will miss your wonderful talent, your wisdom, and gentle warmth.

***Best wishes.***

At right: John Giammatteo and his parents on Easter Sunday. During their visit, John's mother sang in the choir and his father played the clarinet.



## Happy Birthday, Dorothy!



***Happy Birthday, Dorothy Corsey! We wish you a year filled with blessings.***

## GRACE CHURCH TRANSITIONS

We mourn the passing of a dear brother and sister in Christ. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.



**M**ary Agnes Blank Williams, 89, mother of Father Pete Williams and five other children. A graduate of Onondaga Valley Academy, she worked at Chappell's and Nettleton Shoes and was active in St. Rose of Lima Church; VFW Post 7290 Ladies Auxiliary and the Military Order of the Cooties.



**R**obert Slater, 88, of New Jersey died recently. Mr. Slater was the beloved uncle of Barbara Slater.

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## GRACE CHURCH FAMILY

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# Easter Egg Hunt!

A few rain drops didn't stop Grace's children from finding treats hidden in the Welsh Garden by the Easter bunny. While the children were on the Easter Egg hunt, adults were enjoying coffee and goodies in the fellowship hall.

The music was incredible on Easter Sunday. Special thanks to all the the choir members, John Giammatteo on organ and piano, Peter Clouser on drums, Malik Clanton on saxophone, and Mr. Giammatteo on clarinet.

