



Grace Episcopal Church Honesdale, Pa.  
Founded 1832

# Grace Notes

of GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
The Rev'd Edward K. Erb, *rector*

827 Church Street  
Honesdale, Pennsylvania 18431  
(570) 253-2760

OCTOBER 2008

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## PARSON'S CORNER

*The Turn of Leaves*

I love this season! (Yes, I actually love all four seasons, which is why I appreciate NEPA - we get them all in 4-part harmony). But fall, the cool nights and the sunny days, warmed by cozy blankets and brightened by the brilliant colors of the hillsides and the harvest of apples and corn and pumpkins and the promise of jellies and apple butter. Such a richness of God's blessings! It always brings me back to my New England childhood. Who cannot deny the classic joy of New England in the Fall!

While I rejoice in this change of season, and the promise of glistening snowflakes in the next act, many shudder in the thought of what this season portends. Decay and the preparation for death. For Fall and the coming Winter are threats to life. The many-colored beauty of October only hints of the deep brown and cold of the following months - Death and Cold!

Years ago, I served as a chaplain in a nursing home. One crusty old PA Dutchman was more than his usual gruffness one week. Finally, after two of his closest friends in the home complained about him, I came across him one day and sat beside him. "Hi, Harry. *Wie bist?* (In PA Dutch - "How's it goin'?") "The ground's hard." An old farmer that he was, I understood, at least I thought. "Yep. Winter's coming." "Momma's been dead almost a year." And it dawned on me. The earth is hard. Momma's been buried in the ground almost a year, and this is the first time this farmer is realizing that Momma is lying in the cold hard earth. "Yeah," was all I could respond. And we sat a few moments in silence. (What do you say? Nothing is best. Just let the moment be. And sit in quiet.)

This month, I have been engaged in a variety of ways - as is paramount for a priest - in death and the preparations for dying. And what a wondrous experience that is, to share in that preparation. Several of you have dealt with loved ones accepting Hospice care, have witnessed loved ones dying, have prepared for your own dying and have sat along with God as you watched death approach.

But ponder the trees of the hillside. What beauty the leaves show in dying. As Christians, don't we do the same? The vibrancy of life has run its course even through the tough hot and dry spells of life's summer, as we provide shade, cool and refreshment for many. Then when the time comes, we change our sweet fluid for the brilliant fireworks of maturity and show our true colors of strength and beauty to the world.

The leaves of the trees only hint at the life we as God's creation can offer to the world:  
The joy and fulfillment of the world  
and the brilliant display of the way to go with a "bang" in a flash of color.

*Father Ed*

# VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

*GRACE RECEIVED, GRACE SHARED, GRACE ABOUND!*

At its September meeting, Vestry greeted accountant Eric Davis from Ginader-Jones LLC, who has prepared our audit for 2007. The Church is required by Canons to have an external audit every three years, which would not have been required until next year. Yet with a totally new administration at Grace Church starting Jan. 1 of this year, we thought it prudent to start with a clean slate.

Bill Hoerter gave an update on the expected success of the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing.

We made preparations for our Stewardship Campaign for 2009 called Consecration Sunday. We will have a guest speaker, Mr. Daniel Charney, the Diocesan Missioner for Stewardship. Details for the November 16th celebration will be coming soon.

The Sexton position and Job Description were also discussed.

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## BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM

Are you proud of our historic building in its scenic setting?

Do you appreciate architecture and landscaping?

Is a plane something you use on wood instead of something in which you fly?

Did your eyes brighten in Chemistry class when you realized that “Plumbic”  
and “Plumbous” valences connected chemical lead to the ancient arts of water?

Masons

Carpenters

Electricians

General Handymen and Women

Master Gardeners or Wannabes

You may just be what we’re looking for - someone to help advise us on the Building & Grounds Committee. No, we don’t expect you to do the work - though that would be great, too - but an advisory committee who know what they’re talking about.

Let’s get together over coffee Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> and chew over what needs to be done since Grace Abounding has given us such resources with which to work

No work this day - just coffee and planning!

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## **OOPS! That darned office gremlin!**

We know it was here. We all saw it. But Poof! Away it went.

The Tellers tally sheet of donations made each Sunday has been lost for the weekend of September 13-14. So, you’re quarterly statement will be off by the amount you donated that week. If you let Joyce Skinner know, she’ll adjust the figures and give you a corrected statement.

## CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

### ***Sunday School Begins Again!***

We have a new and energized Sunday School program at Grace Church!

Classes started Sept. 7. Thirteen children, ages 3 to 11, are enrolled in Godly Play, which is a Montessori-style Sunday School program. Godly Play can be presented to a "family group" of mixed ages with the older kids helping the younger ones. This is especially helpful in a small group such as ours which does not lend itself to large individual classes by age.

Robin Sampson is the lead teacher while Sue Erb is handling logistics for the Godly Play program. Richelle Stephens, Leslee Klinkewicz, Jeanne Roskoski, Katie Shupe, and Deborah Pursch are among the several volunteers working with the program. More volunteers are welcomed to allow for breaks for the others. We also welcome volunteers who would like to learn the story-telling method of Godly Play. Contact Sue Erb for information.

And, remember, new students are ALWAYS welcome. The classes are held from 10 to 11 a.m.

### ***Confirmation Class Begins, Too***

10 youth have started attending confirmation classes with Father Erb. The program generally covers two school years of classes, fun activities, and service to church and community. Anyone interested in joining this class should contact Father Erb as soon as possible. A minimum age of 12 is recommended.

Upcoming Activities include:

Hosting the Animal Blessing

A Grave-Yard Hop

Providing a Saturday Lunch

Winter Solstice Concert in New York City

Well, and studying Church History, also. We have to do *some* work.

### ***Christian Parenting Class Planned***

On Saturday, Nov. 1, Canon Anne Kitch will be at Grace Church to present a program on Christian Parenting. The 10 a.m. to noon session is open to anyone from the community, so please feel free to invite friends. More information will be forthcoming during October.



### ***A Few Items Needed***

The donations have been tremendous and we are thankful for the outpouring of support of as we gathered materials to start the new Godly Play program. Just a few items are still needed:

--Shelving for the materials storage room

--Full-size staplers and staples

--Paper fasteners

--Colored Chenille Sticks (pipe cleaners)

--Solid-colored pony beads

--Small paper cups

--Modeling clay

--Bottles of apple juice

Please contact Sue Erb if you can provide any of these items.

### ***“First” Communion Class***

+ will hold an “Instructed Eucharist” on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at both services, when Fr. Erb will offer meditations of what and why we do in worship.

+ and we will celebrate our “First” Communion on the great day of communing here on earth with those in heaven - All Saints Sunday, November 2.

In the Episcopal Church, Baptism is the full entrance into the Christian Life and even toddlers are welcome at the Table. (You feed your children daily of earthly food - shouldn't they receive heavenly food as well?) Yet it is important for children - and adults - to learn about the sacraments and their importance in our daily life. Have you ever had a question about Holy Communion or how we do things at Grace? Don't hesitate to ask.

# MINISTRY SCHEDULE

## for OCTOBER 2008

	<i>Oct. 5</i>	<i>Oct. 12</i>	<i>Oct. 19</i>	<i>Oct 26</i>
<i>Acolyte</i>	C. Sampson	C. Lathrop	B. Pursch	C. Sampson
<i>Altar Guild</i>	J. Slate E. Young	K. Skinner J. Bunnell	K. Skinner J. Bunnell	P. Corso J. Slate
<i>Chalicerist</i>	V. Cheripko G. Feldman	M. Brown	M. Brown	J. Roskoski V. Cheripko
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	J. Bunnell C. Escalona	J. Skinner J. Hoerter	E. Young D. Romano	D. Lewis S. Soden
<i>Counters</i>	G. Mikulak E. Young	J. Bunnell E. Young	S. Wilding V. Cheripko	J. Merritt P. Mikulak
<i>Intercessor</i>	S. Lathrop	D. Lewis	J. Roskoski	J. Slate
<i>Lector</i>	J. Bunnell	D. Pursch	K. Skinner	G. Feldman
<i>Ushers</i>	C. & J. Stevens	P. Mikulak G. Mikulak	R. & J. Sampson	J. Russo J. Merritt

If you cannot serve on a date you are scheduled,  
please contact someone else on the list to switch -  
then call the parish office (253-2760) so we can make the change, too.

***THANK YOU for all your help!***



*A SERVICE of HEALING  
for the feast of St. Luke, the Physician  
will be held on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM*

*come and receive the laying on of hands and anointing for yourself  
or on behalf of a loved one.*

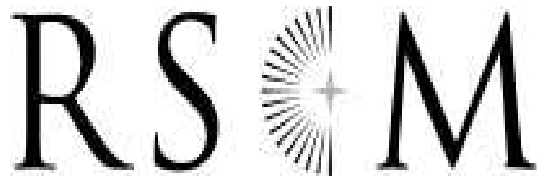


### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

(Remember our Parish family in your Prayers)

Oct. 1 - Kaleb Becker  
Oct. 2 - Philip Erb  
Oct. 5 - Christopher Carroll  
Oct. 18 - Angelica Becker  
Oct. 18 - Annette Acker

Oct. 20 - James Sampson  
Oct. 22 - Sarah Lathrop  
Oct. 25 - Phyllis Korb  
Oct. 29 - James Smith  
Oct. 30 - Imogen Pursch



THE  
ROYAL  
SCHOOL of  
CHURCH MUSIC  
in AMERICA

- ◆ A group of boys and girls singing - as one critic described it - one octave above heaven.
- ◆ Youngsters engaged - totally engaged - in the expression of praise through the finest music.
- ◆ 21<sup>st</sup> century children continuing the ancient ministry of the Church...

... and having fun while doing it!

The training program of the Royal School of Church Music encourages children and youth by their accomplishments growing in the knowledge of music and singing in the Church.

Grace Church, Honesdale, will host the first and only Choir in this corner of Pennsylvania associated with the Royal School of Church Music, an organization founded in the Church of England to advance the cause of choral arts, and especially in light of declining musical training for children.

The model is the Men and Boy's Choirs of British Cathedral and University Chapels, made famous by King's College Choir at Cambridge University in their annual Christmas broadcast, Lessons & Carols. This style of singing for children utilizes the open sound of the 'head voice' - a clear and reverberant sound in both boys and girls which projects a clear and pure tone.

Fr. Ed Erb, rector of Grace Church, has been an associate of the RSCM for over 20 years and serves on staff of the RSCM-America course at King's College in Wilkes Barre. He brings this experience to Honesdale and open the course to any child, ages 8-14 who is interested.

Having a singing voice is not as important as the desire to sing. This is a course designed to train the young voice in a classic style of vocal technique.

Sessions will be held Thursday evenings at 6:30 PM beginning on October 9<sup>th</sup>. If you have a child who may be interested, please contact the office of Grace Church at 253-2760. Grace Episcopal Church is located on at 827 Church Street Central Park.

*Choristers in RSCM from Grace Episcopal Cathedral, Topeka Kansas.*



How Skinner does posters

# HARVEST HOME HAM DINNER

Tuesday, October 21, 2008

**GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**827 CHURCH STREET**

## MENU:

Ham w/Raisin Sauce - Parsley Potatoes  
Carrots - Cole Slaw - Peas w/Pearl Onions  
Homemade Applesauce - Rolls and Butter  
Apple or Pumpkin Pie



\$9.00

**Adults**

\$5.00

**Children**

*Take-outs Starting at 3:30*

*Sit-down Dinner Starting at 4:30*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>October 2008</h1>			<p>Holy Communion - Saturdays at 5:00 PM, Sundays at 8:00 &amp; 11:00            Church School &amp; Adult Forum, Sundays at 10:00            Confirmation &amp; First Communion Class, following the 11:00 service            Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday &amp; Thursday 8:00-1:00</p>			
			<p>1 5:30pm TigersScouts 6:30 Cub Scout Com.</p> <p>( FATHER</p> <p>8</p> <p>15 5:00pm Webelos mtg 6:30 Cub Pack Night</p> <p>22 5:30 - Tigers mtg</p> <p>29</p>	<p>2 5:30 pm Wolves mtg</p> <p>ERB</p> <p>9 5:30pm Wolves mtg</p> <p>16 5:30pm Wolves mtg</p> <p>23 5:30pm Wolves mtg</p> <p>30 5:30pm Wolves mtg</p>	<p>3 AWAY)</p> <p>10 DIOCESAN CONVENTION</p> <p>17 24 31</p>	<p>4 5:00 St. Francis Day ANIMAL BLESSING in Central Park</p> <p>11 DIOCESAN CONVENTION</p> <p>Saturday Luncheon</p> <p>18 St. Luke's Day</p> <p>5:00 healing Service</p> <p>25 Saturday Luncheon</p> <p>SQUARE DANCE 7:30 to 10:30 pm</p>
<p>5 Pentecost 21(Pr22) ECW Lunch Meeting</p> <p>12 Pentecost 22(Pr23)</p> <p>19 Pentecost 23(Pr24)</p> <p>26 Pentecost 24(Pr25) Youth Group - Graveyard Hop</p>	<p>6 9:00 Staff mtg</p> <p>6:00 Pm - Middle Eastern Dance</p> <p>13 9:00 Staff mtg</p> <p>6:00 Pm-Middle Eastern Dance</p> <p>20 9:00 Staff mtg</p> <p>6:00 pm - Middle Eastern Dance</p> <p>27 9:00 Staff mtg.</p> <p>6:00 Pm - Middle Eastern Dance</p>	<p>7</p> <p>14 *HARVEST HOME DINNER(takeouts 3:30/sitdown 4:30)</p> <p>21 10:00 - 1:00 pm- Salvation Army Holiday signup</p> <p>28 7:00 VESTRY ??</p>	<p>1 5:30pm TigersScouts 6:30 Cub Scout Com.</p> <p>( FATHER</p> <p>8</p> <p>15 5:00pm Webelos mtg 6:30 Cub Pack Night</p> <p>22 5:30 - Tigers mtg</p> <p>29</p>	<p>2 5:30 pm Wolves mtg</p> <p>ERB</p> <p>9 5:30pm Wolves mtg</p> <p>16 5:30pm Wolves mtg</p> <p>23 5:30pm Wolves mtg</p> <p>30 5:30pm Wolves mtg</p>	<p>3 AWAY)</p> <p>10 DIOCESAN CONVENTION</p> <p>17 24 31</p>	<p>4 5:00 St. Francis Day ANIMAL BLESSING in Central Park</p> <p>11 DIOCESAN CONVENTION</p> <p>Saturday Luncheon</p> <p>18 St. Luke's Day</p> <p>5:00 healing Service</p> <p>25 Saturday Luncheon</p> <p>SQUARE DANCE 7:30 to 10:30 pm</p>



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## *ALL CREATURES GREAT & SMALL*

*BRING YOUR PYTHON, IGUANA, or PITT BULL  
(or cheshire cat, yorkshire terrior, or guinea pig)*

*for the Annual  
BLESSING of the ANIMALS*

*SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4<sup>th</sup>  
The Feast of St. Francis, patron saint of animals*

*and commit ourselves to the love and care of "All God's Critters"*

*We gather in Central Park (or the Parish House if weather is inclement) at 5:00 PM  
for this joyous celebration.*

*Treats for all: two-leggeds as well as four-legged, no legged and double-winged.*

*What variety of critters can we have?*

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# *Grace Notes*

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827 Church Street  
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*ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED*

*OCTOBER 2008*