

Pentecost-Advent 2006

## GRACE CHURCH 2020

*Deuteronomy 28:13 “And the Lord will make you the head and not the tail; and you shall tend upward only, and not downward; if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day, being careful to do them.”*

We have just completed the fall vestry retreat. We are visioning what we feel that God is calling Grace Church to become. We are going to have an overnight retreat in 2007 where vestry members and other stakeholders will be invited to participate. Here are some of the ideas that came out of the most recent retreat: Adult Daycare, Senior Citizen's Home, Inter-generational Day Care (Youth & Seniors), Athletic Facilities, Aquatic Center, New Sanctuary, New Location, Multiple Locations, Buses, Vans, Tractor-Trailers, and all of these items provided needed ministries. The world is changing rapidly: and those who fail to plan, are planning to fail. We are planning to not only succeed, but we plan on using an extraordinary resource: Almighty God. We want to fully realize our destiny. I read something recently: *Simple is not necessarily easy!* We are not just planning for 2020; we are praying and asking you to pray as well. This total process must be bathed in prayer, for to do something of significance requires the very power of God. Jesus said that *“greater works than these shall you do, because I am going the Father and anything that you ask in my name I will do.”* We are in the midst of your stewardship effort for the coming year. Stewardship really is a year round event, but often because in the Episcopal Church we do not speak a lot about money people do not think we need it. WE NEED IT. Please consider not just the distant future, but also our current needs when you complete your pledge card and as we near the end of the year peace catch up. We can do anything. We can do anything that we are committed to doing. Stewardship is really about what we are committed to doing with what God has placed in our sphere of influence: our lives, relationships, possessions and money. If we use them wisely then we will both live and leave a legacy. We are thankful for what God is doing in Grace Church today and we are also excited about what will happen in the lives of future generations. God Bless You and Yours. Peace and Love!

Father Harold James Cobb, Jr. D.D.