

The Grace Vine

April 2005

Rector's Writ

For many of us who are not cradle Episcopalians, this idea of Church "seasons" sometimes takes awhile to understand. In the secular world, our calendars and plans are made around work days, holidays, and vacations. People equate holidays with extra time off from school or work. Most of us have friends or relatives who celebrate holidays by going to visit family; going shopping; going to the beach...while going to Church isn't part of the plan.

I can't think that God meant worship to be an option for a busy schedule or squeezed in when we have time. Worship is part of our proper observance of holy days. It's an expression of our gratitude; our willingness to praise and give thanks to the God who is willing to GIVE us what we cannot earn or deserve. Church is where we go and worship is what we do to embrace the hope God gives us; to keep our faith strong when life gets chaotic; to be fed with "spiritual food" followed by a serenity that cannot be found anywhere else. It's a serenity we cannot describe; a trust and quiet joy that streams from God's love for us, our love for God, our love for one another in the hope Christ has given us.

One of the good things about the seasons of our Church year is that they go beyond a one day celebration. I like to think God gives us some time to let the message of his love and grace soak through our mind and into our soul and being. In this Easter season may we acknowledge the wonder, mystery, and meaning; giving thanks for the love and grace of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

"O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen."

(Collect for the 6th Sunday of Easter, Book of Common Prayer)

***Easter season blessings to you & those
you love. Alleluia, Alleluia.***

Service and Lay Ministry Schedule

If you cannot serve when scheduled, please find a substitute and call the parish office with that person's name. Thank you for sharing in the liturgical ministry of Grace Church.

Sun. April 3—8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist—2nd Easter	
<p>Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. William Snyder Lay Reader: Judy Canan Greeters: Sandee West & Betty Russell Acolytes: Julie Canan & Katie Ahrens Shepherd: 8:00 Roberta O'Keefe, 10:00 Stephanie Higgins Altar Guild: Linda Gaboury & TBD Coffee Hosts: 8:00 Joan & Frank Seman 10:00 Leslie & Colin Thomas Counters: Addrienne Conway & Pat Williams Loyalton: Maynard Evans</p>	<p>1st Reading Acts 2:14a,22-32 Steve Barna</p> <p>Psalm 118:19-24</p> <p>2nd Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9 Tim Splinter</p> <p>Gospel John 20:19-31</p>
Sun. April 10—8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist—3rd Easter	
<p>Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. Jim Wichman Lay Reader: Bette Brooks Greeters: Fred & Nancy Lundgren Acolytes: Julie Canan & Chelsea Postlethwaite Shepherd: 8:00 Lloyd O'Keefe, 10:00 Leslie Thomas Altar Guild: Linda Gaboury & TBD Coffee Hosts: 8:00 TBD 10:00 John & Mary Jean McDonald Counters: Addrienne Conway & Pat Williams Loyalton: Judy Canan</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8:00 Melissa Strainer</p> <p>1st Reading Acts 2:14a,36-47 Dennis Dier</p> <p>Psalm 116:10-17</p> <p>2nd Reading 1 Peter 1:17-23 Kathy Summy</p> <p>Gospel Luke 24:13-35</p>
Sun. April 17—8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist—4th Easter	
<p>Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. William Snyder Lay Reader: Carolyn Englert Greeters: John & Mary Jean McDonald Acolytes: Paige Thomas & Katie Ahrens Shepherd: 8:00 Jean Mercer, 10:00 Judy Canan Altar Guild: Linda Gaboury & TBD Coffee Hosts: 8:00 TBD 10:00 Nancy & Fred Lundgren Counters: Addrienne Conway & Pat Williams Loyalton: Bill Snyder</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8:00 Melissa Strainer</p> <p>1st Reading Acts 6:1-9;7:2a,51-60 John Machisko</p> <p>Psalm 23</p> <p>2nd Reading 1 Peter 2:19-25 Laura Price</p> <p>Gospel John 10:1-10</p>

The kitchen supplies need to be restocked to cover the Sunday coffee hours. Nancy Ervin needs donations of:

- Napkins
- Regular and Decaf. Coffee
- Cremora
- Paper Towels

Donations can be placed in the Kitchen.
 Thank you very much.

County Clothing Center Fashion Flair

Annual show of clothing available at the Center,
 modeled by students and young adults.

April 9th - 4 to 7 pm

\$2.50 advance tickets from Quay's
 \$3.00 at the door

Quays are taking donations to put together a basket
 to be auctioned as part of the fund raising.

Sun. April 24—10:00am only Holy Eucharist—5th Easter—Bishop Bowman's Visit

<p>Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. James Wichman Lay Reader: Maynard Evans Greeters: Bud Minnich & Jim Ervin Acolytes: Emily Neely—Bishop's Asst., Paige Thomas Clergy Cross, Katie Ahren Proc. Cross, Julie Canan & Emily Summy Torch 1, Chelsea & Cory Postlethwaite Torch 2 Altar Guild: Linda Gabourey & TBD Coffee Hosts: Covered Dish Dinner Counters: Addrienne Conway & Pat Williams Loyalton: Carolyn Englert</p>	<p>1st Reading Acts 17:1-15 Tim Splinter</p> <p>Psalm 66:1-8</p> <p>2nd Reading 1 Peter 2:1-10 Steve Barna</p> <p>Gospel John 14:1-14</p>
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Sun. May 1—8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist—6th Easter

<p>Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. William Snyder Lay Reader: Judy Canan Greeters: TBD Acolytes: Emily Neely & Katie Ahrens Shepherd: 8:00 Roberta O'Keefe, 10:00—Stephanie Higgins Altar Guild: Barb Popiel & Nancy Ervin Coffee Hosts: Kelly and Ron Postlethwaite Counters: Addrienne Conway & Ron Postlethwaite Loyalton: Jim Wichman</p>	<p>8:00 Roberta O'Keefe</p> <p>1st Reading Acts 17:22-31 Bud Minnich</p> <p>Psalm 148:7-14</p> <p>2nd Reading 1 Peter 3:8-18 Maynard Evans</p> <p>Gospel John 15:1-8</p>
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**The Bishop is Coming!
The Bishop is Coming!**

On April 24th Bishop David Bowman will be here at Grace Church for the laying on of hands for confirmation and renewal of vows.

For anyone interested in Confirmation or Renewal of Vows, please see Rev. Carol.

There will be only a 10:00 am service on that day with a covered dish dinner to follow. Please, once again, let us welcome Bishop Bowman to Grace Church.

**Worship Leader
and
Eucharistic Minister Training
(aka. Lay Reader and
Chalice Bearer)**

April 16, 2005 from 10:00am until 3:00pm at Trinity, Alliance with The Rev. Gretchen Willer. Lunch will be provided for a freewill donation or you can bring your own.

To register, see Rev. Carol.

Did You Know?..

By Marsha Snyder

...this year has been a real challenge for our church family. So many have died including **Martha Harris, Jim Capriola, Ellsworth (JR) Canan, Mary Lou Boydell, Jane Barclay, and Anne Hoskins**, leaving many of us wondering, "What's going on?" And this only the middle of March! Yikes!! Our hearts and love go out to all these family members, and may the peace of our Lord be upon them...many thanks to **Nancy Ervin and the hospitality committee** for doing such a wonderful job with all the receptions that have been necessary. As always this parish has come through, making all welcomed and well fed...on a happy note, **Cora Pierce** was excited to announce the birth of a grandson, **Andrew McCord**, born to her daughter **Meralie and Andrew Pocock** on February 27 at 3:25 a.m. Andrew was 23 inches long and weighed nine pounds four ounces. According to Cora, "He's beautiful!"...I know this is hard to believe but, **Rev. Carol, Larry Thomas and Steve Barna** are all recovering from rotator cuff surgery. They have been comparing their therapy, level of pain, and progress. We hope they are all feeling chipper real soon...The G.E.M. (Growth, Evangelism, and Membership) committee and members of Vestry met with **The Rev. Lee Dominic**, from the Church of the Ascension, Lakewood, for a lesson on Evangelism. So---as a result of this meeting we hope to implement some of his suggestions. We're very excited about the possibilities. So hold on to your hats, this isn't just for committee members and Vestry, we'll all have to share in this responsibility. But, it's very exciting and will be rewarding in the long run. After all, our function here is to bring the "Good News" to our neighbors, friends and community...I hope all of you have been looking for the ad in the Record Courier each Tuesday during

Lent. They are wonderful!! Thanks to the members of our parish who have donated the funds for this project; we're happy to see that evangelism isn't just important to one committee and vestry, but to every person in the pews...an adult class will be taking place soon, it will consist of a 4-5 week session, including dinner and lessons, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Thanks to **Goldie Shriver**, our childcare provider, who allows all those with young children to participate in this experience. Be looking for more information. This type of adult education was tried between Christmas and Lent and was very successful, with an average of 14 people attending with about 7 children in attendance. We hope to have more people involved this time around...the choir is happy to hear that **Cathy Mansor** will be completing her Masters Degree in April. It will be so nice to have her back in the choir loft again...**Bill Snyder** went to Minnesota to help son **Luke** work on the home he bought. Luke's wife-to-be, **Alex Orth**, will be arriving from Germany on March 21st and Dad's been told everything has to be done before that date. Good luck boys!...the Lenten Soup Suppers with the Lutheran Church have had their share of bad weather, it seems every Wednesday we've had a storm...many thanks to **Tim Splinter** who has been publishing the Grace Vine, not that you haven't noticed the difference, it's just we need to acknowledge who's responsible. Thanks for a wonderful job Tim! Remember that the 15th of each month will be the Grace Vine deadline. All the information will be given to the office...Sunday, April 24th we will have a visit from **Bishop Bowman**. If you're interested in Confirmation this will be the time to talk with Rev. Carol. There will be only one service and a covered dish dinner to follow. Be there!! ... **Sue Ahrens** is happy to announce that her nephew **Steve Ahrens** returned home from Iraq on Feb. 11th. Family members went to Columbus to celebrate with Steve and his wife this homecoming. Steve thanks everyone for their prayers...believe this or not--**Barb Popiel** is leaving for two weeks on a safari hunt, as an observer. (She's not doing any of the shooting -- thanks be to God!) But, Barb will be on a plane for 17 hours and then spent six days in the bush. This is not the picture I see when I look at sweet, little, quiet Barb Popiel. Good luck!!...received a letter from **Phyllis Shorts** to say **Bill** is back on the mend after spending two days in the hospital with pneumonia, and for that we are all grateful.

Congratulations!

and many happy returns!

Birthdays

3-Sonja Sherwood
4-Larry Thomas
6-Laura Price
11-Cory Postlethwaite
12-Billy T. Johnson
12-Sally Wolf-Langan
13-Pauline Reed
20-Sue Ahrens
22-Joan Pringle
23-Bernice McCauslin
23-Charles Marks
25-Julia Canan
28-Marcia Splinter

Baptisms

1-Phyllis Shorts
2-Dennis Dier
4-Jennifer Golec
4-Melissa Strainer
4-Tracy Shriver
4-Betty Capriola
5-William D. Snyder
7-Dale Espey
9-Jim Ervin
10-Jamie Popiel
11-Bruce Ahrens
12-Julia Canan
12-Sally Wolf Langan

13-Amelia K. Golec
18-Shirley Johnson
18-Corbin Baker
19-Billy T. Johnson
29-Pauline Reed

Anniversaries

17-Dean & Valerie Hugebeck
20-Jim & Nancy Ervin
24-Bob & Debbie Haag

*Dear Friends at Grace
Church,*

*Thank you so very much
for your generous
support this past month
with donations. Once
again you didn't let us
down. The children were
thrilled with all the
"new" stuff. Thanks from
all of them and me.*

Marsha Barna

Public Appeals and Announcements

Catholic Charities of Portage County

I would like an opportunity to introduce the First Step All Baby Resources program of Catholic Charities of Portage County to your church and your missions group. Our program serves low income mothers with support and supplies. We offer clothing up to size 3, diapers, formula, and other baby items. We exist solely on donations from local churches. Whatever is donated to the program is what we are able to offer, free of charge, to our clients.

Our clients range from teen mothers, still living at home with their parents, to married couples with financial difficulties. In addition to material support, we offer information, referrals, and someone to talk to, who cares about them. A client does not need a religious affiliation to be served by Catholic Charities.

I would love an opportunity to discuss with you some of the ways that your congregation could help support and enrich the lives of young children in Portage County. I can be reached at my office at 330-297-7745, Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 4:30. I hope to from you soon.

Sincerely,
Denise Tarver
Family Advocate, First Step

Center of Hope

Once again we ask you to help us feed those who are hungry. This is the time of the year that donations are down, but needs are still great.

For the seventh straight year, Alan Feinstein is offering \$1,000,000 to be divided proportionally among non-profit agencies to fight hunger. The more donations we receive the larger our share of the money will be!!! All donations received from March 1st to April 30th will count toward the Feinstein Challenge.

Thank you for all that you do to help the Center of Hope families.

Have a Heart... Volunteer

Hospice Volunteers are ordinary people who give extra-ordinarily of their time and talents to people in need. It is not necessary to have experience in working with people who have a life-limiting illness to become a Hospice Volunteer. Volunteers uphold the basic hospice philosophy of enhancing the quality of life for our patients, while helping them maintain dignity. Compassion, reliability, and a non-judgmental approach are essential qualities. Our volunteers provide a wide variety of services based on each patient's and family's particular needs and desires.

We are especially seeking at this time, volunteers for respite care (providing relief time for the caregiver) and vigil volunteers (providing support to families when it appears death is imminent). Other opportunities are available as well: Special Events, Speakers Bureau, Nursing Home Teams, Bereavement Support, Office Assistance, Delivery Service, Spiritual Care Volunteers, Volunteer Attorney, and Phone Support.

Every Volunteer is provided the necessary training and support needed through the Hospice Team and Coordinator. Training sessions begin Saturday, April 9, 2005.

For more information, please call:

Bernadette Thomas
Volunteer Coordinator of
Robinson Memorial Hospital Visiting Nurse and Hospice
330-297-8899
bthomas@rmh2.org

Upcoming Events

Episcopal Church Women

All Women of the Deanery of the Western Reserve are invited to the...

ECW Spring Luncheon

at

Grace Episcopal Church, Ravenna

Wednesday, April 13, 2005

9:30 Registration

10:00 Eucharist

11:00 Business Meeting

Noon Lunch

1:00 Program

Cost: \$6.00 per person

Speaker: Carolyn Englert

Subject: Dolls

April 9th Deadline for Reservations

Please call Marsha Snyder at 330-296-3443 or 330-296-5143

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- **Planned Giving Seminar with Tom Austin & Lawyer:** April 10th, 5pm at St Timothy's, Macedonia. The entire Deanery is invited to attend.
 - **Worship Leader & Eucharistic Minister (Chalice Bearer) Training:** April 16th, 10am to 3pm, Trinity, Alliance (New this year, training may also be done by parish clergy using materials from Liturgy & Music Commission)
 - **Health & Spirituality Workshop:** April 9th, 8:30-2:00, Trinity Cathedral
 - **Reconciliation Conference:** Mt. Holyoke, Mass, April 25th-28th. Rector & Deacon will attend with 30+ people from the Diocese of Ohio.
 - **Diocesan ECW Meeting:** May 9th-11th, Holiday Inn, Wadsworth. Grace to host the Bishop's Reception on the 10th.
 - **May 7th:** Mother's Day Flower Sale
 - **May 21st:** Mexican Fiesta Dinner Buffet
 - **Spring Fling Cleaning Day:** Kay Canan & Youth/Children will clean a parishioner's yard, depending on weather. Need parishioners to sign up.
 - **J.A.M.:** July 30th & 31st. Preschool and Grade School in AM. Older kids for Saturday Sleepover

New Email and Website Addresses for Grace Church

**We have switched to a new
Internet provider. Please take
note of the new addresses.**

Email:

gracerav@vipppn.com

Web Site:

www.vipppn.com/~gracerav

April

The Grace Vine

2005

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 2 Easter •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:15 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	4	5	6 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	7 •1:30-2:30 Bible Study •7:30-9:00 Choir Practice	8	9 •10am Hunger Action Committee Meeting •3pm Acolyte Meeting
10 3 Easter •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:15 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	11	12	13 •9-1:30 ECW Deanery Spring Luncheon •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	14 •1:30-2:30 Bible Study •7:30-9:00 Choir Practice	15 •10-2 County Clothing Center	16
17 4 Easter •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:15 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	18	19 •7pm Vestry Meeting	20 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •6pm Healing Service & Eucharist	21 •8am Retired Men's Breakfast •1:30-2:30 Bible Study •7:30-9:00 Choir Practice	22	23
24 5 Easter Bishop's Visitation •9:15 Choir •10am ONLY-HE •11:30 Covered Dish Reception	25	26	27 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	28 •1:30-2:30 Bible Study •7:30-9:00 Choir Practice	29	30