



The Grace Vine

April 2008

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 something to be squeezed in only when it's convenient. 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" which comforts us with 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, and our love for one another based on the hope...and the example...Christ has given us.

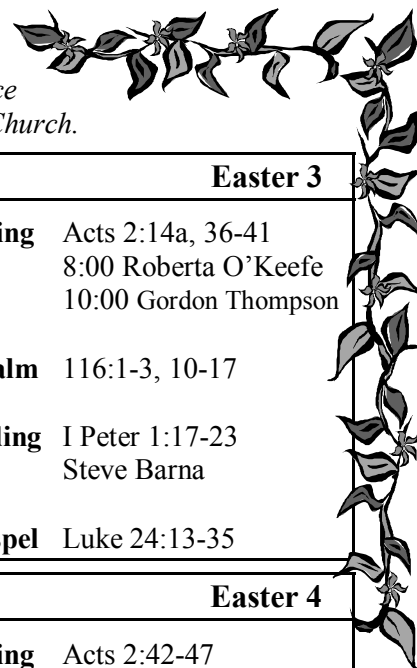
One of the good things about the seasons of our Church year is that they go beyond a one day celebration. I like to think God gives us some time to let the message of his love and grace soak through our mind and into our soul and being. In this Easter season of new life and hope, may we acknowledge the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



Service and Lay Ministry Schedule

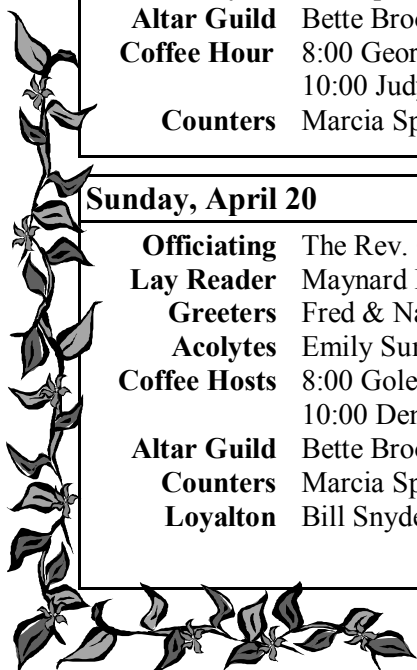
If you cannot serve when scheduled, please find a substitute and call the parish office with that person's name. Thank you for sharing in the liturgical ministry of Grace Church.



Sunday, April 6		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	Easter 3
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans		1st Reading Acts 2:14a, 36-41 8:00 Roberta O'Keefe 10:00 Gordon Thompson Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17 2nd Reading I Peter 1:17-23 Steve Barna Gospel Luke 24:13-35
Lay Reader	Bette Brooks		
Greeters	John & Mary Jean McDonald		
Acolyte	Schyler Conway		
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Amy Neely		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Frank & Joan Seman 10:00 Jim & Nancy Ervin		
Counters	Marcia Splinter & Fred Lundgren		
Loyalton	Maynard Evans		

Sunday, April 13		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	Easter 4
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans		1st Reading Acts 2:42-47 Cathy Mansor Psalm 23 2nd Reading I Peter 2:19-25 Tim Splinter Gospel John 10:1-10
Deacon	The Rev. William D. Snyder		
Lay Reader	Carolyn Englert		
Greeters	Julie & Kay Canan		
Acolytes	Eric Splinter		
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Amy Neely		
Coffee Hour	8:00 George Furrer 10:00 Judy Canan & Kay Canan		
Counters	Marcia Splinter & Fred Lundgren		

Sunday, April 20		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	Easter 5
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans		1st Reading Acts 7:55-60 8:00 Roberta O'Keefe 10:00 Kathy Summy Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 2nd Reading I Peter 2:2-10 Bud Minnich Gospel John 14:1-14
Lay Reader	Maynard Evans		
Greeters	Fred & Nancy Lundgren		
Acolytes	Emily Summy & Taylor Paxton		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Golec/Lallathin 10:00 Denise Crouse & Chris Stickle		
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Amy Neely		
Counters	Marcia Splinter & Fred Lundgren		
Loyalton	Bill Snyder		



Dear Grace Church family,

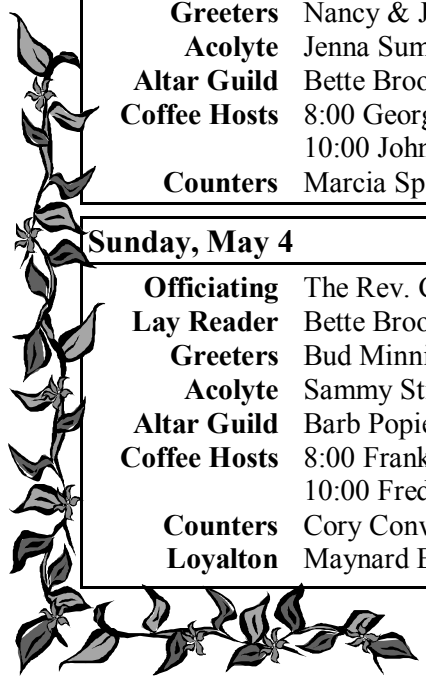
I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful, loving and kind members of Grace Episcopal Church. Words cannot fairly express how overcome with emotion I have felt in regards to all the support shown and given to Amelia for her Ambassador trip. I am so very proud of her. I am very grateful to all and am proud to say my family is a member at Grace Episcopal Church.

Thanks again. God Bless.

Jennifer Golec



Sunday, April 27		8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	Easter 6
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans		1st Reading Acts 17: 22-31 Carolyn Englert Psalm 66:7-18 2nd Reading I Peter 3:13-22 Gordon Thompson Gospel John 14:15-21
Deacon	The Rev. William Snyder		
Lay Reader	Judy Canan		
Greeters	Nancy & Jim Ervim		
Acolyte	Jenna Summy		
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Amy Neely		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 George Furrer 10:00 John & Mary Jean McDonald		
Counters	Marcia Splinter & Fred Lundgren		
Sunday, May 4		8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	Easter 7
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans		1st Reading Acts 1:6-14 Steve Barna Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36 2nd Reading I Peter 4:12-14; 5:6:11 Tim Splinter Gospel John 17:1-11
Lay Reader	Bette Brooks		
Greeters	Bud Minnich & Gary Bell		
Acolyte	Sammy Stickle & Julie Canan		
Altar Guild	Barb Popiel & Cindy Hoskins		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Frank & Joan Seman 10:00 Fred & Nancy Lundgren		
Counters	Cory Conway & Bette Brooks		
Loyalton	Maynard Evans		



God's Coffee

A group of alumni, each highly established in their careers, got together to visit their old university professor. Conversation soon turned into complaints about stress in work and life. Offering his guests coffee, the professor went to the kitchen and returned with a large pot of coffee and an assortment of cups...porcelain, plastic, glass, crystal...some plain, some expensive, some exquisite...telling them to help themselves.

When all the students had a cup of coffee in hand, the professor said: "If you noticed, all the nice looking, expensive cups were taken up, leaving behind the cheap and plain ones. While it is normal for you to want only the best for yourselves, that is the source of your problems and stress."

"Be assured that the cup itself adds no quality to the coffee. In most cases it is just more expensive and in some cases even hides what we drink. What all of you really wanted was coffee, not the cup, but you consciously went for the best cups...and then you began eyeing each other's cups."

"Now consider this: Life is the coffee. The jobs, money and position in society are the cups. They are just tools to hold and contain Life. The type of cup we have does not define nor change the quality of the Life we live."

Sometimes, by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the coffee. God brews coffee, he doesn't make the cups...Enjoy your coffee!





Did You Know?...



The weather has been the real story here at Grace, as in everywhere in northeastern Ohio. The weekend of the "big storm" thirteen brave souls arrived at the 8:00 AM service and 23 came to the 10:00 AM service. It was great considering many churches in our area closed for the day...

The youth had an over-night on March 8th, with over 20 youth attending. Some of their art works hung in the parish hall. Hope you checked it out! When we arrived for services on Sunday morning, you could certainly tell which one of the parents spent the night. The children were bright eyed and bushy tailed---but the parents. Wow! See what a few years and 20 children will do to you...

We had a very successful Lenten study this year. The five Wednesdays of Lent were set aside for Bible study and we had about 10-12 adults attending along with some of their children. A supper of soup, bread, fruit, and usually some kind of desert was served. Thanks to everyone who supplied the food that filled our stomachs and to the facilitators who fed our souls. And a special thanks to our ever-faithful sitter, Goldie Shriver, (some of the very young children think this is where she lives, it's been known to be called "Goldie's house").

Over the years we've been blessed with wonderful Junior Wardens, like Dennis Dier and Cory Conway, just to name a few; and now John McDonald has this daunting job. John got a work crew together and they painted the halls in the Christian Education wing. Thanks to Fred Lundgren, Mike Johnson, Steve Barna, Cory Conway, and Addrienne Conway for all their hard work. It looks wonderful, clean and bright!...

But even better than the halls, the church office was painted and the old wallpaper removed. It looks great!! Thanks John and friends...

Sue and Bruce Ahrens went to Massachusetts to visit with daughter Sonja and her family during Holy Week...

Alice and Ken Boydell will be moving into their new home, just around the corner of where they live now, but a smaller more manageable place for them. But the many years of accumulations has really kept them busy. They will be having a Tag Sale at their home on April 19th and 20th. I'm sure there will be some great bargains. Check it out!! Their new address will be 4877 Forest Glen Trail, Ravenna. They plan to be in their new home the middle of April...

Thanks to Shirley Johnson for making the beautiful cards that were sent to our shut-ins and those who are away. They are beautiful...

Nancy Lundgren and daughter Lisa Paxton will be heading for Texas to visit with their son/brother and his family. The Nancy & Lisa will have a great time just the two of them. What fun...

Larry Thomas is on the mend after his surgery, we hope he has a speedy recovery. It's been a long time coming...

Linda and Burt Stover are taking a vacation without the boys (all teenagers) and Linda has asked grandparents Mary and Larry Harper to come and spent time with the boys. Good idea.

Please give any information you'd like to see in the Did You Know to Tim Splinter or Marsha Snyder.

Birthdays

- 3rd Sonja Sherwood
- 4th Larry Thomas
- 11th Cory Postlethwaite
- 12th Cathy Mansor
- Billy T. Johnson
- Phillip Rich
- 13th Kathy Summy
- 20th Sue Ahrens
- 23rd Bernice McCauslin
- 25th Julia Canan
- 29th Marcia Splinter



Baptisms

- 1st Phyllis Shorts
- 2nd Dennis Dier
- 4th Jennifer Golec
- Melissa Strainer
- Tracy Shriver
- Betty Capriola
- 5th Bill Snyder
- 7th Dale Espey
- 9th Jim Ervin
- 10th Jamie Popiel
- 11th Bruce Ahrens
- 12th Sally Wolf Langan

Congratulations!

and many happy returns...



Anniversaries

20-Jim & Nancy Ervin

On the Horizon

Saturday April 12th Fellowship & Game Night Splinter's House

6:30 pm

After canceling last month because of the snow, we'll try again at Splinter's house in Garrettsville.

April

Bishop's Blend Sale

We'll be putting in another order for Bishop's Blend during April to sell some more or just re-supply your own cupboard.

May 10th 2008 Flower Sale

This was an amazing success last year and we hope to do even better this year. Look for "new and improved" pre-order sheets in early April. Every order helps and they really do add up quickly.

Saturday May 18th Fellowship & Game Night

If anyone else is interested in hosting at their house, let us know. Otherwise we'll return to the traditional parish hall. Now that things are warming up, that works just fine anyway.

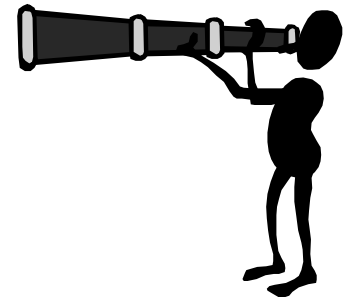
Saturday July 12th Multi-Church Rummage Sale

The church's of Ravenna will be having a collective Rummage Sale day in July. Each church will have it's own sale, but they will be advertised collectively to attract a larger crowd. You can get your own table or donate items to the church for general sale.

October Christian Ed Retreat

A reminder that the Youth Group has "Satin Hands" kits from Mary Kay still for sale. Several of the ladies have tried them and love the results...

See Stephanie York or Addrienne Conway about them.



ECW Deanery Spring Luncheon

**April 24, 2008
Christ Church
21 Aurora Street
Hudson, Ohio**

**Hospitality 10:00 am
Meeting with election of officers 10:30 am
Eucharist 11:00 am
Luncheon 12:00
\$8.00 per person**

Sign up in the parish hall.



The Bulletin Board

The County Clothing Center is sponsoring
an auction called

"Desks by Design"

April 18, 2008

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

American Legion Hall, 1945 Mogadore Rd., Kent
Hors d'oeuvres, dessert and wine will be served

KSU donated desks from Terrance Hall and they were
transformed by community artists into works of art.

There will be a preview at Daltons, in Kent on April 4th
\$25.00 per ticket

A silent auction will be held featuring gift baskets, glass
art, and a handmade quilt, limited edition Longaberger bas-
kets, and much more.

Proceeds will be used to purchase a used truck enabling the
center to pick up larger items.

*In the wake of the Bishop's visit and
the lunch we all shared after, this
little thought came in for the
Grace Vine...*

Thank God for dirty dishes,
They have a tale to tell.

While others may go hungry,
We're eating very well.

With home, health and happiness,
I shouldn't want to fuss.

By the stack of evidence,
God's been very good to us.

EMAIL Correction...

Pat and Perry William's email was
incorrect in the latest directory. The
'n' between their names was missing.

patperrywms@aol.com