



The Grace Vine

April 2013

Rector's Writ

One of our seminary professors once reminded us that joy increases when shared while sorrow and troubles are lessened when shared. At its best, the Church family is to be about both. On Good Friday we remember the difficulties and disappointments that Jesus endured as he suffered through the trial and crucifixion. Then on Easter and following we hear about the surprise of finding an empty tomb and the outright joy Jesus' friends and disciples share when the risen Lord appears to them.

Part of the joy disciples then and now receive comes from knowing we're not condemned, but redeemed. Jesus could have found fault with his disciples. He could have reminded them how they all abandoned him; how they were firm in talking about being faithful, but their actual practice of faith fell short. We struggle with the same good intentions that aren't always acted upon or carried out. That frequent or occasional gap between the person we want to become and the person we are is filled only by God's grace. Jesus is not about fault finding or condemning, but about redemption and making all things new. If we're willing to seek the Lord and give ourselves to God's will for our lives, the Holy One who finds us and guides us knows we need his help and grace.

In our study of *The Shack*, the main character, Mack, and Jesus are having a talk about systems: religious, economic, social, political. Jesus tells Mack that those who love and follow him come from "every system that exists...Buddhists...Mormons...Baptists...Muslims...Democrats, Republicans...bankers and bookies." Mack asks him, "Does that mean that all roads will lead to you?" And Jesus responds, "Not at all. What it does mean is that I will travel any road to find you." (Ch. 12, p. 182 *The Shack*, by William P. Young) It's an insightful difference.

The roads of life can be hopeful, joyful, difficult, disappointing. No matter what road we're on or what transitions we face, our joy and our trust is in the unchanging Lord and Son of God; the Holy One who finds us, loves us, redeems us, and welcomes us to God's family.

May your Easter season be filled with our
Lord's blessings, peace, and joy.

Carol +



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 7		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	2 Easter
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Acts 5:27-32 Nancy Lundgren
Lay Reader	8:00 Bette Brooks 10:00 Carolyn Englert	Psalm	150
Greeter	Fred & Nancy Lundgren	2nd Reading	Revelation 1:4-8 Fred Lundgren
Acolyte	Cathy Mansor	Gospel	John 20:19-31
Altar Guild	Joan Seman & Amy Neely		
Coffee Hour	8:00 Joan & Frank Seman 10:00 Chris Stickle & Loretta Reigelman		
Counters	Steve Merrell & Reba Cook		
Emeritus	Kathy Summy		

Sunday, April 14		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	3 Easter
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Acts 9:1-20 Tim Splinter
Deacon	8:00 The Rev. William Snyder 10:00 Roberta O'Keefe	Psalm	30
Greeters	John & Mary Jean McDonald	2nd Reading	Revelation 5:11-14 Kathy Summy
Acolyte	Eric Splinter	Gospel	John 21:1-19
Altar Guild	Joan Seman & Amy Neely		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Midge Myers 10:00 Fred & Nancy Lundgren		
Counters	Steve Merrill & Reba Cook		

Sunday, April 21		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	4 Easter
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Acts 9:36-43 Jeff Croll
Lay Reader	8:00 Bette Brooks 10:00 Nancy Lundgren	Psalm	23
Greeters	Nancy & Jim Ervin	2nd Reading	Revelation 7:9-17 Martha Croll
Acolyte	Jeff Marsh	Gospel	John 10:22-30
Altar Guild	Joan Seman & Amy Neely		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Rick Lashley & Debbie Shorts 10:00 John & Mary Jean McDonald		
Counters	Steve Merrill & Reba Cook		
Emeritus	Bill Snyder		

Acolytes Schedule

Check these dates now so we can make any changes before we publish next month:

5/12—Eric

5/19—Jeff

5/26—Kevin

6 /2—Cathy

Tim@splinterfactions.net

Marcia@splinterfactions.net

330-527-2084

Sunday, April 28		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist		5 Easter	
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Acts 11:1-18		
Deacon	8:00 The Rev. William Snyder 10:00 Nancy Lundgren		Maynard Evans		
Greeters	Steve & Susan Merrill	Psalm	148		
Acolyte	Kevin Splinter	2nd Reading	Revelation 21:1-6		
Altar Guild	Joan Seman & Amy Neely		Cathy Mansor		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Stephanie & Amir Amiruzzaman 10:00 Nancy & Jim Ervin	Gospel	John 13:31-35		
Counters	Steve Merrill & Reba Cook				

Sunday, May 5		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist		6 Easter	
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Acts 16:9-15		
Lay Reader	8:00 Bette Brooks 10:00 Carolyn Englert		Kathy Summy		
Greeters	David Miller & Alex Wroblewski	Psalm	67		
Acolyte	Cathy Mansor	2nd Reading	Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5		
Altar Guild	Joan Seman & Barb Popiel		Tim Splinter		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Joan & Frank Seman 10:00 Chris Stickle & Loretta Reigelman	Gospel	John 14:23-29		
Counters	John McDonald & Frank Seman				
Emeritus	Kathy Summy				

From the Deacon's Desk -

Fishing in the Bible

As most of you know I love to fish and I find it very interesting how many times fishing is mentioned in the Bible. The fishing season is almost upon us and I'd like to share just a few things I've found out about fish and fishermen in the Bible.

Several methods to catch fish were used hook, net, and spear. Fish caught in the Mediterranean were often brought to ports such as Tyre and Sidon.

Fish were preserved in salt and brought to Jerusalem where they were sold at the "Fish Gate". Theologically fish caught in a net symbolized God's judgment (Psalm 66:11, & Ezekiel 32:3). Jesus mentioned fishing when he called his disciples to witness (Matthew 4:18-19). The fish has also become a Christian symbol.

Fisherman's Prayer

Dear Father, give me strength
to fish for many years to come.
Help me to use good sportsmanship,
and also to have fun.

And when the final cast is made,
and the fishing pole laid down,
I'll say "thank you" with a smile, Dear God,
and never with a frown.

Please catch me in your landing net
to take my final sleep.

And then, Oh God may I be judged
as big enough to keep.

(Author unknown)

Deacon Bill Snyder



Did You Know?...



John & Mary Jean McDonald were in Arizona the first of March to see their new granddaughter, **Christiana**. The first child of **Andy and Cheryl**, and of course she's just beautiful, and Mary Jean did get her "baby fix", but still hated to leave her. Andy accepted a job offer with a company in Wisconsin and they will soon be moving. It will be nice to be closer to home for Andy but Cheryl's an Arizona girl and she might not find the Wisconsin winters all that interesting...

Shirley Johnson was off to California to visit with her daughter **Susan** and family. When her plane landed she phoned **Mike** to let him know the temperature was 81 degrees, not fair Shirley. Shirley enjoys walking at the Rose Bowl to help keep her in shape. While she was gone Mike did a nice job serving the 8:00 folks coffee hour...

Amir and Stephanie Amiruzzaman traveled to Stephanie's home town near Lima, Ohio, to attend her father's 50th birthday party. The family planned a surprise party for Dad and they actually succeeded in surprising him. Not as easy task!...

Alice Boydell spent a weekend looking for condos in Mason, Ohio and found a beautiful place for her to live. We'll be sorry to see her leave, but it sounds like that's the place for her; she'll be closer to her daughter and sister...

The Lenten Study Group really enjoyed the discussion of the book *The Shack*; there was a lot to think about and looking at our relationships with God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit in different ways. Those who participated were: **The Rev. Carol Evans, Tony and Toni Worthen, Midge Myers, Mechele Novak, Martha Croll, Dennis Dier, Sue Ahrens, Marcia Splinter, Judy Canan, Kay Canan, Loretta Reigelman, Mike & Shirley Johnson, and Bill & Marsha Snyder**. Those that led the discussions were: **Bill Snyder, Martha Croll, Sue Ahrens and Marcia Splinter**. The light meals were prepared by **Toni & Tony Worthen, Sally & Dennis Dier, Shirley & Mike Johnson, Marsha & Bill Snyder, and Sue Ahrens...**

Thanks to everyone who participated in the first Youth Group Sunday soup and salad luncheon. They sold 35 lunches and plan to have lunch for the parish the first Sunday of every month. Thanks to **Chris Stickle, Loretta Reigelman, Kathy Summy, Lisa Paxton, Wilda Autry, Stacey Scibelli, and Lane and Wilda Autry** for making a wonderful lunch. We can't wait for next month...

Linda Stover was proud to say all three of her sons; **Ryan, Eli, and Jake** are enrolled at Kent State...

The ECW has volunteered to make the Easter Candy this year. We got together on two Saturdays and a lot of work was completed by some very energetic people, some young – some not so young. A special thanks to **Phil and Courtney Rich** for the use of their molds, picking up all the supplies, and making all the chocolate covered peeps and chocolate covered Oreo cookies. And thanks to **Carolyn Englert** who made more chocolate covered pretzels. We couldn't keep them in stock.

Among those who came to help were **Carolyn Englert, Kay Canan, Nancy Ervin, Shirley Johnson, Mary Jean McDonald, Midge Myers, Pat Williams, Courtney Rich, Maggie Rich, Philip Rich, Roberta O'Keefe, and Marsha Snyder**. And thank you to everyone who placed their orders with us...

"If you're calling me you better be praying for me", was the opening response to a phone call placed by **Rev. Carol to Chris Stickle**. Chris wasn't having a particularly good day. No kidding!! She was on her way to the dentist office and couldn't find her car keys; she thought they were locked in her car. She had to get a lock smith to open her car door – they were not there. One of her students placed her keys in the classroom closet. She didn't make it to the dentist...

Mike Ervin's 9 year old daughter **Emily** is playing for a traveling basketball team, the Lady Ravens. Mike offered Emily \$5.00 for every basket she can make; the first game she made 7 baskets and 8 baskets at the next game – as you can see this is going to be a pretty expensive venture for Mike. But keep up the good work Emily...

Jenna Summy attended "Happening" last month. Happening is a Diocesan sponsored weekend that is a spiritual experience for those attending. Jenna had a wonderful time and was really surprised to find out her big sister **Emily** was there to be part of her experience...

Our prayers are with the **Conway family**. Cory's father **Tom** died on Saturday, March 9th. As most of you know Cory and Addrienne now live in Kansas. Cory received a call from his sister that their father wasn't doing well and he should come home. Cory traveled the thirteen hours to be with his father. He was on his way back to Kansas when he was a half hour from home he received the call that said he had passed away, so Cory turned around and headed back to Ravenna...

The Sit & Stitch group made aprons for the Hospitality group and we thank them for their gift...

After 40 plus years of living with her son **Fred and his wife Nancy Lundgren, Elizabeth Webb** will be at Stow-Glen Care Center. Nancy says it's been an adjustment as the house seems too quiet without Elizabeth. Fred & Nancy are making daily visits, and of course Elizabeth lights up when granddaughter **Lisa Paxton** brings **Taylor and Paige** in to see her. She already has some cards from her Grace Church family and enjoys receiving those, too.

Anyone wishing to send Elizabeth a card can send it to:

Elizabeth Webb
Stow-Glen Retirement Village
4285 Kent Road Room #105
Stow, OH 44224

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Please join us in saying ‘THANK YOU’ to people serving god at Grace Church and in our community in a variety of ways:

- To Nancy Ervin for organizing the parish hall kitchen – again.
- To our Sunday school teachers for their dedication.
- To John McDonald for changing the back door lock – the master key will open the door and you no longer need to use the L-wrench.
- To the faithful members who attended the Lenten Study Group of *The Shack*.
- To those who facilitated and those who prepared meals for the Lenten Study Group
- To everyone who came and made Easter candy
- To everyone who ordered and bought Easter candy
- To our Youth Group who served lunch for us after church
- To Deacon Bill Snyder for preaching while Carol was out of town.
- To our choir and organist who worked so hard on the Holy Week services
- To Rev. Carol for having worship available to us every day of Holy Week
- To Sally & Nancy for all their work in Gracie’s – it’s really looking great!!
- To Steve Merrill and Sally Dier for taking training to become our new Worship leaders.
- To Sally Dier for training to become a Lay Eucharist Visitor
- To the Sit and Stitch group for making the new aprons for the Hospitality committee We especially thank Mary Jean McDonald, Judy Canan and Carolyn Englert for purchasing the fabric and Mary Jean, Carolyn, and Marsha Snyder for sewing the aprons and Alice Boydell for the embroidery.

Please call the office or email us a note if you know of any volunteers we need to thank for work, donations, or other good deeds.

Birthdays

- 12th Cathy Mansor
Billy T. Johnson
Phil Rich
- 13th Kathy Summy
- 18th Olivia Golec
- 20th Sue Ahrens
- 23rd Bernice McCauslin
- 25th Julie Canan
- 29th Marcia Splinter



Congratulations!

and many happy returns...

Baptisms

- 1st Phyllis Shorts
- 2nd Dennis Dier
- 4th Jennifer Golec
Tracy Shriver
- 5th Bill Snyder
- 7th Dale Espey
- 9th Jim Ervin
- 10th Jamie Popiel
- 11th Bruce Ahrens



Anniversaries

20th Jim & Nancy Ervin

The Bulletin Board

News from Gracie's Backdoor

Coming Attractions

APRIL 2013: Spring into summer and think about getting outside—gardening, decorating porches and decks.

MAY 2013: Gifts for the graduate, extra serving dishes, picture frames to hold those cherished memories.

JUNE 2013: It's a time for Brides, a time to get outside and enjoy barbeques, picnics, and curling up with a good book. Come see what we have to aid these joys.

If you're cleaning out don't throw anything out – remember Gracie's

Youth Group News

Our first soup and salad luncheon went very well. Thank you to everyone who came and supported our Youth Group. Thanks to Kathy Summy for making the potato soup; Stacey & Tim Scibelli for the chicken noodle soup; Lane & Wilda Autry for making chili. Lisa Paxton donated all the salad and Loretta Reigelman make cornbread, cupcakes and brought donuts. Many thanks to Shirley & Mike Johnson for the donation that helped us get our program started. And thanks to Chris Stickle for all her planning and all the leg work getting things organized.

April 7th - Youth Group Soup & Salad Luncheon

After the 10:00 a.m. service

\$5.00 per person

This month we will be serving:
vegetable soup, chili & tomato soup

Toasted cheese sandwich

April

The Grace Vine

2013

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1		2	3 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	4	5	6 •6:30 Game & Fellowship Night
7 2 Easter •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:15 Choir •9:4-5am Ch Ed •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	8	9 •1-3pm Sit & Stitch	10 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •6pm Healing Service with Eucharist	11 •7pm Choir Practice	12	13
14 3 Easter •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:15 Choir •9:4-5am Ch Ed •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	15	16 •7pm Vestry Meeting	17 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	18 •8am Retired Men's Breakfast •7pm Choir Practice	19	20
21 4 Easter •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:15 Choir •9:4-5am Ch Ed •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	22	23 •1-3pm Sit & Stitch	24 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	25 •7pm Choir Practice	26	27
28 5 Easter •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:15 Choir •9:4-5am Ch Ed •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	29	30				

The Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church
 Cathy Mansor (2013)
 Jeff Marsh (2013)
 Barb Popiel (2013)
 Reba Cook (2014)
 John McDonald (2014)
 Midge Myers (2014)
 Fred Lundgren (2015)
 Steve Merrill (2015)
 Frank Seman (2015)

Grace Episcopal Church of Ravenna
 The Rev. Carol Evans—Rector
 The Rev. William Snyder
 Marsha Snyder—Secretary
 Mary Ann Switz—Organist/Choirmaster
 Phone: 330-296-3443
 Web Site: www.graceravenna.org
 Email: revcarol@graceravenna.org

Get your Grace Vine electronically!

The Grace Vine is now available as an Adobe Acrobat PDF file on the church web site. If you would like, you can start retrieving it from there, rather than having a paper copy at the back of the church or in the mail. You would receive an email notifying you when the issue ready and linking to it so you don't get a huge email in your inbox.

If you would like to take advantage of this, send me an email at grwebmaster@graceravenna.org. Please consider carefully, however. We would rather make the paper copy and have it read than save the paper and postage and have it go unread. Thank you.



The Grace Vine

Grace Episcopal Church
 250 W. Cedar St.
 Ravenna OH 44266

