



# The Grace Vine

December 2010

## Rector's Writ

It seems to be standard retail practice that as soon as Halloween is over, the store shelves are stocked with Christmas items. The store managers likely placed orders for holiday and seasonal gifts last spring. The good managers are ready and prepared. That's our calling in Advent as well. Be ready to celebrate the birth of Christ; be prepared for his return. That involves making a place in our hearts for him to dwell. From Isaiah, "Let us walk in the light of the Lord." From Romans, "Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light."

The Advent readings for Year A include hopefulness, the peaceable kingdom, light in the darkness, and Jesus reminding us to 'keep awake' and to 'be ready.'

Part of that readiness includes prayer and the study of Holy Scripture. It also includes just taking time to listen to God and be in his presence. Carolyn Englert will be leading an Adult Study on Scriptures used in Handel's Messiah on Saturday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, 10am-2pm. On December 11<sup>th</sup>, we'll have an Advent Quiet Day from 8am to noon. Come for all or part of it. We'll end with the Eucharist at 11:30. Whatever your observance, we pray your Advent will be a time of renewal, repentance, quiet listening, and gratitude for all God's gifts.

*Prepare the way of the Lord! It is so little that God asks of us. Give some evidence that you mean to reform. ("Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." Matt. 3:1) Wear lights in your hearts instead of on your trees. Our autumned hearts stand waiting for God's gracious gift. Come, Lord Jesus, come! Gospel up our lives with your presence and we'll wear lights in our hearts instead of on our trees."*

(from Seasons of Your Heart, The Birth of Christmas, pp. 45-46, Macrina Wiederkehr)

*"He comes to us as one unknown, without a name, as of old by the lakeside he came to those men who knew him not. He speaks to us the same word, "Follow me," and sets us to the tasks which he has to fulfill for our time. He commands. And to those who obey, whether they be wise or simple, he will reveal himself in the toils, the conflicts, the suffering which they shall pass through in his fellowship, and as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience who he is." (Albert Schweitzer)*

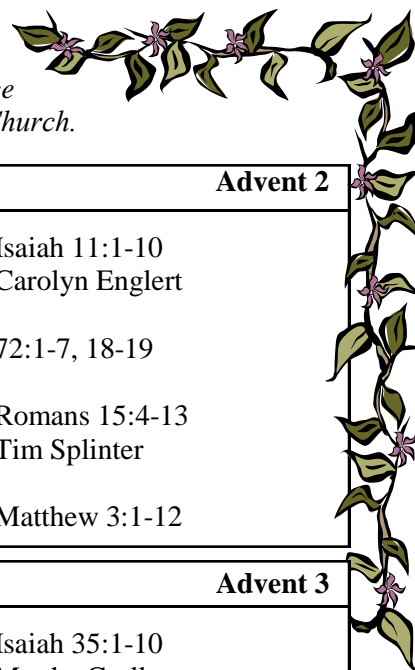
God's blessings and peace be with you  
at Advent, Christmas and always.

-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, December 5 8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Advent 2

<p><b>Officiating</b> The Rev. Carol S. Evans  <b>Lay Reader</b> Roberta O'Keefe  <b>Greeter</b> Nancy &amp; Fred Lundgren  <b>Acolyte</b> Eric Splinter  <b>Altar Guild</b> Nancy Lundgren, Toni Worthen, Nancy Ervin  <b>Coffee Hosts</b> 8:00 Joan &amp; Frank Seman                  10:00 Jim &amp; Nancy Ervin  <b>Counters</b> Cory Conway &amp; Reba Cook  <b>Emeritus</b> Kathy Summy</p>	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> Isaiah 11:1-10                  Carolyn Englert</p> <p><b>Psalm</b> 72:1-7, 18-19</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> Romans 15:4-13                  Tim Splinter</p> <p><b>Gospel</b> Matthew 3:1-12</p>
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## Sunday, December 12 8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Advent 3

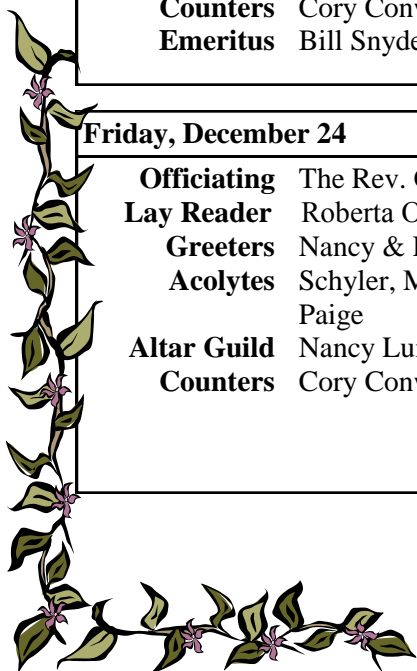
<p><b>Officiating</b> The Rev. Carol S. Evans  <b>Deacon</b> The Rev. William D. Snyder  <b>Lay Reader</b> Addrienne Conway  <b>Greeters</b> Nancy &amp; Jim Ervin  <b>Acolytes</b> Schylar Conway &amp; Paige Paxton  <b>Altar Guild</b> Nancy Lundgren, Toni Worthen, Nancy Ervin  <b>Coffee Hosts</b> 8:00 Rich Lashley &amp; Debbie Shorts                  10:00 Nancy &amp; Fred Lundgren  <b>Counters</b> Cory Conway &amp; Fred Lundgren</p>	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> Isaiah 35:1-10                  Martha Croll</p> <p><b>Canticle 15</b> (Luke 1:46-55) contemporary</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> James 5:7-10                  Jeff Croll</p> <p><b>Gospel</b> Matthew 11:2-11</p>
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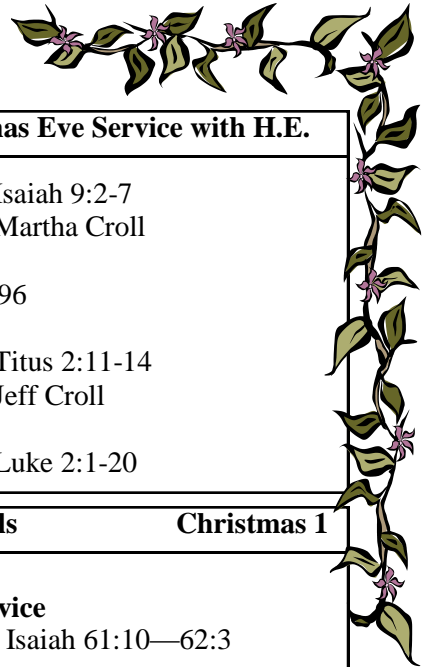
## Sunday, December 19 8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Advent 4

<p><b>Officiating</b> The Rev. Carol S. Evans  <b>Lay Reader</b> 8:00 Addrienne Conway 10:00 Carolyn Englert  <b>Greeters</b> John &amp; Mary Jean McDonald  <b>Acolyte</b> Jenna Summy &amp; McKenna Conway  <b>Altar Guild</b> Nancy Lundgren, Toni Worthen, Nancy Ervin  <b>Coffee Hosts</b> 8:00 George Furrer                  10:00 Chris Stickle &amp; Denise Crouse  <b>Counters</b> Cory Conway &amp; Joan Seman  <b>Emeritus</b> Bill Snyder</p>	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> Isaiah 7:10-16                  Cathy Mansor</p> <p><b>Psalm</b> 80:1-7, 16-18</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> Romans 1:1-7                  Tim Splinter</p> <p><b>Gospel</b> Matthew 1:18-25</p>
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## Friday, December 24 7:00 PM Family Christmas Eve with Holy Eucharist

<p><b>Officiating</b> The Rev. Carol S. Evans  <b>Lay Reader</b> Roberta O'Keefe  <b>Greeters</b> Nancy &amp; Fred Lundgren  <b>Acolytes</b> Schyler, McKenna, Jenna, Kevin, Taylor, Paige  <b>Altar Guild</b> Nancy Lundgren, Nancy Ervin, Toni Worthen  <b>Counters</b> Cory Conway &amp; TBA</p>	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> Isaiah 9:2-7                  Nancy Lundgren</p> <p><b>Psalm</b> 96</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> Titus 2:11-14                  Fred Lundgren</p> <p><b>Gospel</b> Luke 2:1-20</p>
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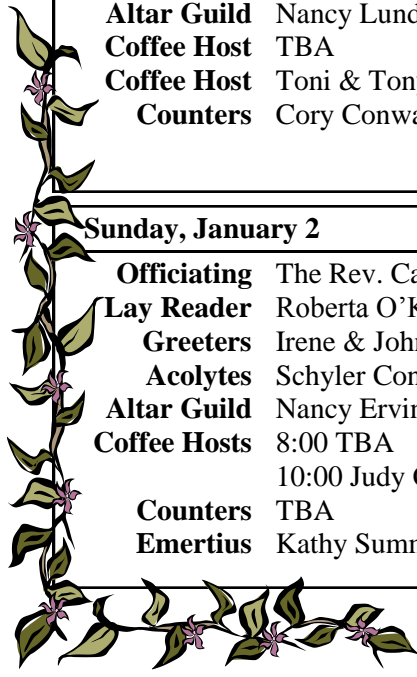




<b>Friday, December 24</b>		<b>10:30 PM Music/11:00 PM Festive Christmas Eve Service with H.E.</b>	
<b>Officiating</b>	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	Isaiah 9:2-7 Martha Croll
<b>Deacon</b>	The Rev William D. Snyder	<b>Psalm</b>	96
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Carolyn Englert	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>	Titus 2:11-14 Jeff Croll
<b>Greeters</b>	John & Irene Machisko	<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 2:1-20
<b>Acolyte</b>	Phil, Eric, Kevin		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Nancy Lundgren, Nancy Ervin, Toni Worthen		
<b>Counters</b>	Cory Conway & TBA		

<b>Sunday, December 26</b>		<b>8:00 AM Holy Eucharist/ 10:00 AM Lessons &amp; Carols</b>		<b>Christmas 1</b>
<b>Officiating</b>	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	<b>8:00 AM Service</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading Isaiah 61:10—62:3 Psalm 147 Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7 John 1:1-18	
<b>Lay Reader</b>		<b>10:00 AM Service</b>	Lessons and Carols	
<b>Greeters</b>	Bev Lewis-Mercury & Jeff Marsh			
<b>Acolyte</b>	Kevin Splinter			
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Nancy Lundgren, Nancy Ervin, Toni Worthen			
<b>Coffee Host</b>	TBA			
<b>Coffee Host</b>	Toni & Tony Worthen			
<b>Counters</b>	Cory Conway & Marcia Splinter			

<b>Sunday, January 2</b>		<b>8:00 &amp; 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b>		<b>Christmas 2</b>
<b>Officiating</b>	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Carolyn Englert	
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Roberta O'Keefe	<b>Psalm 84</b>		
<b>Greeters</b>	Irene & John Machisko	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>	Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a Cathy Mansor	
<b>Acolytes</b>	Schyler Conway	<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Nancy Ervin & Irene Machisko			
<b>Coffee Hosts</b>	8:00 TBA 10:00 Judy Canan & Kay Canan			
<b>Counters</b>	TBA			
<b>Emertius</b>	Kathy Summy			



## The Salvation Army

You can probably hear the bells around the corner...ring, ring, RING, RING! That's right; once again the Salvation Army is in need of volunteers to ring the bell this holiday season. From Friday, November 26th through Friday, December 24th, the Red Kettle effort will be taking place at various locations throughout Portage County. Shifts are available in two hour increments from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

If you or your group is interested in being part of this effort please call Captain Demetrius Stanford, of the Salvation Army at 330-577-6018.

## Advent Adult Christian Education

On Saturday, December 1st, we will be offering a study of the Advent Scriptures incorporated into Handel's Messiah. This will be an all morning, part-afternoon study, and we will be reading the Scriptures, discussing them, and then listening to them in the Messiah. This will be a brown bag event, bring your own lunch, drinks will be provided. Please let Carolyn Englert know if you will be attending.



# Did You Know?...



...what a great time we had at the Wine Tasting event here at Grace Church on Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>. **Susan Merrill** did a wonderful job explaining the different kind of wines, 3 whites and 4 reds that were sampled. She explained how to drink wine, how long they will last after a bottle is opened, what kind of glass to use and what to look for when tasting wine. Thanks to the “fun”d raising committee, especially **Barb Popiel** who came up with the idea, and **Roberta O’Keefe and Marcia Splinter** for a very delightful evening for the appx. 60 people who attended. And a big thanks to everyone who came and brought their friends and family, or made all the delicious food, to make this a very enjoyable evening...

**Kay Wise** wrote a note to express her appreciation to the person who created the Halloween Basket she won at the raffle that took place at the wine tasting...

**Martha Croll** took her dog with her to her brother’s house; her brother needed help on his farm. While they were busy, the dog got busy too, and rolled in something that reeked to high heaven. Martha had to get into her bathing suit and she and the dog got into the shower for a much needed bath. I hope the dog learned a lesson...

We welcome a new member to Grace Church; **Aiden Young**, son of **Amanda and Rob Young**, was baptized here at Grace on November 7<sup>th</sup>. A lot of family members and church members came to witness the event. It was especially nice to see great-grandma **Sue Potterton**, from St. Paul’s, Medina, who many of us knew from E.C.W. deanery meetings. The **Rev. Carol** said the baby was so good, even though he was sick with an ear infection, he smiled at her during the baptism...

**Nancy Ervin** celebrated her birthday this year by taking the family to Frankenmuth, Michigan for a family retreat and they all had a wonderful time, sounds like they ate a lot and did a lot of shopping...

This Thanksgiving the **Lundgrens** are having out of town guests; their son **Bill** and his 6 year old daughter **Jeannie** and 4 year old daughter **Suzy** will be traveling from Texas to be with grandma and grandpa, Aunt **Lisa** and cousins **Taylor** and **Paige** for Thanksgiving. Sounds like a real holiday with the whole family together...

We got a note from **Phyllis Shorts** saying she and **Jenni** went para-sailing, wow! Good for you. The Shorts are excited about meeting their first great-grand child in December, and are happy their son **J.R.** bought a villa near by to winter there. J.R. spent time in Florida the last two winters and liked it so well that he decided that’s a very good place to be when the snow flies...

Congratulations to **Goldie and Dutch Shriver** who recently celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Were you married when you were four Goldie?...

**Ron Postlethwaite** spent his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday in the hospital, but is happily on the road to recovery...

**Kathy & Emily Summy** are taking part in The Messiah Chorus of Lake County on November 28<sup>th</sup> at St. Gabriel’s Church, in Mentor...

For the third year in a row **Emily Summy** received the Academic Achievement Award at Ravenna High...

**Chris Stickle** was so pleased with her girls who are both on the Honor Roll at Ravenna High School...

**Marsha & Bill Snyder** will be heading for Minnesota to see their son and his family for the Thanksgiving and **Marcia & Tim Splinter** and the boys will be going to Wisconsin to be with Tim’s parents for Thanksgiving. Too bad these families don’t live in warm weather states. (*Speak for yourself Marsha! - Tim*) **Judy Canan** and her family are headed for the Philadelphia area, which isn’t much better. But being with one’s family and loved ones is really the most important thing!...

**John & Irene Machisko** are going to St. Louis for the holidays and their son **David** is getting married on the Saturday after Thanksgiving to his long time girlfriend **Kathy**. Sounds like a real celebration...

The Diocesan Convention went well this year. **Addrianne and Cory Conway, Reba Cook, Bill Snyder and The Rev. Carol** represented Grace Church. Bill found out that he and Addrianne were born in Charleston, West Virginia (not the same year)...

**Shirley and Mike Johnson** are traveling south to visit with family and friends and they will be stopping to see **Jean & Len Mercer** on their trek. Say “Hello” for us!...

**Phillip Rich** is back in school to be a physical therapist. But with three children and a full time job he’s finding it to be a challenge. Prayers are with you Phil...

**Sammy Stickle’s** picture was in Church Life magazine and a lovely poem lovely written by **Jenna Summy** was published in the same issue— check it out! They represented Grace Church very well. Good going girls!...

Many thanks to **John McDonald and Fred Lundgren** for putting together the new shed that was placed in the rectory’s back yard. Now the snow blower and lawn mower will be have a new home.

...if you have information you want to share in the “Did You Know” please email it to:  
office@graceravenna.org

# On the Horizon

**Saturday, December 11  
&  
Saturday, January 8  
Fellowship & Game Night  
6:30pm**

As the weather chills, would anyone be interested in hosting a game night someplace other than the Parish Hall?

**Sunday, December 12  
Acolyte Practice  
After 10am service**

All acolytes on deck! Time for a little refresher course and to get ready for the Christmas services.

**Sunday, January 23  
Bishop Williams Visit**

**Sunday, January 30  
Annual Meeting  
After service**

## Cookie Sales

It is time to get out there and offer our delicious, home-baked Christmas Cookies to all your friends and co-workers! Order sheets are available in the Parish Hall, and are due back in by December 12<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$4 a dozen and payment must accompany the orders. The Cookies will be boxed up on Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, and distributed on Sunday, December 19.

Those wishing to bake can also sign up, and need only make 6 dozen cookies. You can, of course, make more!



## Congratulations!

*and many happy returns...*

### Birthdays

2nd Nydah Ellet  
7th Roberta O'Keefe  
11th Kay Canan  
16th Shirley Johnson  
Tim Scibelli  
20th Stephanie York  
21st Bud Minnich



### Baptisms

3rd Rev. Carol Evans  
9th Faith Postlethwaite  
13th Mike Johnson  
22nd Michael Canan  
23rd Mechele Novak  
Ricky Sanek  
24th Leslie Thomas



### Anniversaries

17th Bruce & Sue Ahrens  
Steve & Susan Merrill  
22nd Jim & Amy Neely  
Amanda & Michael Ondrejko  
27th Rev. Lloyd & Roberta O'Keefe



# The Bulletin Board

## Acolytes Schedule

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

1/9—Schyler

1/16—Eric & Paige

1/23—Jenna

1/30—Kevin

2/6—Eric & Paige

Tim@splinterfactions.net

Marcia@splinterfactions.net

330-527-2084

Bill Artz of **Marshall's and Majestic Dry Cleaning** sent the parish a letter which included the following...

"I have been praying for a way to make my business prosper as well as further the Kingdom of God. An idea came to me. If your congregation would bring their dry cleaning to us...once a month, bring all the receipts to Marshall's...we would **Tithe [your] church 10% of the total.**"

To that end, please give any receipts from Marshall's Dry-cleaning to **Marsha Snyder** for handling.

Once again Acme is doing their **CASH BACK PROGRAM**. Please save your "register receipt tapes" for the Clothing Center. Turn them in to the church office or give them to Mary Jean McDonald. The eligible dates are September 25th thru February 19th, 2011. All tapes must be turned in by Sunday February 27th, 2011.

Thank you for your support.

Mary Jean McDonald

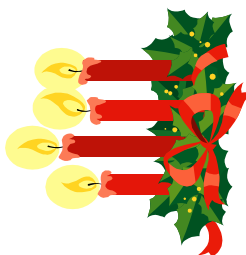

## Big Brothers Big Sisters

Is having a Fall Volunteer Recruitment Campaign. If you can help this 100 year old program, please call them at  
330-296-6655

# December

# The Grace Vine

# 2010

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
 <p>5 Advent 2                      •8am HE                      •9am Coffee                      •8:45 Choir                      •9:45 Ch. Ed.                      •10am HE                      •11:15 Coffee</p>			<p>1                      •10-2 Gracie's Back Door                      •6:30-8:00 Unbinding the Heart                      •7pm Choir</p>	2	3	4 •10-2 Advent Study
<p>12 Advent 3                      •8am HE                      •9am Coffee                      •8:45 Choir                      •9:45 Ch. Ed.                      •10am HE                      •11:15 Coffee</p>		<p>7                      •6:30-8:00 Unbinding the Gospel Study and Prayer Group II</p>	<p>8                      •10-2 Gracie's Back Door                      •5:30 Healing Service                      •7pm Choir</p>	9	10	11 •6:30pm Fellowship & Game Night
<p>19 Advent 4                      •8am HE                      •9am Coffee                      •8:45 Choir                      •9:45 Ch. Ed.                      •10am HE                      •11:15 Coffee</p>		<p>14                      •Noon-2 Sit &amp; Stitch at Judy Canan's</p>	<p>15                      •10-2 Gracie's Back Door                      •7pm Choir</p>	<p>16                      •8am Retired Men's Breakfast                      •7pm Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>17                      7:30 pm to Noon Sat. Youth Group Lock-in</p>	<p>18                      •Noon-Cookie Sale                      Packing</p>
<p>26 Christmas I                      •8am HE                      •9am Coffee                      •10am Lessons &amp; Carols                      •11:15 Coffee</p>		<p>21                      •2-4pm Sit &amp; Stitch</p>	<p>22                      •10-2 Gracie's Back Door</p>	<p>23                      •7pm Choir</p>	<p>24                      7pm Family Service w/Euch.                      10:30 Festive Music                      11:00 Festive Eucharist</p>	<p>25                      Christmas Day</p> 
		<p>28                      •2-4pm Sit &amp; Stitch</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	

The Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church  
 Marcia Splinter (2010)  
 Roberta O'Keefe (2010) Clerk  
 Fred Lundgren (2010)  
 Tony Worthen (2011)  
 Reba Cook (2011)  
 Alice Boydell (2011)  
 Cory Conway (2012)  
 Sue Ahrens (2012)  
 Joan Seman (2012)

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](http://www.graceravenna.org)  
 Email: [revcarol@graceravenna.org](mailto: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](mailto: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  
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 Ravenna OH 44266

