

The Grace Vine

January 2005

Rector's Writ

Happy New Year!! We don't get rested up from the holidays until we're reminded it's time to make a resolution! Mark Twain observed that bad habits are so easy to pick up and good habits are so easy to give up. Logic and experience tell us resolutions are hard to keep. I don't know about you, but for some odd reason I think about how long (or how briefly) my New Year's resolution lasted when it's time to consider what I'll give up or take on as a Lenten discipline. Some years it seems my "discipline" left before the holidays and hadn't returned yet. I recently read of a different approach to New Year's resolutions that may be worth a try.

There's an old custom in Rome that New Year's Eve people are to throw something out the window. No explanation for such a custom was available, but it does lead us to think what that "tossing out the window" might symbolize. We could toss out past hurts...anger...disappointments. We could cast out the window old fears, frustrations, and worries that keep us stuck in the past and block us from looking at things and people and even ourselves in NEW ways. It's worthwhile to think about what we need to toss out to let the winter wind and sun scatter and melt. It's also worth considering: what do we need to TOSS and what do we need to EMBRACE to be the people God has created us to be, as individuals and as the Church? What BUILDS UP and what BURDENS the people who are the body of Christ? The Church community is continually to be concerned with "building up" one another (not just church members) and "bearing one another's burdens." We're to practice living out our baptismal vows. The Church is about sharing and living the Good News of God's love for us in Christ Jesus. With God's help we'll continue working on and improving that practice: in prayer, word, and deed; in the Church and in the world; today and always.

**"Lord, give us grace and strength to persevere.
Give us courage and joy and the quiet mind."**

(Robert Louis Stevenson)

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. January 2—8:00am Holy Eucharist—10:00am Lessons & Carols	
<p>Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Lay Reader: Bette Brooks Lectors: 8:00 Mellisa Strainer, 10:00 see Lessons Greeters: Judy Canan & Sandee West Loyalton: Maynard Evans Shepard: 8:00 George Furrer, 10:00 Bill Snyder Coffee Hosts: Nancy & Fred Lundgren</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lessons</p> <p>Genesis 3:8-15—John Machisko Genesis 22:15-18—Marsha Barna Isaiah 9:2-7—Steve Barna Isaiah 11:1-9—Judy Canan Luke 1:26-38—Carolyn Englert Luke 2:1-7—Bud Minnich Luke 2:8-16—Marsha Snyder Matthew 2:1-11—Tim Splinter John 1:1-14—Blake Quay</p>
Sun. January 9—8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist—1st Epiphany	
<p>Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. William Snyder Lay Reader: Carolyn Englert Greeters: John & Mary Jean McDonald Acolytes: Blake Quay IV & Cory Postlethwaite Shepherd: 8:00 Lloyd O'Keefe, 10:00 Stephanie Higgins Alter Guild: Nancy Ervin & Irene Machisko Coffee Hosts: Ron & Kelly Postlethwaite Counters: Nancy Lundgren & Kathy Summy Loyalton: Judy Canan</p>	<p>1st Reading Isaiah 42:1-7 Steve Barna</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Psalm 89:20-29</p> <p>2nd Reading Acts 10:34-38 Tim Splinter</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Gospel Matthew 3:13-17</p>
Sun. January 16—8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist—2nd Epiphany	
<p>Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Lay Reader: 8:00 R. O'Keefe, 10:00 Maynard Evans Greeters: Nancy & Fred Lundgren Acolytes: Emily Neely & Katie Ahrens Shepherd: 8:00 Jean Mercer, 10:00 Judy Canan Alter Guild: Nancy Ervin & Irene Machisko Coffee Hosts: John & Irene Machisko Counters: Nancy Lundgren & Kathy Summy Loyalton: Bill Snyder</p>	<p>1st Reading Isaiah 49:1-7 Kathy Summy</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Psalm 40:1-10</p> <p>2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 Bud Minnich</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Gospel John 1:29-41</p>
Sun. January 23—9:00am only Holy Eucharist—3rd Epiphany / Annual Meeting and Dinner	
<p>Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. William Snyder Lay Reader: Judy Canan Greeters: Bud Minnich & Jim Ervin Acolytes: Julie Canan & Jannell Moore Alter Guild: Nancy Ervin & Irene Machisko Counters: Nancy Lundgren & Kathy Summy Loyalton: ?</p>	<p>1st Reading Amos 3:1-8 Blake Quay</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Psalm 139:1-11</p> <p>2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1:10-17 Laura Price</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Gospel Matthew 4:12-23</p>

Sun. January 30—8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist—4 th Epiphany	
Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Lay Reader: Bette Brooks Greeters: John & Irene Machisko Acolytes: Emily Summy & Katie Ahrens Shephard: 8:00 Bette Brooks, 10:00 Bill Snyder Alter Guild: Nancy Ervin & Irene Machisko Coffee Hosts: John & Mary Jean McDonald Counters: Nancy Lundgren & Kathy Summy Loyalton:	1st Reading Micah 6:1-8 John Machisko Psalm 37:1-6 2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Paige Thomas Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

Sun. February 6—8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist—Last Epiphany	
Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. William Snyder Lay Reader: Carolyn Englert Greeters: Leslie & Colin Thomas Acolytes: Paige Thomas & Chelsea Postlethwaite Shephard: 8:00 Roberta O’Keefe, 10:00—Stephanie Higgins Alter Guild: N. Ervin & Irene Machisko Coffee Hosts: Judy Canan & Bonnie Quay Counters: Sue Ahrens & TBA Loyalton:	1st Reading Exodus 24:12-18 Steve Barna Psalm 99 2nd Reading Philippians 3:7-14 Tim Splinter Gospel Matthew 17:1-9

Annual Parish Report and Meeting January 23, 2005

9:00 am Service Only followed by Meeting and Luncheon

The following people are responsible for the Annual Meeting reports, due January 15th.

- **The Rev. Carol Evans:** Rector’s Report and Eucharistic Visitors/Euachartistic Ministers/Worship Leaders
- **Roberta O’Keefe:** Senior Warden’s Report
- **Nancy Lundgren:** Junior Warden’s Report, Alter Guild
- **Fred Lundgren:** Treasurer’s Report
- **Judy Canan:** Assistant. Treasurer’s Report, Beatty Committee
- **Mary Ann Switz:** Choir
- **Marsha Snyder:** E.C.W., Discretionary Fund (financial), Alter Guild (financial)
- **Bill Snyder:** Deacon Report, G.E.M. Committee
- **James Wichman:** Deacon Report
- **Addrienne Conway:** Acolytes, “Fun-d”raising Committee
- **Nancy Ervin:** Hospitality Committee
- **Lloyd O’Keefe:** Jubilee Committee
- **Blake Quay:** Volunteers
- **Stephanie Higgins:** Shepards
- **Kay Canan:** Christian Education/Youth Group, Youth Group (financial)
- **Bette Brooks:** Worship Committee
- **Carolyn Englert:** Prayer Chain
- **Mary Jean McDonald:** Gracie’s Back Door, Gracie’s Back Door (financial)

Did YOU Know!

...Grace Church contributed \$339.35 to the UTO full ingathering this year and thank you to everyone who contributed. ... the choir +2, **Steve and Marsha Barna, Marcia and Tim Splinter, Nydah Ellet, Ken Boydell, Bill and Marsha Snyder and Nancy Ervin, and Carolyn Englert** had a great time caroling at Brookside, Longmeadow and at the home where **Pauline Reed** is staying. Thanks to **Mary Ann Switz** for organizing this effort and to **Nancy Ervin** for the wonderful lunch she served before we set out to spread some Christmas cheer. I don't know who enjoyed it more the choir members or the people we visited. **Steve Barna** even brought real sleigh bells, which made Jingle Bells feel very authentic. ... **Martha Harris** died on December 7th and our deepest sympathy goes to her family...thanks to everyone who participated in the Parable of Talents this year. Hand crafted items were sold after the eight and ten o'clock services in the first three Sundays of Advent. We have a lot of very talented people here at Grace Church and they showed off some of their finest Christmas items. **Irene Machisko's** pies didn't even get to the tables and they were sold. The "crafty" **Lallathins** made some many nice items it's difficult to mention all of them and **Goldie Shriver** once again had some wonderful flower arrangements. **Shirley Johnson** took some wonderful pictures and **Mike Johnson** made a great bird feeder that was reported to be a Christmas gift for one of our parishioners. I hope Santa didn't have a difficult time getting it down your chimney **Leslie Thomas. Judy Canan's** knitted two scarfs that didn't make the table and were sold as soon as the bag was opened. **Jean Mercer** made a wonderful quilt. **Kay Canan** had several ceramic items as did **Sherry Sanek. Marcia Splinter** had some needle work and **Tim** made earring holders. And that's just a small example of the things that were brought to us. All in all we earned \$578.51 so far for the E.C.W. Thanks again!! There are still a few items left over, and if you're interested please let someone from the E. C.W. know about it. ... Both Carrie and Bud Minnich had birthdays last month and **Bud** had a cake for **Carrie** during the coffee hour on Dec. 12th. **Nadine VanPelt** celebrated her 90th birthday and "Happy Birthday" was sung during the church service, which made everyone very happy. ... many thanks to the Christian Education department who brought to us **The First Born Son** (written by **Kay Canan**) pageant during the family Christmas Eve service. Those participating were: **Janell Moore (Mary);Eric Splinter (Joseph); Skyler, McKenna and Jillian Conway, Taylor and Paige Paxton, and Emily and Jenna Summy (angles); J.D. Novak, Blake Quay, Bill Summy (innkeepers); Kevin Splinter, Brandon Higgins, Jesse Moore (shepherds); Paige Thomas, Colin Thomas, Cory Postlethwaite and Maynard Evans (readers); Tim, Marcia, Eric, and Kevin Splinter (vocalists); Mary Ann Switz (music); and Julie Canan (programs).** Many thanks to **Addrianne Conway, Stephanie Higgins, Lisa Paxton, Kelly Postlethwaite and Kathy Summy** for all they support and hard work. I'm sure at times they felt they were herding cats.

...for everyone *Have a Merry Christmas!!*

Congratulations!

and many happy returns!

Birthdays

4th—Emily Summy
5th—Corbin Baker
7th—Richard Sanek
10th—Patricia Williams
15th—Bruce Ahrens
26th—Helen White
26th—Courtney Riche
28th—Paige Paxton

Baptisms

2nd—Reba Cook
7th—Caroline Minnich
9th—Bill Summy

Anniversaries

11th—Fred & Nancy Lundgren
11th—Bud & Caroline Minnich
11th—Lisa & Mark Paxton
22nd—Leonard & Jean Mercer

Adult Christian Education

If you've been waiting for a mid-week Christian study/discussion group, the Vestry has responded. Beginning January 5th, we're inviting families to bring children for a 6:00 p.m. dinner. At 7:00 the children will join Goldie and the adults will gather for a study that applies to life. Please join us for fellowship and learning during this 5 week session that will carry us up to Lent.

Vestry & Beatty Elections

It's that time of year again when we give a HUGE thank you to exiting members of the Vestry and Beatty Committee who have "done their time."

If you are interested in serving on either the Vestry or Beatty Committee please let the Nominating Committee (aka. the exiting members) know.

Carolyn Englert—330-527-4888
Dean Hugebeck—330-297-9223
Roberta O'Keefe—330-673-2058

Marsha Barna has this request from the **Kent Head Start** where she works...

Due to budget cuts we are in need of donations for our classrooms. **Any** and **All** are greatly appreciated.

- White paper towels
- Hand Sanitizer
- 35mm film
- Storage boxes w/lids (shoe box size)
- Dress-up clothes etc. in kid sizes
- Dress-up shoes
- Puppets
- Preschool Books (3-5 yrs. old)
- Play brooms, mops, etc.
- Construction paper
- Leap Pad Learning Systems books (preschool)
- Matchbox cars
- Play Dough
- Stickers

Marsha Barna

Contact Marsha if you are interested or need information.

JANUARY

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2005

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1 New Year's Day
2 Christmas 2 •8am HEZ •8:30 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am Lessons & Carols	3	4 6pm G.E.M. Meeting	5 •Gracie's closed today •Adult Ed. 6-8pm	6 THE EPIPHANY •1:30-2:30 Bible Study	7	8
9 1 Epiphany •8am HEZ •8:45 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HEZ	10	11	12 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •6pm Healing Service w/ HE •Adult Ed. 6-8pm	13 •1:30-2:30 Bible Study •7:30-9:00 Choir Practice	14	15
16 1 Epiphany •8am HEZ •8:45 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HEZ	17 Martin Luther King Day •Office Closed	18	19 •8am Men's Breakfast •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •Adult Ed. 6-8pm	20 •1:30-2:30 Bible Study	21 •10-2 County Clothing Center	22
23 3 Epiphany •9am HEZ Annual Parish Meeting	24	25 •7pm Vestry Meeting	26 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •Adult Ed. 6-8pm	27 •1:30-2:30 Bible Study •7:30-9:00 Choir Practice	28	29
30 4 Epiphany •8am HEZ •8:45 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HEZ	31					