



The Grace Vine

May 2006

Rector's Reflections

With all the joy, glory, and hope God provides in the Resurrection of Christ, it's easy to find ourselves wishing Easter lasted beyond a particular spring Sunday and season. When we remember that Easter is a celebration of the Lord's resurrection and our redemption, we realize that celebration and joy should be ongoing. Hopefulness, service, and love are never out of season.

Several deanery priests and deacons recently met with The Rev. Patricia Hanen (Bishop's Asst. for Congregational Development) to discuss Church growth and other topics. Data reveals that roughly 75% of the people in our areas are unchurched or have minimal connections with a church. This means three out of four people we know (outside the parish) have minimal or no church affiliations. We might assume they just aren't interested or church is not a priority. We'd do well to assume MANY people WOULD be interested in what Grace Church has to offer; what they need is SOMEONE TO INVITE THEM! People may not know what's missing in their lives. They may not even be aware how important a close relationship with God is as they face any number of concerns: building strong family relations, whether married, single, widowed, or divorced; handling life transitions; helping aging parents; making ends meet; or simply keeping ourselves healthy and our stress to a tolerable level. Most of us are aware of the need to make healthy choices, but how many of us are aware of our spiritual and sacramental choices? Are we willing to TALK openly about God's grace and goodness and presence in our lives and in our worship?

One of the interesting things discussed at this meeting was that it's not only the experience of worship, fellowship, and service that are important to people.

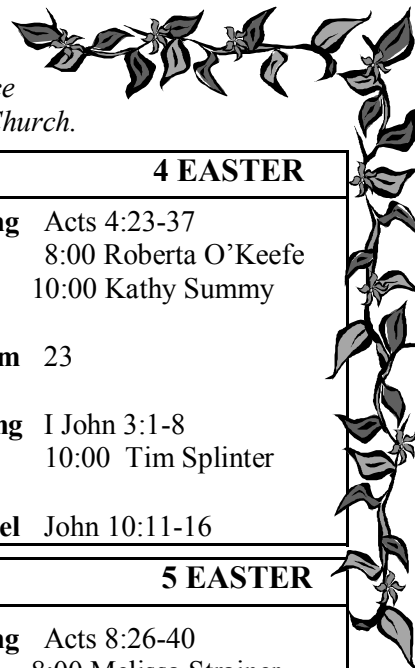
The Churches that are growing are those willing to ENGAGE others by building relationships. This means INVITING people to Church and sharing conversation that CONNECTS to people where they are. It includes offering good programs, but also sharing your story and listening to theirs. It includes becoming brothers & sisters; worship, service, and caring for and about others in Christ. When we're willing to do that, Christ's family has no bounds.

Please think & pray about the people God wants you to invite
and bring to him...the opportunities will come.



Service and Lay Ministry Schedule

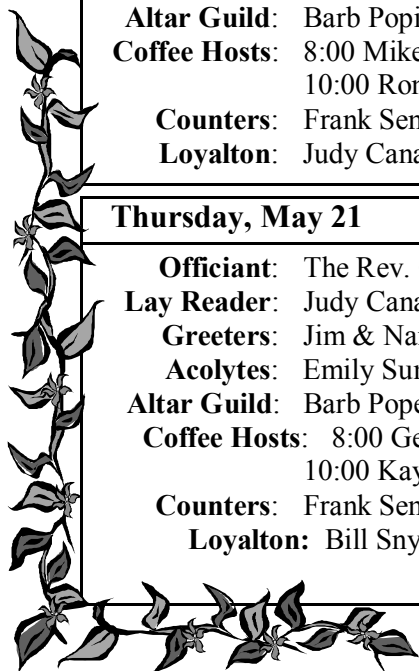
If you cannot serve when scheduled, please find a substitute and call the parish office with that person's name. Thank you for sharing in the liturgical ministry of Grace Church.



Sun. May 7	8:00 & 10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST	4 EASTER
Officiant: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Lay Reader: Carolyn Englert Greeters: Sandee West & Bonnie Quay Acolytes: Emily Summy Altar Guild: Barb Popiel & Goldie Shriver Coffee Hosts: 8:00 Melissa & Lauren Strainer 10:00 Leslie & Paige Thomas Counters: Frank Seman & TBA Loyalton: Maynard Evans	1st Reading Acts 4:23-37 8:00 Roberta O'Keefe 10:00 Kathy Summy Psalm 23 2nd Reading I John 3:1-8 10:00 Tim Splinter Gospel John 10:11-16	

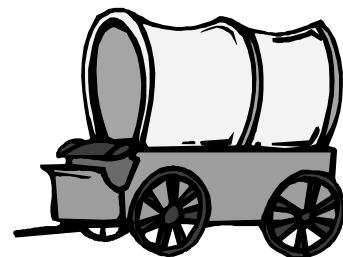
Sun. May 14	8:00 & 10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST	5 EASTER
Officiant: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Deacon: The Rev. William D. Snyder Lay Reader: Bette Brooks Greeters: Nancy & Fred Lungren Acolytes: Julie Canan Altar Guild: Barb Popiel & Goldie Shriver Coffee Hosts: 8:00 Mike & Shirley Johnson 10:00 Ron & Kelly Postlethwaite Counters: Frank Seman & TBA Loyalton: Judy Canan	1st Reading Acts 8:26-40 8:00 Melissa Strainer 10:00 Steve Barna Psalm 66:1-8 2nd Reading I John 3:14-24 10:00 Kelly Postlethwaite Gospel John 14:15-21	

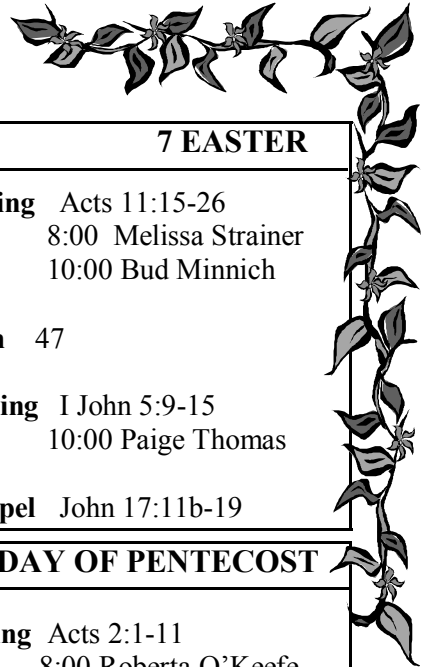
Thursday, May 21	8:00 & 10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST	6 EASTER
Officiant: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Lay Reader: Judy Canan Greeters: Jim & Nancy Ervin Acolytes: Emily Summy Altar Guild: Barb Popeil & Goldie Shriver Coffee Hosts: 8:00 George Furrer 10:00 Kay Canan & Bonnie Quay Counters: Frank Seman & TBA Loyalton: Bill Snyder	1st Reading Acts 11:19-30 8:00 Roberta O'Keefe 10:00 Dennis Dier Psalm 33:1-8, 18-22 2nd Reading I John 4:7-21 10:00 Cathy Mansor Gospel John 15:9-17	



Grace Episcopal Church
 ECW Spring Luncheon Saturday May 13th
 11:30 to 2:00 with Lunch at 12:00

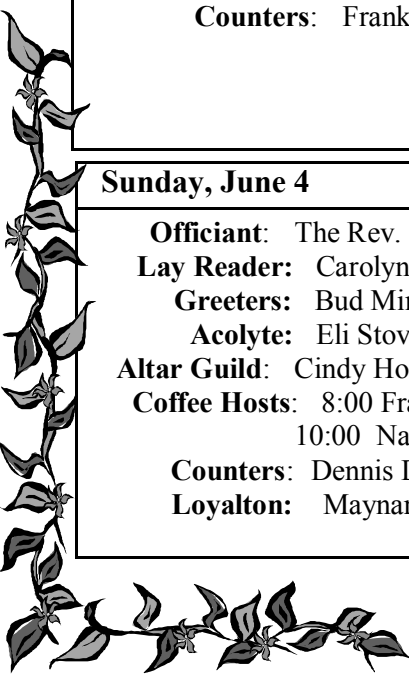
After the meal, Judy Green presents
 "Laura Ingalls Wilder: The story behind the stories"
 stepping back in time to see the stories come to life.





Sunday, May 28	8:00 & 10:00 HOLY EUCHARIST	7 EASTER
Officiant: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Lay Reader: Maynard Evans Greeters: John & Mary Jean McDonald Acolyte: Chelsea Postlethwaite Altar Guild: Barb Popiel & Goldie Shriver 10:00 John & Mary Jean McDonald Counters: Frank Seman & TBA		1st Reading Acts 11:15-26 8:00 Melissa Strainer 10:00 Bud Minnich Psalm 47 2nd Reading I John 5:9-15 10:00 Paige Thomas Gospel John 17:11b-19

Sunday, June 4	8:00 & 10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST	DAY OF PENTECOST
Officiant: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Lay Reader: Carolyn Englert Greeters: Bud Minnich & Betty Capriola Acolyte: Eli Stover Altar Guild: Cindy Hoskins & Judy Watkins Coffee Hosts: 8:00 Frank & Joan Seman 10:00 Nancy & Fred Lundgren Counters: Dennis Dier & TBA Loyalton: Maynard Evans		1st Reading Acts 2:1-11 8:00 Roberta O'Keefe 10:00 John Machisko Psalm 104:25-32 2nd Reading I Corinthians 12:4-13 10:00 Blake Quay Gospel John 20:19-23



United Thank Offering Ingathering Sunday, May 7, 2006



Sunday, May 7th we will have the presentation of the contents of our Blue Boxes for the semi-annual collection of these funds for local, national and world support.

Funds collected across the US are forwarded to the national Church. Grants are awarded by a committee consisting of women from the nine provinces of the Episcopal Church.

Projects to receive funds must be for a new project, help disadvantaged persons and be part of the diocesan or provincial mission strategy. No consumable supplies are ever supplied.

In the past, projects supported included vehicles, new roofs, installation of lifts to increase access, as well as other access needs. Projects to benefit children for play or study are included.



Your support of this outreach project of the E.C.W. will be appreciated. Bless you and those who will reap the benefit of our offerings.

Grace ECW UTO Chairperson
Gladys Parsons



Did You Know?...



...On the weekend of April 22nd, **Carolyn Minnich's** 89 year old brother **Bill Bower**, joined other dignitaries at the Air Force Museum in Dayton, where he was honored as one of two World War II pilots of Doolittle's Raiders still alive. WHAT AN HONOR!!

...We received a letter from **Phyllis Shorts** and she shared with us that **Bill** is gaining his strength. They are hoping to go on a European Cruise during Florida's hurricane season. Good choice. She also states that she is the "Queen Mother" of her Red Hat society and that **Bill** is still golfing, they enjoy cards and dancing. **Phyllis** sends her love to everyone.

...Many thanks to **Gladys Parsons** for purchasing a much needed American and Episcopal Church flags. On that day we received a catalog from Carrot Top Industries (a name you won't soon forget) and it wasn't five minutes later that **Gladys Parsons** called the office and said she noticed the deplorable shape our flags were in and that she'd be willing to buy them and as luck (or fate) would have it Carrot Top had any kind of American flag you would want, but they also had an Episcopal Church flag available and they even had the items delivered to us before Easter. Thank you **Gladys!** These flags will be dedicated on Memorial Day weekend.

...**Steve and Marsha Barna** are the proud owner of a new dog they got at the APL, he's about two years old and they call him **Charlie** and he's wonderful.

...**Beverly Brooks** was accepted at Loyola University and will be spending her fall semester in Rome. Sister **Amanda** was elected the intramural athlete of the year at Hendrix College by the coaches and athletes.

...**Heather Heavner**, a senior at Ohio University has a 3.8 GPA and is student teaching, **Heather** will be graduating in June.

...**Emily Summy** entered a solo/ensemble competition and their group received a 1st in district competition.

...**Kelly Postlethwaite** has been coaching **Jesse's** soccer team and is having a great time with the kids.

...**Shirley Johnson** worked at Gracie's on April 26th and to everyone's surprise (even hers) she made the "big bucks".

...**Daniel Lojan, Bernice McCauslin's** grandson, is on the honor roll at Ravenna High School.

...**Nancy and Fred Lundgren** spent some time in Florida visiting with family.

...and **Mary Jean & John McDonald** went to the Phoenix for John's son's wedding and had a wonderful time there, then they were off to San Francisco to visit with **Mary Jean's** daughter **Amy** and her family.

...**Sonja (Ahrens) Sherwood** and her family will be moving to Massachusetts where hubby **Don** recently found new employment. We'll be sorry to see them leave the area, but wish them happiness in this new adventure.

...**Judy Canan** spent the Holy Week and Easter in Pennsylvania with her priest son **David** and his family. This is the first time she has been able to spend time with them over this holiday and found out how really hard **David** works. But she already knew that!

...After Easter and Holy Week, **Carol** took off to Missouri to be with family.

...and **Marsha Snyder** went to Dayton to be with daughter **Jill** and her family and enjoyed the granddaughters.

...We welcomed back **John and Irene Machisko** who spent most of the winter in Florida. Florida was great but they are glad to be home.

...and we heard from **Judy Watkins** that she and **Roger** will be back in Ohio on May 6th.

...**Len and Jean Mercer** are headed for a train trip out west to sightsee and visit with family members.

...**Bonny Quay** is headed back to Florida to be with her 80 year old father who is having surgery. ...and **Bill Snyder** will be

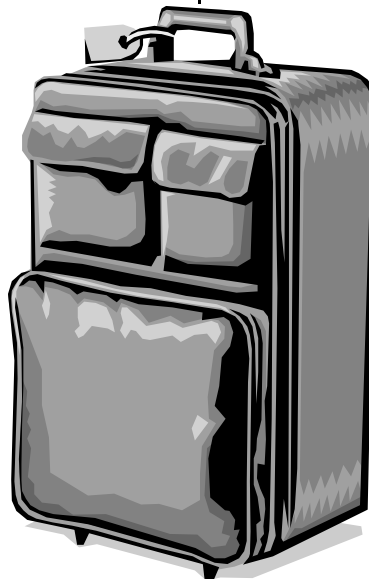
heading for Dayton to help daughter **Jill**

with her new business and then will be going to Minnesota to assist son **Luke** with his new house. That ought to keep Dad out of trouble.

...So as you can see no one is staying put.

...Please don't forget the Spring Plant sale on May 6th, there will be a lot of great bargains.

...and don't forget the ECW Spring Luncheon on May 13th and the Garrettsville Garage Sale at the **Marcia and Tim Splinter's** on May 20th. Proceeds from all these event will go to the deficit, and we'll have a great time!



Birthdays

3rd Carolyn Englert
Lucy Kester
Tim Splinter
4th Laurel Brooks
Lauren Strainer
9th Elizabeth Webb
11th Bonnie Quay
12th Addrianne Conway
Irene Hurst
15th Midge Myers
Phyllis Shorts
16th Marsha Snyder
18th John Phillip Sherwood
23rd Eleanor Blank
25th Mary Harper
26th Kenneth Englert
27th Joan Seman
Bill Shorts Jr.
29th Jason Strainer



Congratulations!

and many happy returns...

Anniversaries

1st Bill & Marsha Snyder
2nd Roger & Judy Watkins
10th Michelle & Dave Davis
26th Jim & Charlene Wichman



Baptisms

3rd Louise Thacker
4th Joan Pringle
7th Irene Machisko
11th Kathy Summy
13th Nancy Lundgren
18th Irene Hurst
Amanda Brooks
Beverly Brooks
20th Paige Paxton
McKenna Conway
23rd Marcia Splinter
25th Ken Boydell
27th Joan Seman
29th Laura Price

Flower Sale

Saturday May 6th from 10am to 2pm at the Church

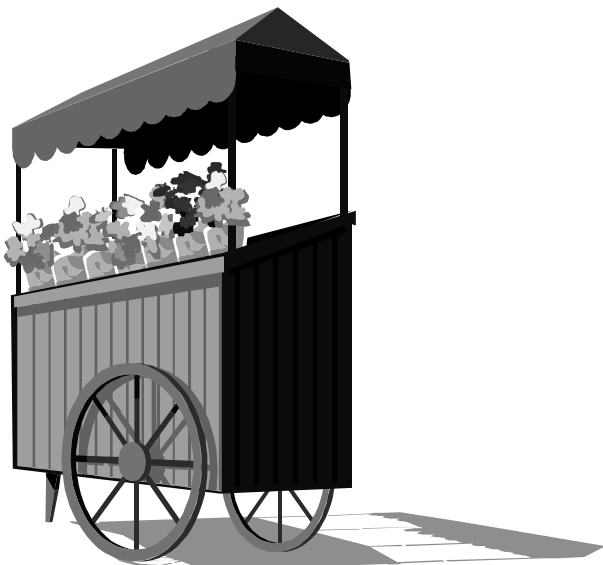
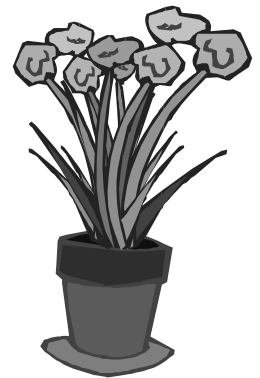
In order to make this a success, we will need the help of the whole parish. If you are willing to make bows for the pots, please contact Chris Stickle for supplies.

We will be getting the plants on Friday the 5th and decorating the pots.

If you have baskets you no longer want that will fit a 4" or 10" pot please bring it to church and put it in the old "Secretary's Office"/Adults/Seniors room straight in from the lower back door. If you would like to decorate that basket, feel free.

We will also need help during the sale with cashiers, helpers, and people to meet and greet customers coming to the sale.

Let's show the community how great we are and have fun doing it!!



Chris Stickle
Fun-d Raising committee

On the Horizon

Saturday May 6th
10am-2pm
Flower Sale

See details elsewhere

Saturday May 6th
8:30am-3:30pm
Stewardship Workshop

“The Spiritual Discipline of Giving”
at Trinity Commons

Sunday May 7th
UTO Ingathering

Saturday May 13th
Grace ECW
Spring Luncheon

See details elsewhere

Saturday June 10th
Men’s Stuff
Garage Sale

We’re going to run a Garage Sale oriented to Men’s Stuff as well this year. Talk to Blake Quay about it.

Sunday June 11th
Youth Care Wash
At Walmart

Details when available

July 16th-19th
Youth Trip to
New York

The Youth group is considering and planning a trip to New York which would include working at a soup kitchen and visit to the cathedral.

Saturday Sept. 16th
Balloon Affair Day

We’ll again be in the Parade and Running the Hotdog Lunch.

Sunday Oct. 29th
Spaghetti Dinner

Details when available

Saturday Nov. 11th
Fall Festival

Details when available

December
Youth Gift Drive

The Youth group will be collecting gifts to be given to the Boys & Girls Clubs and the Center of Hope.

Other Youth Events

The Youth Group is also working on: Teddy Bears for the Fire Dept., a T-Shirt Sale, Ice Skating, a Lock-In, and a Movie Outing.

Garrettsville Garage Sale

The FUN-draising committee will be participating in the annual “Garrettsville Garage Sale Weekend” on May 20th. We will need lots of donations and MANY volunteers, especially for set up early Sat. morning.

Items that tend to be popular at the sales:

- Anything kids (clothes, toys, videos...)
- Small furniture (end tables, video/CD storage, lamps etc)
- Decorative knick-knacks
- Pretty much anything EXCEPT adult clothing.

We will also need plastic bags for “checkout” and need to borrow several large coolers for soda sales.

Starting April 30th, Splinters will be taking donations home to store in their garage. Please have things packaged for easy transportation and **PLEASE, PLEASE** price your items (it will be WAY too much work to try to do that Sat AM while setting up).

Parishioners! Mention this ad at the sale after 3:30pm and get ANY remaining items for 25¢ each.

Wednesday Adult Bible Study

May 3rd, 10th,
17th, and 24th
6pm to 7:30 pm

Our adult bible study sessions will be resuming with a quick four week look at the book of Ruth. Come one and all, as these have been great experiences and great fun in the past.