



The Grace Vine

November 2007

Rector's Writ

It seems as soon as Halloween is over, preparation for the holiday season goes into a frantic full swing. We start thinking about how many people we'll have under one roof and around the table for Thanksgiving. We begin to hear Christmas carols the very next day. Catalogues that arrived in August are now followed by 'last minute specials' that begin before we can even light the first Advent candle. The annual stewardship drive at Church gets wrapped up, and often our intentions around prayer and gratitude to God get lost in the ongoing blitz of shopping, preparation, and partying.

That theme of stewardship being a year round effort all too easily gets pushed quietly to the back burner. We wholeheartedly agree with the Thanksgiving and stewardship reminders that ALL we have comes from God. Yet too often we forget too quickly about gratitude, joy, giving thanks to God, and giving back to God.

It's no accident that our weekly Eucharist includes both a prayer of confession and a prayer of thanksgiving. It's a lovely balance reminding us how faith calls us to respond to God's goodness. We need to receive forgiveness and offer our thanks; to receive strength and offer our faithfulness; to receive grace and offer our gratitude. We learn to humbly accept these gifts from the Lord who delights in giving them. Surely the Lord doesn't need our thanks, so much as we need to BE thankful, joyful, willing to serve, willing to give and share from ALL that we've been given. May our holiday preparation include an ongoing sense of gratitude and a generous response to the goodness, grace, and blessings God so abundantly provides us all.

For all your bounty, gracious Lord, we praise and thank you. You are ever giving with a full hand gifts to your people. May we show our gratitude in lives of service for you and for each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

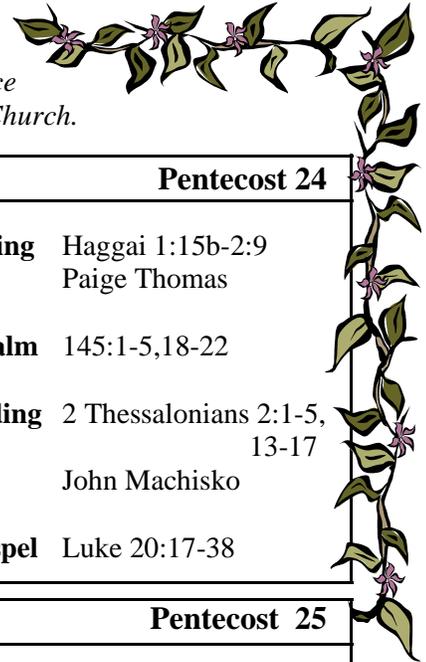
Receive, O Lord, our thanks for the blessings you continually bestow upon us. We offer to you the gifts you have given to us; and we pray that they may be used to carry out your gracious will, with joy and thanksgiving, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Adapted from Services and Prayers for Country Use by Paul Welsby)



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.

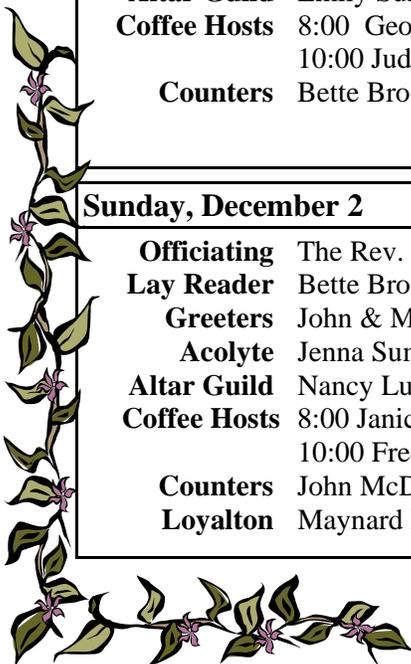


Sunday, November 11		8:00 & 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist	Pentecost 24
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans		1st Reading Haggai 1:15b-2:9 Paige Thomas Psalm 145:1-5,18-22 2nd Reading 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17 John Machisko Gospel Luke 20:17-38
Deacon	The Rev. William D. Snyder		
Lay Reader	Carolyn Englert		
Greeters	Jim & Nancy Ervin		
Acolyte	Schylar Conway & Phillip Crouse		
Altar Guild	Amy Neely & Bette Brooks		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Janice Lallathin & Jennifer Golec 10:00 John & Mary Jean McDonald		
Counters	Bette Brooks & Kelly Postlethwaite		
4:00 – 6:00 YOUTH SPAGHETTI DINNER			

Sunday, November 18		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	Pentecost 25
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans		1st Reading Isaiah 65:17-25 Roberta O'Keefe Kathy Summy Canticle 9 2nd Reading 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Gordon Thompson Gospel Luke 21:5-19
Lay Reader	Maynard Evans		
Greeters	Nancy & Fred Lundgren		
Acolyte	Julie Canan & Taylor Paxton		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Cindy Hoskins & Pat Williams 10:00 John & Irene Machisko		
Altar Guild	Amy Neely & Bette Brooks		
Counters	Bette Brooks & Kelly Postlethwaite		
Loyalton	Bill Snyder		
6:00 PM ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE @ GRACE CHURCH			

Sunday, November 25		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	Last Pentecost
Officiating	The Rev. William Lyle		1st Reading Jeremiah 23:1-6 Kelly Postlethwaite Canticle 16 2nd Reading Colossians 1:11-20 Bud Minnich Gospel Luke 23:33-43
Lay Reader	Judy Canan		
Greeters	Bud Minnich & Leslie Thomas		
Acolyte	Jenna Summy & Eric Splinter		
Altar Guild	Emily Summy		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 George Furrer 10:00 Judy & Kay Canan		
Counters	Bette Brooks & Kelly Postlethwaite		

Sunday, December 2		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	Advent 1
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans		1st Reading Isaiah 2:1-5 Carolyn Englert Psalm 122 2nd Reading Romans 13:11-14 Steve Barna Gospel Matthew 24:36-44
Lay Reader	Bette Brooks		
Greeters	John & Mary Jean McDonald		
Acolyte	Jenna Summy & Taylor Paxton		
Altar Guild	Nancy Lundgren, Nancy Ervin, & Shirley Johnson		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Janice Lallathin & Jennifer Golec 10:00 Fred & Nancy Lundgren		
Counters	John McDonald & Cathy Mansor		
Loyalton	Maynard Evans		





Did You Know?...



Mike Johnson and **John McDonald** have placed a bulletin board in the parish hall to honor all the servicemen currently serving their country, and **Shirley Johnson** decorated it. If you have a picture of the men and women we currently have on our prayer list please put it on this bulletin board with their name, where they are stationed and any other information of interest...

If you thought September was busy, October was by far busier...with all the carpets being cleaned, acolyte training (we have two new acolytes **Taylor Paxton** and **Phillip Crouse**); the Blessing of the Animals, and our first Church Periodical Club collection which brought in \$108.00...

Children's Sabbath went very well with lots of music and participation by our youth people. **Emily Summy** and **Julie Canan** did the sermon skit. **Josh Crouse** played the guitar for the children's choir, **Eric Splinter** played the organ, **Phillip Crouse** and **Nikki Stickle** were our lay readers, and **Eric Splinter**, **Kevin Splinter**, **Schylar Conway**, **McKenna Conway**, **Sammy Stickle**, and **Jenna Summy** did the Prayers of the People...

Thank you to **Shirley Johnson** and **Nancy Lundgren** for the beautiful fall arrangement that's in front of the altar...

The fall ingathering of the United Thank Offering had 35 people contribute a total of \$362.83...

We participated in the Portage County Crop Walk and our congregation and friends pledged \$499.00 for our walkers, **Bill Snyder**, **George Furrer**, **Kathy Summy**, **Emily Summy** and **Jenna Summy**, and **Phillip Crouse**...

Pat Williams, **Nancy Lundgren**, **Mary Jean McDonald**, **Nancy Ervin**, **Bette Brooks**, **Marcia Splinter**, **Marsha Snyder**, **Joan Seman**, **Roberta O'Keefe**, **Cindy Hoskins**, **Sandy Elbricht**, **Betty Capriola**, **Kay Canan** and **Irene Machisko**, were just a few of the members of the Episcopal Church Women who served the 9:00 AM Stewardship Sunday breakfast to about 50 people, in thanksgiving for everyone who gives of their talents and treasures to Grace Church...

The Sit and Stitch Group made 30 dolls and purchased toy cars to be sent to an orphanage in Africa...

The Episcopal Church Women donated 140 pkg. underwear, 111 pkg. socks, 4 pkg. undershirts, and 12 crochet hats to the County Clothing Center that will be distributed during the holiday season...

Habitat lunch was cooked and served by **Blake Quay**, **Kay Canan**, and **Marsha Snyder** to about 36 volunteers at the project site in Kent...

Judy Canan served lunch here at Grace for the Hunger Network folks that came from as far as Columbus...

Emily Summy, **Phillip Crouse**, **Josh Crouse** and **Julie Canan**, of our Youth Group, participated in the Youth conference at Christ Church, Warren...

The "Feeding the Future" project, that will serve lunch after church the last Sunday of the month to college students, began this month with a covered dish dinner after church on October 28th. Thanks to **Kay Canan** who got this project off and running...

A new furnace was placed in the rectory, thanks to **John McDonald** and **Cory Conway** who spent hours with the furnace contractors...

WOW!! THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN THIS CHURCH, OUR COMMUNITY, AND THE WORLD...

Stacy and Tim Scibelli are the proud new parents of Emily Claire born on October 18th, Emily weighed five pounds and 5 ounces and was 18 inches long. Big brother Zack is very happy with the new member of the family. And it sure was nice of **Kathy Summy** and **Chris Stickle** to take supper over to the Scibelli's, so Stacy and Tim didn't have to cook a meal. I'll bet they appreciated that!!...

The Beatty Committee is asking members of the parish for suggestions for the 2008 allocations, applications are on the table in back of the church...

Mary Jean McDonald spent a week in California visiting with daughter **Amy** and her family. Nine year old granddaughter **Alexandra** and Mary Jean are kindred spirits, they love to knit and sew and are great pals. Mary Jean brought Alexandra a knitting

tool and they had to make a trip to the fabric store and to get more yarn.

While Mary Jean was gone, husband **John and Bill Snyder** did some fishing in Lake Erie, without much luck, I might add!! However, **Maynard Evans** and Bill had great luck (although Bill and Maynard wouldn't call it luck) at their private pond and **Cindy Hoskins** was the grateful recipient of that catch. But, you know that's one thing about fishermen I don't understand; when they don't catch anything it is said, "We weren't lucky.", or "They aren't biting." But when they do catch something it's "skill". I'm sure I'm missing something...

Jesse Moore recently went to a birthday party and when his mom **Kelly** asked him if he enjoyed it he said "yes, it was ok", but when Kelly saw the video of the party she was really surprised to see, little quiet Jesse was the life of the party, and the boy can really dance. What a cutie!!...

Taylor Paxton, played soccer for the Greater Akron league, and she won two gold metals when her team won their division, and the playoffs...

Janell Moore also plays soccer and her team came in second place at Ravenna Parks and Rec. and brother **Jesse's** team did really well, but at his age they don't keep score. Janell made the Ladies Raven basketball team and out of 26 girls that tried out only 11 were chosen. She also is playing the saxophone in the school band and joined the school choir. Jesse is

in the 3rd grade play, where he is playing a chef...

Paige Paxton, loves to help grandma **Nancy Lundgren**, with some of her altar guild duties, but the question to Nancy is "Grandma do you have to do the dishes today?" Now, that's a different way of looking at altar guild duty...

Now we all know how hard **Bette Brooks** has worked at being mother to four young girls, worked hard as a professor at Kent State, spent years working for her PhD and saw all the girls in and out college, she worked as senior warden at Grace Church and other committees at church; but now she is being relegated to that most noble of ranks --- GRANDMA. That's right, daughter **Caroline and husband Daniel Shaver** are expecting their first child. Now didn't you hear the earth shake when the Brooks girls got that exciting news. I know I did...

Judy & Roger Watkins are back in Florida for the winter; don't forget to think of us on those cold winter days...

Addrienne and Cory Conway are moving to Cory's family home some time in the month of November, so they're doing a lot of painting, removing of wall paper, fixing a gas leak, new carpeting and all those things that go with a move. We do wish them well.

Any information you would like to see in the "Did You Know" may be given to Tim Splinter or Marsha Snyder.

Baptisms

- 2nd Sally Dier
Paige Thomas
Colin Thomas
- 6th JD Novak
Eleanor Blank
- 13th Martha Baker
- 14th Emily Ervin
Kelly Ervin
- 17th Dani Dier
- 19th June Marks
- 21st Frank Seman



Congratulations!

and many happy returns...

Birthdays

- 1st Amy Neely
- 2nd Jennifer Golec
Melissa Strainer
- 3rd Julie Canan
- 8th Mechele Novak
- 10th Sandee West
- 13th Ron Postlethwaite
- 18th Judy Watkins
- 24th Eddie Stewart
- 25th Cory Conway
- 27th Chris Stickle

Anniversaries

- 3rd John & Mary Jean McDonald
- 23rd Steve & Marsha Barna
Dick & Louise Thacker
- 25th Dutch & Goldie Shriver
- 27th Jim & Sandee West



On the Horizon

**Saturday November 10th
Craft Fair at Streetsboro
United Methodist
9am-3pm**

We'll be taking some our stock of crafts to the fair to try to sell some more. We will need some volunteer help at the fair. If you have any items to donate to the sale, they are welcome too.

**Fellowship & Game Night
6:30pm**

Come on in for our monthly fun! Bring your game, your cards, your favorite snack, or just yourself!

**Sunday November 11th
Spaghetti Dinner
By Youth Group
4-6pm
\$5 / person**

**Sunday November 18th
Community Thanksgiving
Service—6pm**

Grace will be hosting the open Ravenna Community Thanksgiving Service this year.

**Saturday December 1st
Sarah Coventry Party
2pm**

The Sarah Coventry Jewelry fund raiser returns. Look elsewhere for more details.

**Saturday December 8th
Fellowship & Game Night
6:30pm**

Come on in for our monthly fun! Bring your game, your cards, your favorite snack, or just yourself!

**May 10th 2008
Flower Sale**

**May 17th 2008
Men's Garage Sale**

Stewardship: Giving Time, Talent, and Treasure

We have much for which to be thankful at Grace Church, and we need faithful members to carry out the ongoing ministry, service, and giving we're called to do. We're asking that all financial pledges be returned (either in the offering plate or mailed to the office) **by November 18th**, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. If you've already returned your pledge card, we thank you. If not, we ask you to pray and to talk with those you love about what you believe God is calling you to give. The rough calculation is that if every household could increase their giving by about \$7 per week, that would eliminate our deficit and reduce our reliance on Beatty funds to make up the shortfall. We realize that's not possible for some people, but if you've been blessed and can increase your pledge, that would be appreciated. Thank you for all you give and do to support God's work through our ministries at Grace Church and in our community.

Noah's Ark Deanery Project

Our Deanery is working to generate interest in Noah's Ark, our Deanery Outreach Project. It's an opportunity for us to do more with the combined efforts of several churches than we can with each church working solo.

It's an outreach project that cooperates with Millennium Development Goals, especially the first goal, which is to "eradicate extreme poverty and hunger" in our world. Our deanery churches are now in the process of raising funds to send animals (cows, chickens, pigs, goats, etc.) to needy families through the Heifer Project. Our goal is to raise \$5,000 by December 30th, and we're almost halfway there. We ask for your prayerful and financial support for the project. (Any contributions please memo "Noah's Ark Outreach," and put in the offering plate or mail to the Church office.) THANK YOU.

The Bulletin Board

Spaghetti Dinner
4:00 - 6:00 PM
\$5.00 PER PERSON
Sponsored by the Youth C

Craft Fair
Saturday, November 10th
Streetsboro United Methodist
Church
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

We will be taking our "leftover crafts" to someone else's craft fair this year. We need someone to help set up on Friday night and to work at the fair. Please see Marcia Splinter if you can help from 9:00 - 12:00 and then from 12:00 - 3:00. If you have any craft items you can donate that would also be appreciated.

Sarah Coventry Party
Saturday, December 1
2:00 PM

A Sarah Coventry Party will be held here on December 1st at 2:00 (all orders will be due by that date). Books and order forms will be available to get people interested in coming to the party or to take pre-orders. We will receive 20% of all sales and orders will be shipped directly to the customer in time for Christmas. Ladies you can actually get something you want for Christmas.

**Ecumenical
Thanksgiving Service**
Sunday, November 18TH
6:00 PM at Grace

Grace Church hasn't hosted the community Thanksgiving Service in many a year and this is our year. Please make an effort to be present. A reception will be held in the parish hall after this service. The Rev. Jim Melick, the Director of Pastoral Care and Chaplain at Robinson Memorial Hospital will preach. A sign up sheet will be available for cookies and other goodies at the reception.

CHURCH KITC TE
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The church kitc is
in need of dish els,
dish cloths, and per
towels. If you
donate any of se
items it woul
appreciate.

The Bulletin Board

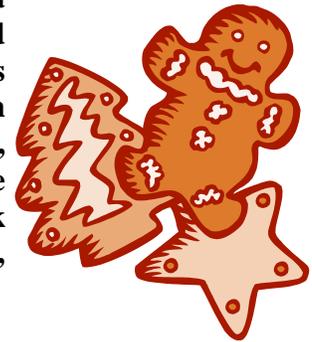
Bishop's Blend Coffee

Bishop's Blend Coffee will be available again this year in time for your Christmas giving. The four different varieties will be priced at \$10.00 per bag. Order forms will be available in the parish hall. Orders and payment will be due Nov. 25th.



ECW Christmas Cookie Sale

Order forms are available in the parish hall for anyone interested in buying a variety of home made Christmas cookies and candies at \$4.00 a dozen. For a decorated tin, add \$2.00 to your order and for a gift plate, add \$4.00. Orders must be turned in by November 11th, cookies will be available for pick up on Sunday, December 16th.



DEANERY DOINGS:

St. Timothy's, Macedonia has a new giant wooden playground set. Their rector, Albert Jennings says the children (and some young-at-heart adults) really like the slide! They had a new sound system installed, have a new stewardship program in the works, and held both a rummage sale and chili dinner in October. They're preparing for their annual Christmas cookie sale December 8th, 91m--1pm, and are planning their first Advent Quiet Day December 1st.

Christ Church, Kent has hired Nancy Baxter as Christian Ed Director, and their rector, Mother Julie Fisher welcomes Nancy's new ministry and expertise. Parishioner Sally Baird has returned from a mission trip to Nigeria where she spend a good amount of time at an Episcopal orphanage which the people of Christ Church help support. Mother Julie had the Natural Church Development training offered by the diocese in September.

Christ Church, Hudson's rector, Brian Suntken, has been part of the Mission Strategy Task Force which will offer a report to Convention. Christ Church has started another season of Evensong services, which present special music and guest speakers, including Bishop Hollingsworth last April. A variety of music is offered through the season, including a Jazz Evensong which has proved very popular. Evensong is the second Sunday of each month at 5:15 pm and is follow by a reception. It's a lovely service and the people of Christ Church welcome all to attend.

St. Paul's, Medina had a rescheduled Vestry meeting so deanery members had to make that first priority. Jeff Berno sent information re: educational and awareness resources available for order for the Heifer Project. St. Paul's will be doing the 28 day family program of learning and raising funds for the deanery's outreach project of Noah's Ark. St. Paul's rector, Eric Funston and two parishioners attended the Natural Church Development training, and they may consider participating as a pilot church in the program.