



The Grace Vine

November 2012

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 is in full swing, and often our intentions around prayer and gratitude to God get lost in the ongoing blitz of shopping, preparation, and partying.

The 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. Happy Thanksgiving!!

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.



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 4		8:00 & 10:00 AM Morning Prayer	All Saint's Sunday
Celebrant	The Rev. Bill Snyder		1st Reading Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9
Lay Reader	8:00 Bette Brooks 10:00 Carolyn Englert		Nancy Lundgren
Greeters	Nancy & Fred Lundgren		Psalm 24
Acolyte	Eric Splinter		2nd Reading Revelation 21:1-6a
Altar Guild	Amy Neely & Debbie Shorts		Fred Lundgren
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Frank & Joan Seman 10:00 Chris Stickle & Loretta Reigelman		Gospel John 11:32-44
Counters	John McDonald & Cathy Mansor		
Emeritus	Kathy Summy		
Sunday, November 11		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	24 Pentecost
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans		1st Reading Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17
Deacon	The Rev. William Snyder		Kathy Summy
Lay Reader	10:00 Roberta O'Keefe		Psalm 127
Greeters	Nancy & Jim Ervin		2nd Reading Hebrews 9:24-28
Acolyte	Kevin Splinter		Tim Splinter
Altar Guild	Amy Neely & Debbie Shorts		Gospel Mark 12:38-44
Coffee Hosts	10:00 John & Irene Machisko 8:00 George Furrer		
Counters	John McDonald & Cathy Mansor		
Sunday, November 18		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	Thanksgiving
Thanksgiving Liturgy			1st Reading I Samuel 1:4-20
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans		Cathy Mansor
Lay Reader	8:00 Bette Brooks 10:00 Nancy Lundgren		Canticle I Samuel 2:1-10
Greeters	John & Mary Jean McDonald		2nd Reading Hebrews 10:11-25
Acolyte	Cathy Mansor		Maynard Evans
Altar Guild	Amy Neely & Debbie Shorts		Gospel Mark 13:1-8
Coffee Hosts	8:00 TBA 10:00 Jim & Nancy Ervin		
Counters	John McDonald & Cathy Mansor		
Emeritus	Bill Snyder		
Sunday, November 25		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	Last Sun. of Pentecost
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans		1st Reading 2 Samuel 23:1-7
Lay Reader	8:00 Roberta O'Keefe 10:00 Carolyn Englert		Martha Croll
Greeters	David Miller & Alex Wroblewski		Psalm 132:1-19
Acolyte	Jeff Marsh		2nd Reading Revelation 1:4b-8
Altar Guild	Amy Neely & Debbie Shorts		Jeff Croll
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Midge Myers 10:00 Fred & Nancy Lundgren		Gospel John 18:33-37
Counters	John McDonald & Cathy Mansor		



Sunday, December 2		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	I Advent
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans		1st Reading Jeremiah 33:14-16 Fred Lundgren
Lay Reader	8:00 Bette Brooks 10:00 Carolyn Englert		Psalm 25:1-9
Greeters	Nancy & Fred Lundgren		2nd Reading 1Thessalonians 3:9-13 Nancy Lundgren
Acolyte	Eric Splinter		
Altar Guild	N. Lundgren, N. Ervin & C Hoskins		Gospel Luke 21:25-36
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Frank & Joan Seman 10:00 Lisa, Taylor & Paige Paxton		
Counters	John McDonald & Cathy Mansor		

Sunday, December 9		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	2 Advent
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans		1st Reading Baruch 5:1-9 Tim Splinter
Lay Reader	8:00 The Rev. William Snyder 10:00 Roberta O'Keefe		Canticle 4 Luke 1:68-79
Greeters	Steve & Susan Merrill		2nd Reading Philippians 1:3-11 Kathy Summy
Acolyte	Cathy Mansor		
Altar Guild	N. Lundgren, N. Ervin & C. Hoskins		Gospel Luke 3:1-6
Coffee Hosts	8:00 TBA 10:00 John & Mary Jean McDonald		
Counters	Fred Lundgren & Reba Cook		
Emeritus	Kathy Summy		

What am I Thankful For?

Of the many, many blessing that for us God has in store I'd like to tell you just a few that I am thankful for.

I'm thankful that I have a home and family so dear, for life and health and food and clothes, and friends both far and near.

I'm thankful for the seasons and the weather that they bring - for the sparkling snow in winter and the beauty of spring.

I'm thankful that I'm live in the country of the free; I'm thankful that the war is o'er, and hope that peace there'll be.

I'm thankful that I have church where I can go each week to mediate, and sing, and pray, and hear the rector speak.

I'm thankful for the Word of God, the Bible He has given, that tell us how to live on earth, and points the way to heaven.

But most of all I'm thankful for the One who died for me, who shed His precious blood upon the cross of Calvary.

Without salvation wondrous plans this world would all be lost; I thank the One who freely gave and counted not the cost.

So let's all count our blessing from our heavenly Father dear, and have Thanksgiving every day instead of once a year.

*(Written in 1945, at the close of World War II
by Eva Hilley)*



Did You Know?...



Thanks to **Shirley Johnson and Pat Williams** for hosting the ECW breakfast meeting. At this meeting it was decided to once again have the Christmas Cookie Sale beginning in December. So don't forget to bake and buy cookies – you will be notified. They will also begin to supply Safer Futures (a battered women's home here in Ravenna) with needed items. See the information elsewhere in this newsletter for those items. This will be an on going event...

The Men's Garage Sale was one of the "big news" events of the month. What started out to be an idea to have the men of Grace Church involved in a fund raiser turned out to be a successful garage sale. We were blessed in raising \$1585.60 from the sale. A huge thank you to **Bill Snyder, Mike Johnson, John McDonald, Jeff Croll, Dennis Dier, George Furrer, Billy Johnson, Jeff Marsh, Steve Merrill, Jim Ervin, and Tony Worthen** for making this a successful endeavor. Thanks to **Shirley Johnson & Mary Jean McDonald** for writing the newspaper ads. It was a beautiful day and there was more "stuff" than you can imagine. The crowds were large, the prices were right and thanks to some very busy and helpful people (including some women) it was a huge success. **Nancy Lundgren & Sally Dier**, not wanting to miss this opportunity, opened Gracie's Back Door that day which proved to be a (as Martha Stewart would say) "very good thing". For those who weren't interested in tools, hardware and Ohio State memorabilia; Gracie's was just the place for them. And of course our Youth Group didn't miss this opportunity either and got into the mix selling donuts & coffee for breakfast and hot dogs, chips, and pop for lunch. **Chrissy & Nikki Stickle** took charge of the kitchen and they fed the crowd. And the men gave the Youth Group an extra \$100.00 for their efforts. After the dust had cleared, the parish hall cleaned and vacuumed and everyone went home to rest or to watch their favorite college football game, **Rev. Carol & Marsha Snyder** were talking in the parking lot when a pathetic gray cat happened to come down the alley. You could tell that she hadn't eaten in a long while and knowing a hot dog was thrown in the dumpster, they went dumpster diving to retrieve it, which made for one happy cat...

The Blessing of the Animals took place on October 9th. Ten of our pets were blessed by Rev. Carol including: **Kathy & Jenna Summys'** dog Topper and cat Arizona; **Cindy Hoskin's** dog Jessie Ann; **Judy Canan's** cat Halley; **Jeff & Martha Croll's** dog Barkley; **Cathy Mansor's** dog Penny; **Alice Boydell's** dog Cindy Lou; **Marsha & Bill Snyder's** cat Gunner; **Neil & Liz's** dog Melvin; and **Judy Halse & Mark Hoskin's** dog Belle. The Summys have the biggest cat we've ever seen and Liz & Neil had a HUGE

dog; a Great Dane who looked over the proceedings as if he were above everything – or just casing the joint - looking for a snack. We just weren't sure. But it was fun to see all the animals and those they love...

We had our annual Bishop's Visitation on October 14th. **Bishop Mark Hollingsworth** came to confirm seven of our members: **Lane Autry, Wilda Autry, Loretta Reigelman, Taylor Paxton, Samantha Stickle, Jenna Summy, and Alexandra Wroblewski**. The hospitality committee headed by **Nancy Ervin** served a delicious covered dish luncheon that followed the service. Thanks to everyone who brought food to share and thanks to Bishop Hollingsworth for his visit. The Bishop spoke during the luncheon and asked for questions or any information we wanted to share with him. He also met with the Vestry after the luncheon and some lively conversation took place...

And as if that day weren't busy enough the Crop Walk took place and **Bill Snyder and George Furrer** walked the 4.2 mile trail and raised \$400 from the members of Grace Church that was added to the \$2,087 from other churches in the Ravenna community. Thanks to everyone who supported the effort to end hunger and supporting Crop Walk. We especially thank **Roberta O'Keefe**, who couldn't walk due to illness, but was our Crop Walk coordinator...

On Sunday, September 30th the Rotary Club of Ravenna honored **Ken Boydell** for his leadership and 47 years of perfect attendance. **Alice** attended and enjoyed this event in memory of Ken...

Fred & Nancy Lundgren drove to Texas to visit with their son **Bill** and his daughters **Jeanie & Susie**. They had a wonderful time but the weather wasn't what Nancy had expected and she had to buy jeans and sweat shirts. Texas was cold!!...

Bud Minnich enjoyed his class reunion. Bud's from the Ravenna High School class of 1943 and was among the 13 other members of the class in attendance...

Judy Canan is excited about having all her family coming home for Thanksgiving this year and even better - her son **David** is doing the cooking...

Judy Watkins is back in Florida for the winter. She flew down and her ex-son-in-law drove her car with all the "stuff" you can't get on a plane and will meet her in Florida. Enjoy your winter Judy and think of us here in the Ohio winter wonderland.

Kevin Splinter's Middle School Football team is done for the season and had a good year at 4-4. Now he's thinking to go out for wrestling over the winter. Does this boy ever stop?

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

- Thanks to the men of the church for the garage sale they sponsored.
 - Thanks to everyone who worked on the garage sale.
 - Thanks to those who placed the ads in the newspapers: Shirley Johnson in the Warren Tribune, Mary Jean McDonald in the Akron Beacon Journal, and Bill Snyder in the Record Courier.
 - Thanks to those who donated items and to those who bought them, and everyone who helped clean up afterwards.
 - Thanks to Nancy Ervin and the hospitality group for all their work with luncheon reception after Bishop Hollingsworth's visitation and Confirmation.
 - Thanks to everyone who brought in food for the reception.
 - Thanks to Roberta O'Keefe for offering to be the Grace Church Crop Walk representative and thanks to all those who donated to that wonderful cause.
 - Thanks to George Furrer and Bill Snyder for walking the 4.2 miles of the Crop Walk.
 - Thanks to Rev. Carol for offering the Blessings of the Animals for our furry family members.
 - Thanks again to Sally Dier and Nancy Lundgren for all their hard work in Gracie's Back Door.
 - Thanks to those who continue to bring in items for Gracie's.
 - Thanks to John McDonald & Fred Lundgren for their continued work on the church windows, they are still scraping and painting the trim.
 - Thanks to Reba Cook, Midge Myers, & Fred Lundgren for offering to represent Grace Church at the Diocesan Convention held at the Cleveland Marriott East in Warrensville Hts.
 - Thanks to Shirley Johnson for sending the birthday & anniversary cards to parishioners.
 - Thanks to Bev Lewis-Mercury for the knitting prayer shawls.
- 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.*

Baptisms

2nd Sally Dier
6th Eleanor Blank
7th Aiden Young
17th Dennis Dier
19th June Marks
21st Frank Seman



Congratulations!

and many happy returns...

Birthdays

1st Amy Neely
2nd Jennifer Golec
3rd Julie Canan
8th Mechele Novak
Stephanie Amiruzzaman
18th Judy Watkins
24th Eddie Stewart
27th Chris Stickle



Anniversaries

3rd John & Mary Jean McDonald
25th Dutch & Goldie Shriver



The Bulletin Board

Acolytes Schedule

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

12/16—Kevin

12/23—Jeff

12/24—TBA

12/30—Eric

Tim@splinterfactions.net

Marcia@splinterfactions.net

330-527-2084

Gracie's is in need of the following items:

- trash bags
- dish detergent
- paper towels
- window cleaner
- plate stands
- hand cleanser
- paper shopping bags
- bottle brush
- scrubbies
- roll of price stickers
- price tags with string
- solid room fresheners
- broom w/dust pan
- bagless vacuum

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

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME WILL END ON
NOVEMBER 4TH**

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.

Stewardship Giving Time, Talent & Treasurer

You will soon be receiving your Stewardship letter and financial pledge cards. 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 about what you believe God is calling you to give. Thank you for all you give and do to support God's work through our ministries at Grace Church and in our community.

COOKIE SALE

It is time to get out there and offer our delicious, home-baked Christmas Cookies to all your friends, family, and co-workers! Order sheets are available in the Parish Hall and in this newsletter, and are due back by December 9th. The cost is \$4.00 a dozen and payment must accompany the orders. The cookies will be boxed on Saturday, December 16th, and distributed on Sunday, December 17th.

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

*Acme register tapes
are being collected for
the County Clothing
Center, please give
these tapes to Mary
Jean McDonald or
Marsha Snyder.*

Fathers (and Mothers) and Friends

By Bette Brooks

*They lived not only in ages past; there are hundreds of thousands still.
The world is bright with the joyous saints who love to do Jesus' will.*

All Souls Day (All Faithful Departed)

November 2

On November 1 of each year, we commemorate All Saints Day. This is the day when all the “named” saints of the Church are remembered. The following day, November 2, is All Souls Day.

In a year of several deeply-felt personal losses, I decided to write about All Souls Day, the day during which we remember the host of saints in our own lives, men and women who had an impact on us that was perhaps immediate. Or maybe that influence was subtle and is apparent only now—years later, upon reflection. These wonderful people are now in God’s nearer presence and their actions or words are memories—or perhaps you are living their words and deeds now in your own life and ministry. Let’s pause and remember them. Below are prayers that help us when we have no words.

FOR ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Grant to your whole Church in paradise and on earth, your light and your peace.

Grant that all those who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve you with a quiet mind.

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your fatherly care, that, casting all their grief upon you, they may know the consolation of your love.

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

Help us, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting.

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in your eternal and everlasting glory, and, with all your saints, to receive the crown of life which you promise to all who share in the victory of your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

FOR FRIENDS AND THOSE WE LOVE

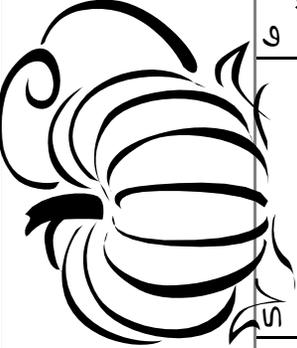
Father of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

We seem to give them back to you, O God, who gave them to us. Yet as you did not lose them in giving, so we do not lose them by their return. Not as the world gives do you give, O Lover of souls. What you give you take not away, for what is yours is ours also if we are yours.

And life is eternal, and love is immortal, and death is only a horizon, and a horizon is nothing, save the limit of our sight. Lift us up, strong Son of God, that we may see further; cleanse our eyes that we may see more clearly; draw us closer to yourself that we may know ourselves to be nearer our loved ones who are with you.

And while you do prepare a place for us, prepare us also for that happy place, that where you are, we may be also for evermore. Amen

November The Grace Vine 2012

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 All Saint's Day •7pm Choir	2 All Soul's Day	3
4 All Saint's •8am Morning Pr •9am Coffee •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am Morning Pr •11:15 Coffee	5 	6 Election Day	7 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	8 •7pm Choir	9 Diocesan Convention	10 Diocesan Convention •6pm Fellowship & Game Night
11 24 Pentecost •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	12	13 •1-3 Sit & Stitch	14 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •5:30pm Healing Service & Eucharist	15 •8am Retired Men's Breakfast •7pm Choir	16	17
18 25 Pentecost •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	19 ECW Deanery Meeting	20 •7pm Vestry Meeting	21 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	22 Thanksgiving	23	24
25 Last Pentecost •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	26	27 •1-3 Sit & Stitch	28 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	29 •7pm Choir	30	

The Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church
 Fred Lundgren (2012)
 Sue Ahrens (2012)
 Joan Seman (2012)
 Cathy Mansor (2013)
 Jeff Marsh (2013)
 Barb Popiel (2013)
 Reba Cook (2014)
 John McDonald (2014)
 Midge Myers (2014)

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
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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

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