



The Grace Vine

October 2006

Rector's Reflections

Have you ever wondered what it would be like if the Church didn't have to hold stewardship campaigns every year? It seems there are people who think the Church is always asking for money and those who think we need to ask for and do more, especially in the areas of outreach ministries. We have people who think the concept of pledging—giving out of gratitude from the abundance God has given us—should be added to our catechism and then never mentioned again. (Doesn't seem quite the attitude of a joyful and grateful heart, does it?)

If we operated like the IRS (with penalties and fines)...or like the utility companies (look at the predictions—not at weather, but at life--and adjust the rates accordingly)...or if we were better at the guilt game that some religious organizations use so well, it MIGHT make stewardship campaigns easier.

But easiness and convenience are NOT what the Church is about. We uphold the tithe (or 10%) as the Biblical standard and encourage people to strive for that goal in giving. We NEED and RELY on generous pledges by faithful members to keep our doors open and pay our budget items. But those items on the budget are NOT the REASON we give.

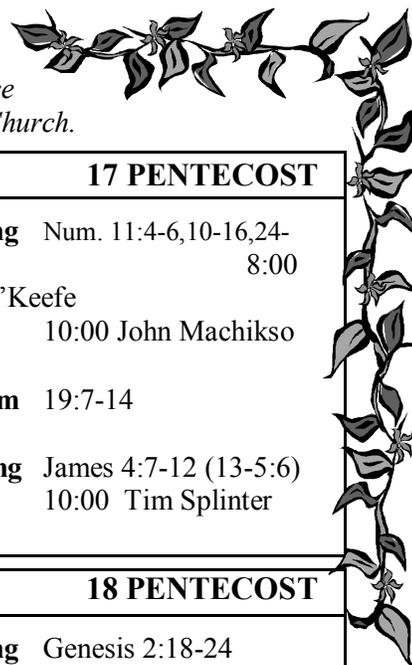
Our pledge for God's work in the Church and the world is a commitment; one based on faith before finances. Our giving is a response to the ways God has blessed and continues to bless us. It's a recognition that all we have in this earthly life—family, friends, grace, health, talents, money, matters material and matters spiritual—ALL of it comes from God. Grace Church relies on the contributions people give in the way of TIME, TALENT, and TREASURE. We give not only of our substance but of ourselves; and if it weren't for that giving—from what God has given us—Grace Church wouldn't be here. Our willingness to GIVE, SERVE, and PRAY together is an essential part of our worship, our gratitude, and good stewardship of all the Lord provides.

It's not how MUCH we pledge, but the spirit surrounding what we GIVE and how we SERVE. May we trust in that sense of abundance which leads us to give and serve as a faithful response to God's goodness, grace, and provision.



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.

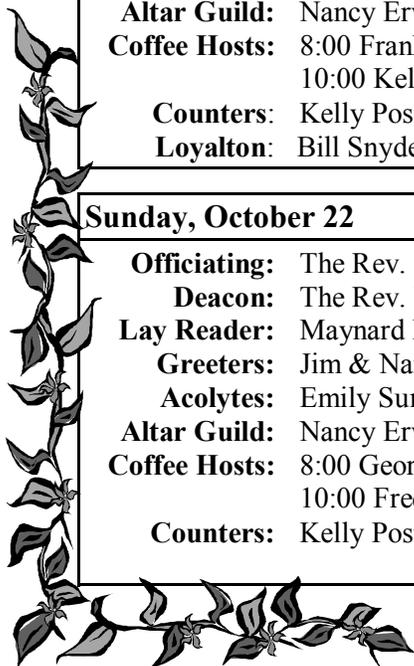


Sunday, October 1	8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	17 PENTECOST
Officiant: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Lay Reader: Carolyn Englert Greeters: Bonnie Quay & Sandee West Acolytes: Paige Thomas & Schylar Conway Altar Guild: Nancy Ervin & Irene Machisko Coffee Hosts: 8:00 Golec girls 10:00 John & Irene Machisko Counters: Kelly Postlethwaite & Pat Williams Loyalton: Maynard Evans	1st Reading Num. 11:4-6,10-16,24-29 8:00 Roberta O'Keefe 10:00 John Machikso Psalm 19:7-14 2nd Reading James 4:7-12 (13-5:6) 10:00 Tim Splinter	

Sunday, October 8	8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	18 PENTECOST
Officiating: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Deacon: The Rev. William D. Snyder Lay Reader: Bette Brooks Greeters: Betty Capriola & Bud Minnich Acolytes: Julie Canan & Sam Stickle Altar Guild: Nancy Ervin & Irene Machisko Coffee Hosts: 8:00 TBA 10:00 Judy & Kay Canan Counters: Kelly Postlethwaite & Pat Williams	1st Reading Genesis 2:18-24 8:00 Melissa Strainer 10:00 Bud Minnich Psalm 128 2nd Reading Hebrews 2:(1-8) 9-18 10:00 Cathy Mansor Gospel Mark 10:2-9	

Sunday, October 15	10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	19 PENTECOST
CHILDREN'S SABBATH Officiating: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Lay Reader: Judy Canan Greeters: John & Mary Jean McDonald Acolytes: CC Emily Summy, T Sam Stickle & Eric Splinter Readers: Chelsea Postlethwaite & Paige Thomas Altar Guild: Nancy Ervin & Irene Machikso Coffee Hosts: 8:00 Frank & Joan Seman 10:00 Kelly & Ron Postlethwaite Counters: Kelly Postlethwaite & Pat Williams Loyalton: Bill Snyder	1st Reading Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 8:00 Roberta O'Keefe 10:00 Blake Quay Psalm 90:1-8, 12 2nd Reading Hebrews 3:1-6 10:00 Kathy Summy Gospel Mark 10:17-27 (28-31)	

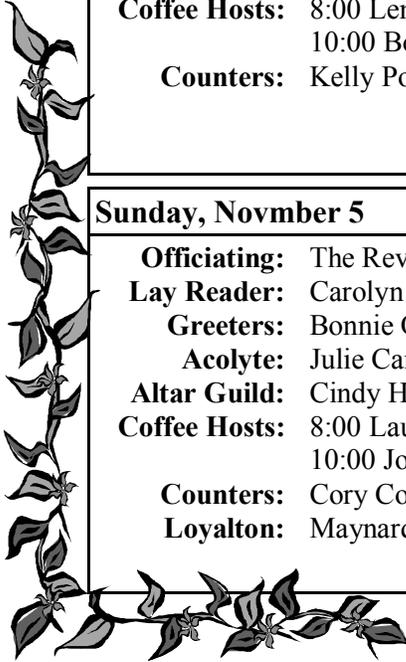
Sunday, October 22	8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	20 PENTECOST
Officiating: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Deacon: The Rev. William D. Snyder Lay Reader: Maynard Evans Greeters: Jim & Nancy Ervin Acolytes: Emily Summy & Schylar Conway Altar Guild: Nancy Ervin & Irene Machisko Coffee Hosts: 8:00 George Furrer 10:00 Fred & Nancy Lundgren Counters: Kelly Postlethwaite & Pat Williams	1st Reading Isaiah 53:4-12 8:00 Melissa Strainer 10:00 Dennis Dier Psalm 91:9-16 2nd Reading Hebrews 4:12-16 10:00 Paige Thomas Gospel Mark 10:35-45	





Sunday, October 29	8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	21 PENTECOST
Officiating: The Rev. Carol S. Evans		1st Reading Isaiah 59: (1-4) 9-19
Lay Reader: Maynard Evans		8:00 Roberta O'Keefe
Greeters: John & Irene Machisko		10:00 Steve Barna
Acolyte: Paige Thomas		Psalm 13
Altar Guild: Nancy Ervin & Irene Machisko		2nd Reading Hebrews 5:12-6:1, 9-12
Coffee Hosts: 8:00 Len & Jean Mercer		10:00 Kelly Postlethwaite
10:00 Bonnie Quay & Kay Canan		Gospel Mark 10:46-52
Counters: Kelly Postlethwaite & Pat Williams		

Sunday, November 5	8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	All Saints' Day
Officiating: The Rev. Carol S. Evans		1st Reading Eccles. 44:1-10,13-14
Lay Reader: Carolyn Englert		8:00 Roberta O'Keefe
Greeters: Bonnie Quay & Sandee West		10:00 Tim Splinter
Acolyte: Julie Canan & Sam Stickle		Psalm 149
Altar Guild: Cindy Hoskins & Amy Neely		2nd Reading Revelation 7:2-4, 9-17
Coffee Hosts: 8:00 Lauren & Melissa Strainer		10:00 Cathy Mansor
10:00 John & Mary Jean McDonald		Gospel Matthew 5:1-12
Counters: Cory Conway & Frank Seman		
Loyalton: Maynard Evans		



Thank you to everyone involved with the Balloon-A-Fair events.

This day could not be such a great success without you.

John McDonald drove his car with Bud while 23 others walked in the Parade. The youth handed out flyers with much help from the adults. At one point I believe we were stretched for an entire block. McKenna and Jillie were very thorough in their duty of handing out flyers, with Kenna wandering into the crowd several times. (I am amazed my heart is still beating).

The lunch started at 11am with one or two of the pies for the bake sale already sold. We sure love our bake sales. There was even some friendly wagering going on about who the biggest buyer would be (I should note, there were lots of cookies there). The bake sale alone made \$115.

We served very close to 200 people. I looked around at one point and could not find an empty seat. Several people I talked with commented on how much they enjoy the lunch and the company, and are making the lunch part of their Balloon-A-Fair tradition.

Kelly helped the youth group and the lunch by setting up games on the front lawn that were for donation only and every one received a prize bag. While Kelly was outside, Kay was set up inside doing tattoos and face painting. Janell and Schyler were apparently trading errands for tattoos because they were covered.

All in all the day went great and was lots of fun. On behalf of the Fun-D-Raising Committee, thank you, we appreciate all your time and hard work.

Addrianne Conway



Did You Know?...



Gordon Thompson worked at Friendly's this summer and the job required that he shave his beard, but he's back at KSU and so is the beard!!...

We are saddened by the death of **Joan Pringle** who died on Sept. 23rd in Chesapeake Virginia, Joan moved to Virginia to be near her daughter. Joan was a former secretary here at Grace, a past matron of the Order of the Eastern Star, and a British Royal Air Force veteran of WWII...

The weekend of September 16 & 17 was certainly busy around here. On September 16th the Balloon-A-Fair took place with members of the church in the parade: **Mike and Shirley Johnson, Billy Johnson, Cindy Hoskins, Pat Williams, Sue Ahrens, Katie and Emily Ahrens, and their friends, Jenna and Emily Summy and their friend, Steve and Marsha Barna, The Rev. Carol, Bud Minnich, Eric and Kevin Splinter, Addrienne, Schyler McKenna, and Jillian Conway, and Samantha Stickle.** Then the hot dog lunch was served in the parish hall to full capacity, with the help of **Cory Conway, Irene Machisko, Betty Capriola, Marcia and Tim Splinter, Carol & Maynard Evans, Kathy, Bill, Jenna & Emily Summy, Kelly, Ron, Grace Postlethwaite, Janell and Jesse Moore, Kay and Julie Canan, Bev Louis-Mercury, and Leslie and Paige Thomas. John McDonald** helped with the set up. **Kay Canan** was busy painting faces and other body parts, and **Ron and Kelly Postlethwaite** kept the kids busy in the front lawn with games.

The very next day was the Bishop's visitation. **Bishop Hollingsworth** was a huge success with the children upon his visit to Grace Church when he invited them up to the altar and spoke to them about what a bishop is and the work he does and showed them his ring, crozier (staff), cross and other parts of his vestments. **Jesse Moore** sat in the bishop's chair and the other children had an opportunity to ask him some very interesting questions. However, it was a time for confirmation for **Julie Canan** and **Bev Louis-Mercury, Alice Hyer, and Chris Stickle** were received. When the bishop asked each candidate what brought them to Grace Church, Alice said love brought her here, Julie was here out of tradition (both her mother and grandmother are members here), Bev was seeking a church, and Chris said she was badgered by her friend Addrienne to come to Grace. Whatever your reason is, we're delighted you're all here!!...

It's good to see the choir back in their proper place (the choir loft) and sounding great!! Thanks to **NyDAH Ellet, Marcia Splinter, Cathy Mansor, Marsha Snyder, Ken Boydell, Gordon Thompson, Steve Barna, Tim Splinter,** and now **Bonnie Quay** for all their hard work and dedication to the Grace Church choir. And we can't forget their fearless leader **Mary Ann Switz** who brings out the best in them...

Deacon Bill Snyder got a group of men together to help a friend in need. Bill's friend **Gary** had a stroke last year; and he just happens to heat his home with wood---so **John**

McDonald, Rick Lashley, Colin Thomas, and his cousin Vince Hill, and Bill stacked a barn full of wood in two in and a half hours. Gary and his wife wanted to thank everyone for all their hard work...

Debbie Shorts had an open house for the members of the parish and everyone who attended enjoyed visiting with her and her son **Eric** in their lovely, new, and BIG home...

Loaves and Fishes (a feeding program for the poor of Portage County that is held at the United Methodist Church) was a big successful on Saturday, September 9th. The youth of Grace Church and St. Paul's Lutheran Church helped cook and serve tacos, Spanish rice, and dessert which must have been a success because not much was left over. Thanks to our youth **Paige Thomas, Samantha Stickle, Jenna Summy, Emily Summy** and of course we can't forget the chief cook and bottle washer **Kay Canan** and the St. Paul's youth director and youth. What a great team!!...

The last of the block windows have been installed and they really look great. **John McDonald and Dennis Dier** once again took the trouble to remove all the aluminum and sold it for \$112. Thanks to everyone who contributed to make this all possible. We need to let you know that contributions are still being taken if you are so inclined...

NyDAH Ellet returned from her vacation in Scotland...

Marsha Snyder returned from her vacation in Las Vegas (and didn't win anything - so don't ask!!)...

Nancy and Fred returned from her class reunion and had a wonderful time...

Kelly Postlethwaite is coaching soccer this year - where do you find the time?...

Ralph and Kay Wise celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with a big bash - there was a great picture in the Record Courier - what a cute couple!!...

We are looking forward to **Stephanie and Brandon Higgins** moving back to the area. They have been missed.

We'd Like to Know...

The Worship Committee is considering a few optional services.

- Morning Prayer service on Thanksgiving Day
- Wednesday early evening services during Advent with or without a meal.

If you are interested, please give your feedback to Bette Brooks or Rev. Carol.

Thank you.

Baptisms

1st Perry Williams
10th Sonja Sherwood
12th Schyler Conway
13th John McDonald
Nicole Stickle
14th Bill Shorts, Jr.
15th Gwen Baker
28th Barbara Popiel
Morgan Sherwood
29th Kevin Splinter
30th Lucy Kester
31st Grace Postlethwaite



Congratulations!

and many happy returns...

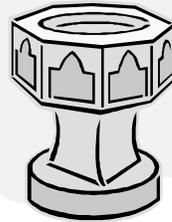


Birthdays

5th Mike Johnson
7th J.D. Novak
18th Jamie Popiel
21st Nancy Ervin
27th Ricky Sanek
28th Kate Ahrens
29th Reba Cook

Anniversaries

5th Charles & June Marks
7th Gary & Cindy Ward
11th Cory & Addrienne Conway
15th Jason & Melissa Strainer
17th Tim & Marcia Splinter
20th Bill & Kathy Summy
28th Michael & Martha Baker



Children's Sabbath Sunday October 15th At the 10:00 Service

We join with thousands of other congregations across the nation for the 15th annual observance of Children's Sabbath, focusing on the needs of children and how people of faith can respond through prayer, outreach, and advocacy.



Children's Sabbath will encourage all of us, children, youth, parents, single adults and seniors, to become involved in our congregation and local community to assure that children receive the help they need to grow, learn, and achieve their God-given potential.

Please join us at the 10am service and help us celebrate children everywhere.

United Thank Offering Fall Ingathering November 5th

UTO is collected twice a year at Grace in May and November. Please place your offering in the available blue envelope or you can pick up an envelope in the back of the church. Since 1889, the women of the Episcopal Church have contributed to this fund and it has grown into a world wide organization, not just a women's group doing some kind of "women's work."



Please pick up a Blue Box in back of the church, put it in a convenient place. Take a moment to say "thank you" to God and put a coin in that box. In the spring, put those coins in the blue envelope. We are not meant to be passive, rather we are bid to be active participants in God's world.

Thank you.



On the Horizon

Sunday October 1st Blessing of the Animals 2pm

To Celebrate St. Francis of Assisi day a blessing of the animals will take place here at Grace Church. Please don't forget your pets — they need a blessing too!!

The Rev. Carol will bless your furry friends, rain or shine, and "treats" will be served to furry and non-furry participants.



Wednesday Oct. 8th Crop Walk 2 pm

CROP stands for Communities Reaching Out to People and it's sponsored Church World Service. Walkers and Sponsors are needed for the four mile walk to benefit local and world hunger programs. Christian Cupboard & Center of Hope will share 25% of the total income.

Contact Marsha Snyder at 330-296-3443 (work) or 330-296-5143(home) to participate in this worthwhile project.

Wednesday Oct. 11th Fun-draising Committee 7pm

Saturday Oct. 14th ECW Breakfast Meeting 9 am

All women of Grace Church are welcome to join us for breakfast and fellowship. A sign up will be available in the parish hall. Please plan to attend.

Saturday Oct. 14th Spaghetti Dinner 6 pm

The Youth Group be will running a spaghetti dinner.

Wednesday Oct. 18th Adult Christian Ed

We have a tentative date for the beginning of Adult Christian Ed's Fall session. We will be studying the story of Ruth, and lessons of loyalty and obedience. This is not a "woman's" study, it has applications for all of us in our Spiritual journey. As usual, we will meet on Wednesday nights, from 6 to 8 PM, with a shared meal, fellowship, child care provided. Please make plans to join us starting October 18th.

Friday Oct. 27th Youth Group Ghosting

Contact Kelly Postlethwaite for details.

Saturday Oct. 28th Corn Maze Road Trip 2 pm

Contact Kelly Postlethwaite for details.

Saturday Nov. 11th Fall Festival & Parable of Talents 9 am—3 pm

Once again the Fall Festival will take place here at Grace Church and the ECW is also combining the Parable of Talents with this event.

Be thinking of any crafts, baked goods, or handmade items for Christmas or the Holidays and let ECW (Marsha Snyder) know if you are interested in participating in the Parable of Talents table.

Other participants, from the church or the community, can pay for tables to showcase and sell their wares. Contact Roberta O'Keefe about participating directly in the Festival with full tables.

We also provide a luncheon. Join us for this fun filled event.

Saturday Dec. 2nd Youth Babysitting

The older youth will babysit at church from 10am to 3pm so parents can shop...or whatever...

December Youth Gift Drive

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

"Sometime This Fall" Dates to be Determined

Game Night – we will be doing a "no charge – just bring your own beverage and a snack to share" game night. No dinner this time. Let's get together for Euchre, Texas Hold 'Em, board games or just to talk. Past game nights have been a riot, but this one will be even better if YOU are there.

"Bishop's Blend Coffee"

Fundraiser – Orders will arrive in plenty of time for Christmas, so make a list of all your coffee loving friends and family... and don't forget to "check it twice."