



The Grace Vine

September 2008

Rector's Writ

Time & Talent Offering, September 21, 2008

Over the years, stewardship appeals in the Church have become deliberate about asking for more than money. This course correction recognizes that every church needs funds to keep the doors open, but we also need to serve and give. This sharing of time, talents, and gifts is what keeps our hearts open; open to God's guidance in responding to the needs of others, the needs of the Church, and the needs of our own sense of faith in this journey of discipleship. Every member has something to share, and one gift or talent is not more important than another. All are necessary for the common good and for building up the people of Christ who are the Church.

We rely on our volunteers and all those who serve, both at Church and in our community. Every act of service, every gift used to help another, every deed motivated by kindness is important to the health and vitality of Grace parish. The gifts we've been given are meant to be shared and used. They are an offering of thanks to God and an offering of care and concern for one another.

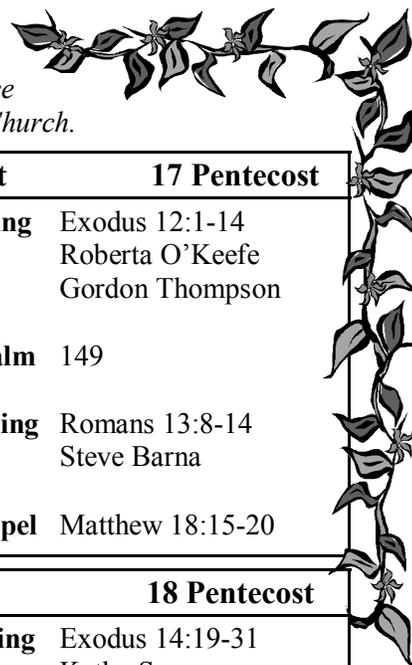
St. Paul reminds us: "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ..varieties of service, but the same Lord; ..varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in everyone." (1 Cor. 12:4-6) The gifts we each hold are given by the Spirit. We're not called to keep them and compare them to others, but to give them away...to give ourselves to the service and work God inspires and leads us to do. One of John Wesley's spiritual approaches to life was simply "Do all the good you can, by all the means you can." (Rule of Conduct 1774) We don't have to be extraordinary, just faithful in sharing our gifts.

Please think and pray about what the Spirit has given you and what you choose to give to God's work at Grace Church as you respond to the **Time & Talent offering on September 21st**. We give thanks to God for all the ways our Church family gives and serves...to our Lord's glory and to help others. May all who give and serve and pray know our Lord's blessings and peace.



Service and Lay Ministry Schedule

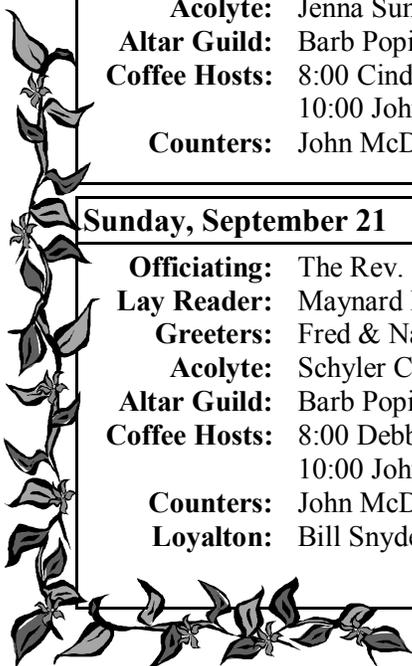
If you cannot serve when scheduled, please find a substitute and call the parish office with that person's name. Thank you for sharing in the liturgical ministry of Grace Church.



Sunday, September 7	8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	17 Pentecost
Officiating: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Lay Readers: Bette Brooks Greeters: John & Irene Machisko Acolyte: Emily Summy & Taylor Paxton Altar Guild: Barb Popiel & Judy Watkins Coffee Hosts: 8:00 Frank & Joan Seman 10:00 Nancy & Jim Ervin Counters: John McDonald & Marcia Splinter Loyalton: Maynard Evans	1st Reading Exodus 12:1-14 Roberta O'Keefe Gordon Thompson Psalm 149 2nd Reading Romans 13:8-14 Steve Barna Gospel Matthew 18:15-20	

Sunday, September 14	8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	18 Pentecost
Officiating: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Deacon: The Rev. William D. Snyder Lay Reader: Carolyn Englert Greeters: Bud Minnich & Judy Canan Acolyte: Jenna Summy Altar Guild: Barb Popiel & Judy Watkins Coffee Hosts: 8:00 Cindy & Pat Williams 10:00 John & Mary Jean McDonald Counters: John McDonald & Roberta O'Keefe	1st Reading Exodus 14:19-31 Kathy Summy Psalm 114 2nd Reading Romans 14:1-12 Cathy Mansor Gospel Matthew 18:21-35	

Sunday, September 21	8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	19 Pentecost
Officiating: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Lay Reader: Maynard Evans Greeters: Fred & Nancy Lundgren Acolyte: Schyler Conway Altar Guild: Barb Popiel & Judy Watkins Coffee Hosts: 8:00 Debbie Shorts & Rich Lashley 10:00 John & Mary Jean McDonald Counters: John McDonald & Roberta O'Keefe Loyalton: Bill Snyder	1st Reading Exodus 16:2-15 Roberta O'Keefe Carolyn Englert Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 2nd Reading Philippians 1:21-30 Tim Splinter Gospel Matthew 20:1-16	



Caring = Do Unto Others

Volunteer For Hospice

All CARING begins with a thought, like "I was thinking about you." It is also doing something—taking action.

Volunteering for Robinson Hospice is a perfect way to show you CARE. Hospice is a special way of caring for individuals with a life-threatening illness. It is compassionate holistic care that encompasses physical, emotional, and spiritual concerns.

Volunteer opportunities within hospice include everything from respite (relief) care for the caregiver to running errands, sitting bedside, cleaning, handyman services, companionship, and much much more, all based on individual needs and desires. Every Volunteer is provided thorough training and support.

The fall training session begins Sept. 11. Please call 330-297-8899 for an application & more information.

Sunday, September 28 **8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist** **20 Pentecost**

<p>Officiating: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Deacon: The Rev. William D. Snyder Lay Reader: Judy Canan Greeters: Jim & Nancy Ervin Acolyte: Sammy Stickle & Julie Canan Altar Guild: Barb Popiel & Judy Watkins Coffee Hosts: 8:00 George Furrer 10:00 John & Irene Machisko Counters: John McDonald & Roberta O'Keefe</p>	<p>1st Reading Exodus 17:1-7 Bud Minnich</p> <p>Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16</p> <p>2nd Reading Philippians 2:1-13 John Machisko</p> <p>Gospel Matthew 21:23-32</p>
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Sunday, October 5 **8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist** **21 Pentecost**

<p>Officiating: The Rev. Carol S. Evans Lay Reader: Bette Brooks Greeters: John & Mary Jean McDonald Acolyte: Eric Splinter Altar Guild: Nancy Ervin & Irene Machisko Coffee Hosts: 8:00 Joan & Frank Seman 10:00 Chris Stickle & Denise Crouse Counters: Marcia Splinter & Kelly Postlethwaite Loyalton: Maynard Evans</p>	<p>1st Reading Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Judy Canan</p> <p>Psalm 19</p> <p>2nd Reading Philippians 3:4b-14 Steve Barna</p> <p>Gospel Matthew 21:33-46</p>
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Jubilee Project Continues to Assist the Community

The Jubilee Fund at Grace Church was started in 2000 as an outreach project using the Jubilee Funds given back to each Parish by the Diocese. The funds came from loans "forgiven" by the Diocese, based on a Biblical model, as long as they were used for an outreach project.

Judy Canan has served as Treasurer for this project since its inception. She has recently stepped down and Carolyn Englert has taken over her responsibilities. We would like to thank Judy for her long years of service in this ministry.

The Fund has a standing committee from the parish, but functions largely on its own. We support 3 area agencies in Ravenna and Windham Townships: The Salvation Army, Catholic Charities of Portage County, and Housing Emergency Support Services. They do the initial screening of rent, utilities and prescription needs and then call us. If we have not assisted the family in the last 6 months, we can award a grant up to \$50.00 This is down from \$75.00 we were able to give last year.

The money for this outreach comes from grants from two main sources, The Mary Helen Beatty Fund, and Episcopal Services Community Foundation, although individual donations are accepted and welcomed.

This year the need for our financial support to these agencies has been unprecedented, almost double what it was last year. We have applied for a larger grant, but please consider giving individually to this worthwhile project. Just indicate that you want the money to go to the Jubilee Fund when making a donation.



Did You Know?...



Jamie Popiel has been accepted into the School of Nursing at Akron U. She and Mom are very excited. She worked very hard and was on the Dean's list at CCC where she earned her two year degree. Nurse Jamie can then take care of dear old Mom someday...

Vacation Bible School was enjoyed by all the adults and children attending. The theme this year was Power Lab and from all reports the children had a great time and "loved it!" The adults and youth that assisted: **Addrienne & Cory Conway, Kay Canan, Chris Stickle, Wilda & Lane Autry** (Chris's parents who did the cooking); **Stacy Scibelli, Courtney Rich; Phillip Crouse, Kathy Summy, Julie Canan, Emily Summy, Nikki Stickle, and Brittany Groff**. The Power Lab kids were: **Schyler, McKenna, & Jillian Conway; Garry, Maggie Rich, & Sammy; Sammy Stickle; Zack & Emily Scibelli; Paige & David Skidmore; Mike Cook; David & Brandon Ondrako; Sarah Kline; Carly; and Tommy Smith...**

Many thanks to **Kay Canan** for her years as coordinator of the Loaves and Fishes program, sponsored by several churches in Ravenna. Kay will begin a new job that will require her to work on weekends and she will be unable to continue in this ministry. However **Chris Stickle and Denise Crouse** have volunteered to take her place, so when the times comes and help is needed please be as generous as you've been in the past...

Nancy & Fred Lundgren and daughter **Lisa**, and granddaughters **Taylor, and Paige Paxton** really enjoyed their week at Hilton Head, South Carolina. They had a wonderful time and you can tell by their tans that a lot of time was spent on the beach or the pool. Eleven year old Taylor liked the "hot guys" at the pool. We all do dear!

Congratulations newly weds **Amanda Ulbricht and Rob Young** who were united in marriage here at Grace Church on August 9th. The church was packed and it was a lovely service. Best wishes to the new Mr. and Mrs. Robert Young...

Gary Bell recently underwent open heart surgery and we're happy to report that he's on the mend and staying with his sister **Janet**...

Gladys Parsons had back surgery and is now at Longmeadow Nursing facility in room 5. I'm sure both these people would be kept in your prayers...

Shirley and Mike Johnson have been busy this summer with visits from their out of town children, their daughter from South Carolina and her family arrived one week and the very next week their daughter **Susan** and

her family came in from California. The Sit & Stitch group really missed Shirley, while she was visiting with her family --- she brings the cookies you know!!...

Schyler Conway traveled with her grandpa to New York to visit with aunt, uncles, and cousins, they even went to the Bronx Zoo...

Steve and Marsha Barna traveled to Columbus to be with their children **Christel and Matt** and their two year old grandson **Devon**. They thought Devon would enjoy a game of miniature golf, which he did until the last hole was played and the ball wasn't returned to him. He took exception to that rule and wanted his ball back in no uncertain terms...

Ken and Alice Boydell visited with daughter **Ellen** and her family. Grandson **Elliott** is a real joy and all Alice can say is he's really busy and fast, now that he can walk and get around. Yes, there's something to say about infants...

The children are all excited about the new playground the community built (with some help from Grace Church). If you haven't been there, please stop by and see it, it's really something...

Kathy Summy really surprised hubby **Bill** with a 50th birthday party. Happy birthday, Bill...

Jenna Summy & Schyler Conway's soft ball team, the Dairy Queen Purple Penguins, won their last game with a triple play...

Bill and Phyllis Shorts came all the way from Florida to renew their wedding vows here at Grace Church. It's been 60 years, WOW!!

Please give any information you'd like to share in the "Did You Know" to Tim Splinter or Marsha Snyder.

From Rev. Peter Nielsen of Cedar Hills:

I want to express my gratitude for your kind gift of \$500 to the Cedar Hills Scholarship Fund. Thank you very much.

...

About half, or 200, of those who come to camp require some level of financial assistance to be able to attend. If is gifts like yours that make this wonderful recreational and educational experience a reality for them. So for them I offer my thanks as well...

On the Horizon

Saturday, September 13th
Game & Fellowship Night
 Parish Hall at 6:30.

Saturday, September 20th
Ravenna Balloon Affair
 See details on next page

Saturday, September 27th
Youth Cake Decorating
 The Youth Group will be decorating mini-cakes to prepare for the first Sunday back to classes the next day.

Sunday, September 28th
Christian Ed Resumes
 Sunday morning Christian Ed resumes for the youth at 9:45.

Saturday, October 4th
Women's Night In
 All the women are invited to come in, have some dinner and discuss such serious issues as: "The strangest advice my mother ever gave." or "The worst date I ever went on." Bring a snack or dessert if you wish.

Saturday, October 11th
Christian Ed Retreat
 This is a deanery wide event for Christian Ed Leaders hosted here at Grace. We need a couple of volunteers (NOT Christian Ed teachers) to help with child care and miscellaneous "stuff". Please contact Addrienne if you can help.

Saturday, October 18th
Steak Fry
 Dinner: steak, hash brown bake, salad, bread and dessert for \$12 each. Hotdogs for the kids: free. We will also be having a "white elephant auction" as the "entertainment" – so keep your eyes open for something to "wrap up" for a good cause.

Friday, October 24th to
Sunday the 26th
Diocesan Youth Event
 Trinity Church in Toledo. Open to youth in grades 7 to 12. Talk to Addrienne Conway

Friday, October 24th to
Saturday the 25th
ECW Autumn Retreat
 See details at left

Saturday, November 8th
Pampered Chef Party

Sunday, November 16th
Youth Bowling Party

ECW Autumn Retreat

Who wouldn't love to spend an autumn weekend at beautiful Cedar Hills, the conference Center of the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio?

The Episcopal Church Women of the Western Reserve Deanery have planned a Reflective Retreat for Friday and Saturday, Oct. 24 & 25, led by Rev. Carol. The cost is \$80, which includes accommodations, meals and all materials. Mark you calendar with those dates and we hope to see you there. For information ask Marsha Snyder or call her at home (330.296.5143) or the office (330.296.3443).

Birthdays

1st Grace Postlethwaite
 2nd Tim Neely
 3rd Bill Shorts, Jr.
 4th Tracey Shriver
 6th A.J. Neely
 10th Mary Jean McDonald
 Janelle Moore
 13th Leslie Thomas
 15th Barbara Popiel
 17th Caroline Shaver
 21st Elizabeth Ulbright
 23rd Ryan Stover
 24th Betty Russell
 28th Faith Postlethwaite

Congratulations!

and many happy returns...



Anniversaries

24th Michael & Kay Canan
 28th Linda & Burt Stover

Baptisms

7th Jenna Summy
 10th Janelle Moore
 22nd Jillian Conway
 Lisa Paxton
 Gerry Rich
 25th Sue Ahrens
 26th Gladys Parsons



The Bulletin Board

Acolytes Schedule

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

10/12—Jenna

10/19—Taylor&Emily

10/26—Schyler

11/2—Sammy&Julie

Tim@splinterfactions.net

Marcia@splinterfactions.net

330-527-2084

BALLOON-A-FAIR

Parade – We need people to walk. Step off is at 9am (*won't know from where until a couple days before*). Park at church and we will shuttle people to the starting point so no-one has to fight their way back across town.

Hot Dog Lunch - 11am-2pm. We need donations of soda and water. (We are trying to get the rest donated from stores, but watch for last minute requests). We will need people to work the kitchen and to just “be around”.

Bake Sale – We need donations. Please package as “single servings” (ex: 2 or 3 cookies) so people can buy desert. **BE SURE TO MARK ANYTHING CONTAINING NUTS OR PEANUT BUTTER.**

Ebay for Grace!

Marcia and Tim Splinter are offering Ebay selling service to everybody. We will help you self your stuff...take pictures, do the computer work, use our Ebay account, the whole nine yards... Once your item sells, we will deduct the selling fees, give 10% to the parish and get the rest of the proceeds to you.

Clean out your saleable stuff and help the parish at the same time!

Tim@splinterfactions.net

Marcia@splinterfactions.net

330-527-2084

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
Marcia Splinter for handling.

Email Change!

After several evenings of removing the obsolete phone system and putting in up to date wiring, the offices are up and running on their new AT&T DSL high speed internet connection. The old dial-up and the email that goes with it will soon be cancelled! Check your address books and make sure you have the newer emails in place!

RevCarol@GraceRavenna.org

Office@GraceRavenna.org (Marsha)

Wanted: Choir Members!

Once again it is time for the choir season to begin. In a fun-filled little book entitled "A Musician's Dictionary" by David W. Barber and Dave Donald, a "choir" is defined as "A musical organization thought to have been invented by G. F. Handel to assure the perpetuation of performances of *Messiah*." This rather tongue-in-cheek definition is, of course, meant to be humorous (as are all the terms and their definitions in the book!).

In actuality, a church choir is a group of people who love to sing and to serve their church and Lord by being a part of the choir. We at Grace Church are fortunate to have a wonderful group of dedicated choir members. However, we can always find room for more people who wish to share their talents and love of the church by joining the choir.

Choir rehearsals begin this season on September 4, 2008 and are held most every Thursday evening from 7:00 to 8:30, and on Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM until service time. The choir normally sings for the 10:00 AM service each Sunday from the first Sunday after Labor Day in September through at least Pentecost. In addition, the choir sings at special services such as Ash Wednesday and Christmas Eve. Regular attendance is expected at rehearsals and services. While we work hard at polishing old pieces and learning new ones to enhance our worship services, we also have a lot of fun.

If you have been thinking about joining the choir, or just wondering if it might be a group you would be interested in, please give me a call at 330.487.0579 (home), leave a message at the church (330.296.3443) for me to call you, or talk to me on a Sunday morning. I would love to tell you more about this special opportunity. I hope to hear from you soon!

Mary Ann Switz, Organist/Choir Director

HOW MANY EPISCOPALIANS DOES IT TAKE TO SCREW IN A LIGHT BULB?

The Diocese has provided Compact Florescent lightbulbs for use in the parish and distribution to parishioners to encourage "Shrinking our Ecological Footprint". Please see John McDonald if you'd like a couple.

John also placed a box in the parish hall to take in dead CFL's for proper recycling.

And of course, the answer to the question is...
"Change it!? My mother donated that light bulb!..."

Many thanks to **Carolyn Englert** for planning the Adult Study on a reasonably nice August morning. (*Which means it wasn't too hot!!*). We watched the movie "Bruce Almighty" and whether you are a Jim Carey fan or not it was very interesting seeing it from a Christian point of view.



The movie was seen in three segments and discussions took place after each. It was very interesting watching someone with the "power of God", but with that old catch "you can't take away freewill" and what he did with it. We may often ask ourselves, "What would we do if we were God?" and how we might change our world and would it always for the better. We certainly had some wonderful conversations and the movie brought to light the many symbols throughout the movie, and how different people saw so many different things

Those participating were: our leader **Carolyn Englert, Addrienne Conway, Chris Stickle, Judy Canan, Judy Watkins, Sue Ahrens, Rev. Carol, Dale Espey, and Bill and Marsha Snyder**. Many thanks to **Goldie Shriver** who came to watch the children while the adults had time for the study. And as always, we had lunch --- bring food and they will come...

MATCHING FUNDS GIFT

The Parish has received an anonymous gift of up to \$2500 in the form of a matching gift drive. If you can contribute matching funds, simply mark your donation for the "Matching Gift" and help us match up the entire \$2500.