

# The Grace Vine

January 2023

## Rector's Writ

Whenever we write 2023, it's a reminder of another new year and how quickly the past year flew by. After all the holiday activities, it seems appropriate to enjoy a bit of quiet time early in the new year and in what remains of the 12 days of Christmas. It's a time to remember the past year and reflect on the year ahead. It seems important to recognize that in the good we've done and in the challenges we face as a Church family, we stand before both trusting that our hope and strength is rooted in our Lord's goodness, grace, and power at work among us. With God, we see and name the challenges that lie ahead: our need to grow in members, in volunteers, and in the Spirit; our need to increase giving and decrease the budget deficit; our need to continually serve and build fellowship within God's church and to reach out to others in service; our need to pray for health, peace, justice; our opportunities to give thanks to God for all blessings. Our worship, service, and fellowship are to be centered on Christ's teachings and his loving example. We can do good, in ordinary or major ways, only by God's grace and our willingness to be faithful, to listen, to walk where Jesus leads the way. It's that simple, but it certainly isn't easy.

Following are some prayers to offer for the growth and well being of Grace Church and for living faithfully in 2023. God's blessings and peace to you and yours.

Carol+

*O God, our Heavenly Father, make the door of Grace Church wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship, and a heavenly Father's care; and narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride, and hatred. Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling-block to children, nor to straying feet; but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter's power. O Heavenly Father, make the door of Grace Church a gateway to your eternal Kingdom. Bless every member and worker in our parish. May all that we do be to your honor and glory, the upbuilding of this church of yours, and the extension of your Kingdom. May we continue to be yours forever and daily increase in your Holy Spirit of love and service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen. (adapted; attrib. Bshp Thomas Ken)*

*Lord, give us grace to do what we can, that you may empower us to do what you will. (Daily Prayer, ed. E. Milner-White and G. Briggs)*

*Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. (Collect from Proper 23, BCP p. 234)*

*Those things, good Lord, that we pray for, give us thy grace to labor for. (Sir Thomas More)*

*O God, help us not to despise what we do not understand. (William Penn)*

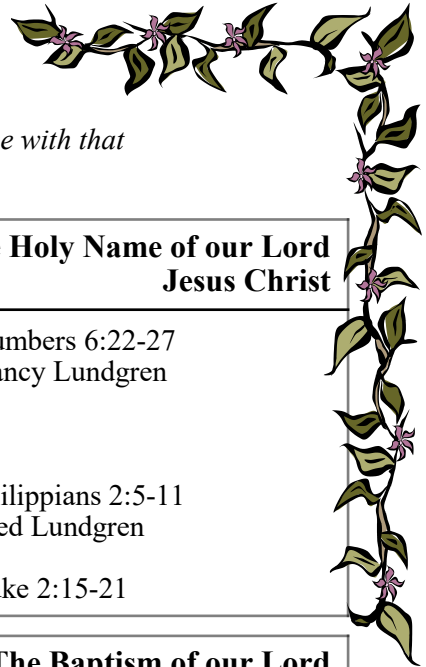
*O God, help us to be masters of ourselves that we may be servants of others. (Sir Alec Paterson)*

*O Lord, never allow us to think that we can stand by ourselves, and not need thee. (John Donne)*



## 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.*

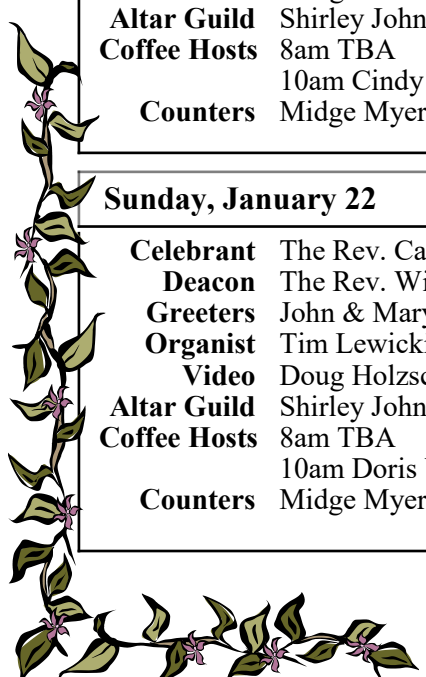


<b>Sunday, January 1</b>		<b>8:00 &amp; 10:00 AM Morning Prayer</b>	<b>The Holy Name of our Lord Jesus Christ</b>
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. William Snyder	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	Numbers 6:22-27 Nancy Lundgren
<b>Wrshp Ldr</b>	10am Carolyn Englert	<b>Psalm</b>	8
<b>Greeters</b>	Fred & Nancy Lundgren	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>	Philippians 2:5-11 Fred Lundgren
<b>Organist</b>	Tim Lewicki	<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 2:15-21
<b>Video</b>	Doug Holzschuh		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Shirley Johnson & Bette Brooks		
<b>Coffee Hosts</b>	8am Joan & Frank Seman 10am Mary Jean & John McDonald		
<b>Counters</b>	Midge Myers & Laurie Barney		

<b>Sunday, January 8</b>		<b>8:00 &amp; 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>The Baptism of our Lord</b>
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Carol Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	Isaiah 42:1-9 Tim Splinter
<b>Deacon</b>	The Rev. William Snyder	<b>Psalm</b>	29
<b>Greeters</b>	Jeff & Lisa Marsh	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>	Acts 10:34-43 Carolyn Englert
<b>Organist</b>	Tim Lewicki	<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 3:13-17
<b>Video</b>	Doug Holzschuh		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Shirley Johnson & Bette Brooks		
<b>Coffee Hosts</b>	8am Mike & Shirley Johnson 10am Nancy & Jim Ervin		
<b>Counters</b>	Midge Myers & Laurie Barney		

<b>Sunday, January 15</b>		<b>8:00 &amp; 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>2 Epiphany</b>
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Carol Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	Isaiah 49:1-7 Martha Croll
<b>Wrshp Ldr</b>	Nancy Lundgren	<b>Psalm</b>	40:1-12
<b>Greeters</b>	Nancy & Jim Ervin	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>	1 Corinthians 1:1-9 Jeff Croll
<b>Organist</b>	Tim Lewicki	<b>Gospel</b>	John 1:29-42
<b>Video</b>	Doug Holzschuh		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Shirley Johnson & Bette Brooks		
<b>Coffee Hosts</b>	8am TBA 10am Cindy Ward & Cathy Potisuk		
<b>Counters</b>	Midge Myers & Laurie Barney		

<b>Sunday, January 22</b>		<b>8:00 &amp; 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>3 Epiphany</b>
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Carol Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	Isaiah 9:1-4 Tim Splinter
<b>Deacon</b>	The Rev. William Snyder	<b>Psalm</b>	27:1, 5-13
<b>Greeters</b>	John & Mary Jean McDonald	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>	1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Carol Marotta
<b>Organist</b>	Tim Lewicki	<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 5:1-12
<b>Video</b>	Doug Holzschuh		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Shirley Johnson & Bette Brooks		
<b>Coffee Hosts</b>	8am TBA 10am Doris Whipple & Gail Richards		
<b>Counters</b>	Midge Myers & Laurie Barney		







# Did You Know?...



We hope everyone had [Ed. Note. 'has' if we get this out on time and you're reading it early!] a wonderful Christmas, and we pray for a peaceful and healthy New Year!...

**Kathy Summy** was proud to announce that on December 17<sup>th</sup> her oldest daughter **Emily** graduated from Kent State University with a master's degree in higher education. Emily wants to be a college advisor. With all that academic work completed, she's now getting ready for her wedding. We wish Emily the very best. Also on December 17<sup>th</sup>, **Lisa and Jeff Marsh's daughter Sarah Beth Audet** graduated from Kent State's College of Arts & Sciences with a bachelor's degree in environmental biology. She'll be leaving home in January to start a job in Harrisburg, Pa. Congratulations to Emily and to Sarah Beth!...

**Barb Popiel** handled the stress and kept calm when her trip to North Carolina for a Christmas visit with daughter **Michelle** & her family had the added concern of an unplanned surgery. Michelle learned after a doctor visit at Duke that the stent doctors had placed for her second brain aneurysm had slipped and caused a slight leak. Her doctor took care of the problem by surgery to put in another stent. Results are the surgery went well; Barb was there the day Michelle came home from the hospital; Michelle and husband **Dave** and Barb made sure **Hanna** had a great birthday party that Saturday. (Talk about a busy few days!) Thanks be to God for the safe surgery, for all your prayers, and for Hanna's birthday and a houseful of energetic friends. Hanna also was excited to have her first sleep over with a friend the night her mom had to be in the hospital. God covers our needs and watches over us in so many ways...

**Cindy Ward's grandson Jameson Patrick** had some major and lengthy surgery, having over 100 damaged nerves in his back repaired at Akron Children's Hospital. He had to be flat on his back for two days, then is following that up with some initial walking and extensive two hour physical therapy sessions twice a day. Jameson is really hoping to be home for Christmas, and he's working hard with the P.T. staff to help that happen. Cindy said even though his P.T. and recovery have been far from easy, he still manages to keep smiling. His

face time visits with Cindy are no doubt a huge help in getting him through all this. Please keep Jameson and all his family in your prayers. He's so brave, and we—along with Cindy—are so proud of him...

Congratulations to **Henry and Mary Cabot** who celebrated their 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary last month. Mary commented with a smile 'they said it wouldn't last!' I guess they showed them!!...

We were disappointed that **Tapestries** had to cancel their performance here at Grace because two members were ill with COVID, and the only reschedule dates were a Saturday and Sunday evening. Hopefully we'll have better luck next year. The two times they've performed here, it was a wonderful concert, and the receptions were lovely, too. It gets you in the Christmas spirit!...

Everyone enjoyed hearing **Tim Lewicki's son Joji** play his violin for the prelude (a Vivaldi piece) on December 18<sup>th</sup>. His mom, **Yuka** accompanied him on the keyboard, and they both sounded great! He's come a LONG way in just a year since we last heard him play and even had the piece memorized. It was nice to have Tim, Yuka, Joji, and **Mitsuki** join us for the chili & hot dog luncheon. The lunch and the music—Joji's violin piece as well as our choir & organist—were all enjoyable!...

Our thanks to those who stayed to help get the church ready for Christmas and to those who provided a good lunch...

We have parishioners and loved ones to keep remembering in our prayers, including **Sue & Bruce Ahrens; Michelle Davis; Sally & Dennis Dier; Ken & Carolyn Englert; Mike & Emily Ervin; Lillian Lopeman; and Jameson Patrick**. Your prayers help, and we thank you for them.



# Thank you! Thank you!

Our thanks & appreciation to those who serve & help at Grace Church in so many ways, including:

- Everyone who contributed so generously to adopt a family this year.
- **John McDonald** for placing all those pictures back after the halls were painted.
- **Fr. Tom Furrer and Deacon Bill Snyder** for leading services while Carol was on vacation.
- **Bette Brooks & Roberta O’Keefe** for serving as lectors to cover the 8am Bible readings.
- **Barb Popiel** for being a great senior warden and all our vestry members and Building & Grounds members for all that’s been accomplished in 2022.
- **Joji & Yuka Lewicki** for playing a lovely prelude for the 10am service on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>.
- All the volunteers who pitched in to “Green the Church” for Christmas on the 18th, and to **Nancy Ervin and the Hospitality Group** members who made chili, desserts, and cooked hot dogs to provide a nice lunch after.
- **Doug Holzschuh** for live streaming and recording Sunday services AND the Christmas Eve service and Christmas Day service so our members who need to can watch them from home and be with us in that way.
- Our **choir director, organist, and choir** for all their work with Christmas music.
- **Eric Splinter** for doing extra duties on Christmas Eve, not only singing in choir, but serving as Thurifer & Acolyte.
- **Marcia Splinter** for all the work she does as our treasurer and to **Tim Splinter** for the work he does in designing the Grace Vine each month and in keeping the office computers updated and running.
- Everyone who contributed for Christmas flowers.
- **Cathy Potisuk, Laurie Barney, and Marsha Snyder** for having Altar Guild in December and for ordering, picking up, and arranging all the poinsettias for Christmas.
- **Cathy Potisuk** for arranging some nice greenery in the Memorial Garden urns.
- **Cathy Potisuk & Marsha Snyder** for all the times they’ve arranged flowers for the Altar this year.
- **John McDonald** for making sure we have a good supply of salt on hand & to **Mike Ervin** for making sure the walkways get salted when it’s slippery outside.
- **Deacon Bill and those who serve as Worship Leaders, lectors, greeters/ushers, choir members, Altar Guild members, counters, coffee hosts, and all who gather & help with services each Sunday.** Our worship is made better by your participation and presence.



## Birthdays

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4th	Emily Summy
10th	Pat Williams
15th	Bruce Ahrens
26th	Courtney Rich
28th	Paige Paxton
30th	Bud Hughes

# Congratulations!

*and many happy returns...*

## Baptisms

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9th	Bill Summy
18th	Maggie Rich



## Anniversaries

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11th	Fred & Nancy Lundgren
28th	Mike & Shirley Johnson

# The Bulletin Board

## Outreach Projects

**Ravenna High School** - (for men) deodorant, shampoo, shaving items, etc. (for women) cosmetic bags with makeup samples, and laundry detergent to be taken home. Unscented wipes.

**Center of Hope** (red wagon) -Peanut Butter, canned Tuna/Chicken, Ramen Noodles, and Mac & Cheese

**Center of Hope** - Shampoo/Conditioner, Toothpaste & Toothbrushes, Travel Mouthwash, Dental Floss, and Combs. Also Socks, Underwear, Hats, and Gloves will be needed by Dec 19.

**APL** - List of needs is on the container in the parish hall

Thank you as always for any help you can give for these Outreach Projects helping those in need.

Thank You!  
Grace's Vestry

## Walking Group

Come walk with us.  
Carol Marotta & Laurie  
Barney will lead the  
walk at 12:00. Meet at  
Chestnut Hills Park,  
Ravenna, and walk to  
the first parking lot.





# *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.*

**Wulfstan (c. 1008-January 18, 1095)**

**January 19**

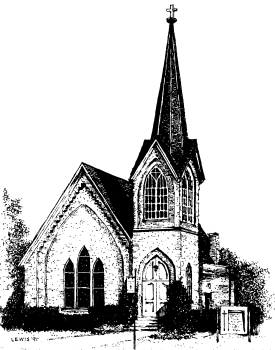
Wulfstan was born in Warwickshire, England, on the eve of the Danish Conquest (c.1008 or a little later), into a well-connected family. His mother may have been the sister of Wulfstan, Archbishop of York. The younger Wulfstan was probably named for his famous uncle, but it may be that Wulfstan's parents named him from a combination of their own names: his father was called Æthelstan ('noble stone') and his mother was called Wulfgifu ('wolf gift'), so they named their son 'Wulfstan', joining elements from the two names. The young man was educated at monastic schools and was ordained between 1033 and 1038. He became a monk at Worcester, where he later became prior. On Sept. 8, 1062, he was consecrated Bishop of Worcester and served there until his death.

Wulfstan lived during an extraordinary time in English history. In 1066, the Duke of Normandy led an army into England and seized the throne by force, becoming known in history as William the Conqueror. William the Conqueror changed England in many ways, including the practice of slavery. He restricted the slave trade by banning the sale of slaves outside of England and discontinuing the English practice of taking slaves following victories in war. However, there is more to this story and is probably the reason Wulfstan is listed as a saint.

The English had long practiced slavery, especially taking prisoners/slaves from groups they conquered. The inhabitants of Bristol engaged in a lucrative slave trade with Ireland. Through Wulfstan's preaching over the course of many trips to Bristol, he convinced the slave traders to stop. Indeed, the inhabitants of Bristol had become so convinced by Wulfstan's teachings against slavery that they even violently attacked someone who continued to engage in the practice. Notably, Wulfstan ended the slave trade in Bristol before William the Conqueror officially issued a law prohibiting the sale of slaves outside of England, although King William gets the credit. By the year 1200, slavery was virtually non-existent in England and would not be practiced by the English again until the early modern period.

As a supporter of William the Conqueror and his successor William II, Wulfstan helped the church in England in its transition from Anglo-Saxon Christianity to Anglo-Norman Christianity. He was canonized in 1203 and is commemorated in the Episcopal calendar of the church year on Jan. 19.





## The Grace Vine

Grace Episcopal Church  
250 W. Cedar St.  
Ravenna OH 44266

Grace Episcopal Church of Ravenna

The Rev. Carol Evans—Rector  
The Rev. William Snyder  
Marsha Snyder—Secretary  
Tim Lewicki—Organist  
Martha Croll—Choirmaster

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The Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church  
Carol Marotta, Junior Warden (2022)  
Laurie Barney, Clerk (2023)  
Barb Popiel, Senior Warden (2023)  
Kingsland Pretorius (2023)  
Midge Myers (2024)

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If you would like to take advantage of this, send me an email at [grwebmaster@graceravenna.org](mailto:grwebmaster@graceravenna.org). Please consider the paper copy and have it read rather than save the paper and postage and have it go unread.