



The Grace Vine

September 2023

Rector's Writ

We often feel the push of how busy life is and how—if we allow it-- the constant busy-ness can pull us away from the godly and spiritual matters. We, like Martha, can be 'worried and distracted' by many things. We have to be on guard to keep our minds and hearts fixed on God and following the ways of Jesus, especially when the secular distractions abound. (Flashy commercials for college and pro football are already on.)

Even summer, when life is supposed to slow down a bit, had a busy pace. The parking lot was resurfaced; we had a new boiler installed; several parishioners attended the local Listening Session offered by Bishop Anne Jolly and her staff; and a good group recently attended the musical Matilda at Weathervane in Akron. Add to those things the upcoming events being planned. September 10th, we'll celebrate the Fall Fellowship Day when the choir returns, Christian Ed classes for children and youth restart on a twice a month basis, and we'll gather for a covered dish lunch. We'll participate in the Sept. 16th Balloon-a-Fair, and we have a Wine Tasting Event planned for October 14th.

We at Grace Church rely on our volunteers who do so much to get things done. Consider the cooperation and variety of work done by people involved in providing our weekly worship services: Altar Guild and all that's involved in set up and clean up; lectors; worship leaders; choir; greeters; acolyte; and videographer to livestream the 10am service. We also need volunteer support for ministries that include work, sharing skills, and time: serving on vestry & as treasurer; the core group of coffee hour hosts and our Hospitality Group, all of whom consistently give time and resources to providing fellowship opportunities; the Building & Grounds group; outreach support; the Prayer Chain; Sit 'n Stitch; the soup, cookies, and Greeting Card ministries; Gracie's; the Growth & Membership Group; the Grace Vine contributors and designers. Only a few among many ministries accomplished at and from Grace Church. The reality is we need a constant flow of volunteers, help, and prayer in all the ministries—and sometimes just plain work—God calls us to do. We appreciate and need our volunteers, and we pray for God's blessings to be upon all who support our work, ministries, and service.

Carol+

"Lord, ...help me to cooperate with other believers, even if I don't always agree with them. Help me to remember that I am part of a family. Help me to cooperate with my brothers and sisters, so that together our homes and families may glorify you, and your church may be all you intend it to be."

(Excerpt, Walking with the Celtic Saints; N. & G. Kennedy-Jones & A. Seddon; p. 71; Crossroad Pub.)



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 3		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	14 Pentecost
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Exodus 3:1-15 Fred Lundgren
Lector	8am Bette Brooks	Psalm	105:1-6, 23-26, 45c Fred Lundgren
Greeters	Fred & Nancy Lundgren	2nd Reading	Romans 12:9-21 Fred Lundgren
Organist	Tim Lewicki	Gospel	Matthew 16:21-28
Altar Guild	Carol Marotta, Laurie Barney		
Coffee Hosts	8am Joan & Frank Seman 10am Mary Jean & John McDonald		
Counters	Carol Marotta & Barb Popiel		

Sunday, September 10		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	15 Pentecost
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Exodus 12:1-14 Tim Splinter
Deacon	The Rev. William Snyder	Psalm	149 Tim Splinter
Greeters	Jeff & Lisa Marsh	2nd Reading	Romans 13:8-14 Tim Splinter
Organist	Tim Lewicki	Gospel	Matthew 18:15-20
Choir Dir	Martha Croll		
Altar Guild	Carol Marotta, Laurie Barney		
Coffee Hosts	8am Kay & Ralph Wise 10am Nancy Ervin & Cindy Hoskins		
Counters	Carol Marotta & Barb Popiel		

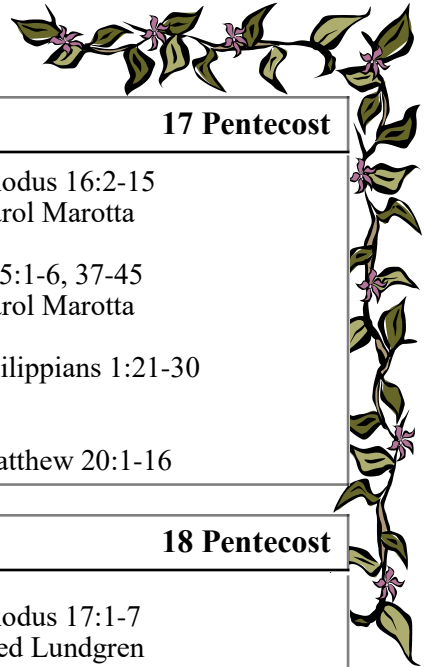
Sunday, September 17		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	16 Pentecost
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Exodus 14:19-31 Jeff Croll
Lector	8am Bette Brooks	Psalm	114 Jeff Croll
Greeters	John & Mary Jean McDonald	2nd Reading	Romans 14:1-12 Martha Croll
Organist	Tim Lewicki	Gospel	Matthew 18:21-35
Choir Dir	Martha Croll		
Altar Guild	Carol Marotta, Laurie Barney		
Coffee Hosts	8am Shirley & Mike Johnson 10am Cindy Ward & Cathy Potisuk		
Counters	Carol Marotta & Barb Popiel		

Fall Fellowship Day & Covered Dish Luncheon

Sunday, September 10th we'll be celebrating Fall Fellowship Day. We've given what used to be known as Rally Day a new name and focus. We'll be having a covered dish lunch hosted by Nancy Ervin and the Hospitality Committee to celebrate the return of our Choir, new program year activities, and simply as an opportunity for fellowship. There's a sign up sheet in the Parish Hall.

Please bring family, friends, and a covered dish to share and join us!



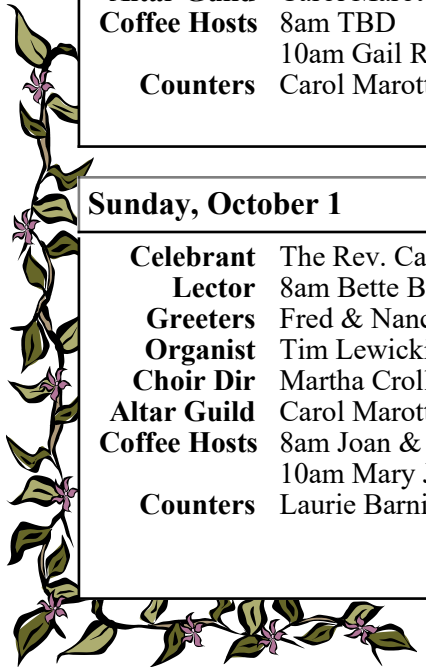


Sunday, September 24 **7:00 PM Holy Eucharist** **17 Pentecost**

Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Exodus 16:2-15 Carol Marotta
Deacon	The Rev. William Snyder	Psalm	105:1-6, 37-45 Carol Marotta
Greeters	Jeff & Lisa Marsh	2nd Reading	Philippians 1:21-30 Carol Marotta
Organist	Tim Lewicki	Gospel	Matthew 20:1-16
Choir Dir	Martha Croll		
Altar Guild	Carol Marotta, Laurie Barney		
Coffee Hosts	8am TBD 10am Gail Richards & Doris Whipple		
Counters	Carol Marotta & Barb Popiel		

Sunday, October 1 **8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist** **18 Pentecost**

Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Exodus 17:1-7 Fred Lundgren
Lector	8am Bette Brooks	Psalm	78:1-4, 12-16 Fred Lundgren
Greeters	Fred & Nancy Lundgren	2nd Reading	Philippians 2:1-13 Fred Lundgren
Organist	Tim Lewicki	Gospel	Matthew 21:23-32
Choir Dir	Martha Croll		
Altar Guild	Carol Marotta, Laurie Barney, Cathy Potisuk		
Coffee Hosts	8am Joan & Frank Seman 10am Mary Jean & John McDonald		
Counters	Laurie Barnie & Barb Popiel		



Christian Ed Classes for Children & Youth

Laurie Barnie & Carol Marotta have volunteered to work on re-starting Christian Ed classes for children and youth. With the small number of potential students, we're hoping to offer classes twice a month on a trial basis to see how it goes. Classes will be on designated Sundays, from 10am to the time of the Peace, when children & youth will join their families for Holy Communion. If you have children, grandchildren, or youth who'd like to attend, please give Laurie or Carol a call to let them know.



Balloon-A-Fair Booth Volunteers Needed

We've been invited to share a booth with the folks from Christ Church, Kent at the Balloon-a-Fair on Saturday, Sept. 16th. The idea is to have an active presence in the community and use this as an opportunity to talk to people and invite them to Grace Church. We'll also hand out information, prayer pockets, prayers, etc. to people who stop by. So no one stays all day we're asking people to volunteer for one or two hour shifts, and we'll need two people for each shift. We also need volunteers to help us get set up that morning, especially to see if we can put up some kind of canopy to shield the group from sun and rain. Please call the church office if you'd be willing to help (or if you'd donate bottled water, candy-that doesn't melt, etc. to give away. THANKS!!





Did You Know?...



Well summer's almost over and yet the weather is still very warm. It's back to school for the young ones and nothing much will change for us "old folk" who keep doing what we always do... some of the stuff that makes our world go around.

The **choir** will soon be back in their pews the first Sunday after Labor Day. YAH! Where did the summer go? There will be a covered dish luncheon that day, Sept. 10th, and I hope everyone will come and enjoy the fellowship.

We are happy to report that **Nancy Ervin** had knee replacement surgery in July, and she's been doing rehab and getting back on her feet. **Dennis Dier** had a very successful heart surgery this July and is on the way to a complete recovery; it was nice seeing **Sally & Dennis** back in church. August 17th **Maynard Evans** had a heart valve replacement and is now on the mend.

This summer the **Splinter** family was part of the Garrettsville Curtains Up Theatre's presentation of "Game Show" the last two weeks of July. **Eric** was on stage; **Marcia & Tim** were the "tech crew" (lights and sound); and Tim was in charge of sets – including making a working "on air" and "applause" sign. They were also busy on vacation traveling to New York and New Hampshire to visit with friends.

Laurie Barnie and her daughter **Caitlin** and her family headed to Florida with grandsons **George** and **Matthew**. George was so excited to go to Legoland! Laurie said they all had a wonderful time.

Tim Lewicki and his family headed for Barcelona, Spain. Their son **Joji** participated in the 2023 International Music Competition Barcelona Grand Prize Virtuoso and was chosen as a first prize and exceptional special young talent award winner. He gave two recitals the last two nights. Congratulations Joji! Tim's wife **Yuka** sent a video of Joji playing his violin for this competition. The powers to be liked what they saw (and heard), and so Joji was invited to come to Spain and perform. I might add that Joji is only 7 years old. Tim said Barcelona was nice, but he really enjoy the island of Minorca. What a memorable time for the entire family!

We give thanks to God and celebrate the arrival of some new babies among our extended church family. **Lucy Jane** was born on July 11th to **Andrew and Kellie Barney**. She is Laurie Barney's first granddaughter; was born on her Aunt Caitlin's birthday; and has her grandmother's middle name. Laurie's brother **David** was visiting from Florida also got to see his new great niece, so her birth was special in a lot of ways! Congratulations to **Gail & Chris Richards**. Their son **Christopher** and his wife **Taylor** gave birth to a son, **Hendrix** on July 3rd. **Carolyn Englert** is happy to have a new great-grandson

Haegan James, born to **Rachel & Ryan Blackford**. And there are more babies on the way: **Mary Jean & John McDonald** have a great-grandson due any time now—if he's not already here by this reading—and the **Snyder's** have a great-granddaughter due in February. **Cathy Potisuk's son Matt** will be a grandpa when daughter **Brooklyn & Riley** have their daughter.

Barb Popiel spent time in North Carolina to be with daughter **Michelle** and her family. She sent many pictures on Facebook of enjoying time with granddaughter **Hannah and Michelle and Dave**.

Nancy and Fred Lundgren are happy to report that granddaughter **Suzy** is going back to school. Suzy had a leg removed last year due to cancer. Suzy's been exceptional at keeping a faithful, positive attitude throughout. She now has her prosthesis and we pray she'll have God's blessings as she actively moves forward in her young life and enjoys her newfound freedom.

Kathy Summy is busy getting ready for the October wedding of her oldest daughter **Emily**. Her prep work is more difficult because of recent carpal tunnel surgery needed on both hands. But knowing Kathy, she'll work through it, and it'll all be top notch!!

Jeff Marsh, Jeff Croll, Tony Mercury, Bill Snyder, and Maynard Evans (on occasion), aka "The Poker Boys," donated their winning of several months to the Portage County Animal Protective League. The \$350 was gratefully accepted by the APL.

The Rev. Tom Furrer, son of George Furrer and husband of Maryjane, recently spent time doing ministry in southern Nigeria with Kateri Clinics and Medical Services (which he helped create). Tom and Maryjane lived in Connecticut for many years before his retirement, and they moved back to Ravenna to be closer to family and friends. We're blessed to have them now as members of Grace Church. As with many retired priests with proper training, the diocese wasted no time calling him to serve as Interim Priest for Christ Church Warren, and Tom will be there until they call a priest. Tom has been working with and raising funds for Kateri for many years as part of his ministry. He was responsible for setting up seven clinics in Nigeria, and still is doing God's work, here AND in Nigeria.

Many thanks to **Rick Taylor** for making arrangements for members of our congregation to attend "Matilda" at the Weathervane Playhouse. Some of the members that attended were **Roberta O'Keefe, Kingsland Pretorius, Tim & Marcia Splinter, Marsha & Bill Snyder, Laurie Barnie and two friends, and Kay & Ralph Wise and of course Rick Taylor**.

Please keep these people in your thoughts and prayers

Sue & Bruce Ahrens
Sally & Dennis Dier
Nancy & Jim Ervin
Maynard Evans
Debbie & Robert Haag

Janet & Bud Hughes
Mary Jean & John McDonald
Gail Richards
Joanne Sarver
Doris Whipple

Thank you! Thank you!

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

- Our **members who give food & funds** to support the Center of Hope, and to **Nancy & Jim Ervin** for taking the food there.
- The **Poker Boys** for their generous donation to the Portage County APL.
- **Tim Splinter** for dealing with our office computer problems.
- **John McDonald** for replacing light bulbs, doing repairs around the church, and overseeing the new boiler project.
- **Richard Taylor** for making the arrangements for a group of us to attend the Weathervane Playhouse to see the play, Matilda.
- **Nancy Lundgren & Sally Dier** for the work they've put into re-opening Gracie's
- **Bill Snyder** for leading the services while Rev. Carol was staying with Maynard.
- **All those who volunteer as coffee hour hosts**, providing refreshments and a good setting for fellowship.

**If you know of anyone to include in this, please talk to the office staff or the rector.

Congratulations!

and many happy returns...

Birthdays

3rd Daniel Francois
9th Athena Whipple
10th Mary Jean McDonald
11th Doris Whipple
13th Leslie Thomas
Rick Taylor
15th Barb Popiel
25th Martha Croll
26th Cindy Ward



Anniversaries

3rd Fred & Chris Ahrens
24th Michael & Kay Canan
26th Doug Holzschuh & Kingsland Pretorius

Baptisms

7th Jenna Summy
22nd Lisa Paxton
Gerry Rich
25th Sue Ahrens
30th Sammy Rich
? Samantha Stickle



The Bulletin Board

Outreach Projects

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.

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

Donations to Ravenna High School will resume in the fall.

Thank you for any donations- they are greatly appreciated!

Grace's Vestry

Breakfast Club

Sept 21st , 8:00 AM

Cracker Barrel

Everyone is invited to join the group!
We order off the menu and pay for our own meals.



New Pamphlet Design Help Needed!

If you have a talent for creating a tri-fold type pamphlet/brochure with updated information and pictures of Grace Church people and activities, we could use your help. It's costly to have these professionally designed or copied. Vestry was hoping if we had someone in the parish who has this talent & would like to take this on, we could then get estimates for colored copies. Please let a vestry member, the office, or the rector know if you'd like to help create a new Grace Church brochure or if you've had experience with a business you'd recommend for this.

THANK YOU!

Stove Give Away

We've been unable to find any group that could use the stove, so we're offering to give it away to someone who can remove it from the kitchen (leaving the hood & fan in place) and sell it for scrap metal. Please contact vestry members or the church office if you know of any group or individual that might be interested in this.



Sunday, September 24th
noon 'til ?

City Park, Ravenna
Memorial Shelter

Sign up sheet for attendance
& food will be in parish hall

RAVENNA SCARECROWS!

Sunday, September 10th, 17th and 24th, we will be making a Scarecrow to be entered into the Ravenna Chamber of Commerce competition and displayed downtown. We need children's and adult's talents and creativity. The Scarecrow kit will be in the parish hall closet.



Fall Clean Up Day
Saturday
Sep. 30th



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.*

John Coleridge Patteson, Bishop and his Companions, Martyrs

September 20

John Coleridge Patteson was born in London in 1827. He attended Balliol College, Oxford; however, he was an indifferent student and preferred to play cricket. He graduated in 1849 with a second class degree. After a tour of Europe and a study of languages, he became a fellow (a senior faculty member) of Merton College, Oxford, in 1852. In 1855, he heard Bishop George Selwyn of New Zealand call for volunteers to go the South Pacific to preach the Gospel. He went there and founded a school for the education of native Christian workers. He was adept at languages and learned twenty-three of the 1000 languages spoken in the Polynesian and Melanesian Islands of the South Pacific. In 1861 at age 34, he was consecrated Bishop of Melanesia.

The slave-trade was technically illegal in the South Pacific at that time, but the laws were poorly enforced and, in fact, slave-raiding was a flourishing and profitable business. Patteson was actively engaged in the effort to stamp it out. However, injured men do not always distinguish friends from foes. After slave-raiders had attacked the island of Nakapu, in the Santa Cruz group, Patteson and several companions visited the area. They were assumed to be connected with the raiders, and Patteson's body was floated back to his ship with five hatchet wounds in his chest, one for each native who had been killed in the earlier raid. The death of Bishop Patteson caused an uproar back in England and stimulated the government there to take firm measures to stamp out slavery and the slave trade in all its Pacific territories. It was also the seed of a strong and vigorous Church in Melanesia today. Patteson and his companions died on September 20, 1871.

PRAYER:

Almighty God, who called your faithful servants John Coleridge Patteson and his companions to be witnesses and martyrs in the islands of Melanesia, and by their labors and sufferings raised up a people for your own possession: Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon your Church in every land, that by the service and sacrifice of many, your holy Name may be glorified and your kingdom enlarged; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.





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
Laurie Barney, Clerk (2023)
Barb Popiel, Senior Warden (2023)
Kingsland Pretorius (2023)
Midge Myers (2024)
Carol Marotta, Junior Warden (2025)
Kay Wise (2025)

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