

The Grace Vine

February 2005

Rector's Writ

It's still a little startling when-right after the Christmas clearance sweeps through the retail world-we find valentine and Easter candy and cards on the shelf. Those familiar with "retail" know that you have to look ahead in the way of planning, promotion, and focus.

The Church seasons don't have that same rush, although they go by quickly enough. We lumber through Annual Meetings and linger through Epiphany with a wistful memory of that quiet mystery and wonder of Christmas. The light of Epiphany ushers us into the shadow lands of Lent; that season of penitence and giving up or taking on something as a reminder of Christ's 40 days in the wilderness. It's often not obvious, but the intent of our Lenten observance is to help us recall our continuing need for repentance, renewal, and spiritual discipline and how God answers that need with the reconciliation, compassion, and grace given us in Christ Jesus our Lord. Whatever we give up or take on, we begin this Lenten journey having in mind and heart "the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith." (BCP p. 265) May your Lent be a time of reflection and renewal; a time of drawing near to God through worship, prayer, and walking in the way of Christ's goodness and grace.

"How can we pray to you, holy and hidden God, whose ways are not our ways, who reigns in awful mystery beyond the realm of space and time? Yet how can we not pray to you, Heavenly Father, who knows what it is to be human because you have walked among us as a human, breaking with us the bread of our affliction and drinking deep of the cup of our despair? How can we not pray to you when it is your very Spirit alive within us that moves our lips in prayer? Hear, O God, the prayers of all your children everywhere: for forgiveness and healing, for courage, for faith; prayers for the needs of others; prayers for peace among the desperate nations. Whether you give or withhold what we ask, whether you answer us in words that burn like fire or in silence that burns like fire, increase in us the knowledge that you are always more near to us than breathing, that your will for us is love.

And deep beneath all our asking, so deep beneath that we are all but deaf to it ourselves, hear, O God, the secret song of every human heart praising you for being what you are, rejoicing with the morning stars that you are our God and we are your children. Make strong and wild this secret song within until it bursts forth at last to your glory and our saving. Though Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

(from The Hungering Dark by Frederick Buechner, adapted)

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.

Sun. February 6—8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist—Last Epiphany	
<p>Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. William Snyder Lay Reader: Carolyn Englert Greeters: Leslie & Colin Thomas Acolytes: Paige Thomas & Chelsea Postlethwaite Shepherd: 8:00 Roberta O'Keefe, 10:00 Stephanie Higgins Alter Guild: Nancy Ervin & Irene Machisko Coffee Hosts: Judy Canan & Bonnie Quay Counters: Sue Ahrens & TBD Loyalton: Maynard Evans</p>	<p>1st Reading Exodus 24:12-18 Steve Barna</p> <p>Psalm 99</p> <p>2nd Reading Philippians 3:7-14 Tim Splinter</p> <p>Gospel Matthew 17:1-9</p>
Wed. February 9—12:00pm & 7:00pm Litany & Holy Eucharist—Ash Wednesday	
<p>Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. William Snyder Lay Reader: Judy Canan Greeters: Nancy & Fred Lundgren Acolytes: Paige Thomas Alter Guild: TBD Counters: Sue Ahrens & TBD</p>	<p>1st Reading Joel: 2:1-2,12,17 Steve Barna</p> <p>Psalm 103:8-14</p> <p>2nd Reading 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10 Tim Splinter</p> <p>Gospel Matthew 6:1-6,16-21</p>
Sun. February 13—8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist—1st Lent	
<p>Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. William Snyder Lay Reader: Judy Canan Greeters: John & Mary Jean McDonald Acolytes: Blake Quay IV Shepherd: 8:00 Lloyd O'Keefe, 10:00 Judy Canan Alter Guild: TBD Coffee Hosts: Nancy & Fred Lundgren Counters: Sue Ahrens & TBD Loyalton: Judy Canan</p>	<p>1st Reading Genesis 2:4-9,15-17,25-3:7 Blake Quay</p> <p>Psalm 51:1-13</p> <p>2nd Reading Romans 5:12-19 Laura Price</p> <p>Gospel Matthew 4:1-11</p>
Sun. February 20—8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist—2nd Lent	
<p>Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. William Snyder Lay Reader: Maynard Evans Greeters: Bud Minnich & Jim Ervin Acolytes: Julie Canan & Janell Moore Shepherd: 8:00 George Furrer, 10:00 Stephanie Higgins Alter Guild: TBD Coffee Hosts: Mary Jean & Joh McDonald Counters: Sue Ahrens & TBD Loyalton: Bill Snyder</p>	<p>1st Reading Genesis 12:1-8 Bud Minnich</p> <p>Psalm 33:12-22</p> <p>2nd Reading Romans 4:1-17 Paige Thomas</p> <p>Gospel John 3:1-17</p>

Sun. February 27—8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist—3 rd Lent	
Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. William Snyder Lay Reader: Carolyn Englert Greeters: Judy Canan & Sandee West Acolytes: Emily Summy Shephard: 8:00 Jean Mercer, 10:00 Leslie Thomas Alter Guild: TBD Coffee Hosts: Ron & Kelly Postlethwaite Counters: Sue Ahrens & TBA Loyalton: Carolyn Englert	1st Reading Exodus 17:1-7 Kathy Summy Psalm 95 2nd Reading Romans 5:1-11 Judy Canan Gospel John 4:5-42

Sun. March 6—8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist—4 th Lent	
Officiant: The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon: The Rev. William Snyder Lay Reader: Judy Canan Greeters: Bonnie Quay & Debbie Shorts Acolytes: Paige Thomas & Katie Ahrens Shephard: 8:00 Roberta O’Keefe, 10:00—Judy Canan Alter Guild: TBD Coffee Hosts: Bud Minnich & Jim Ervin Counters: Tim Splinter & TBA Loyalton: Maynard Evans	1st Reading 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Steve Barna Psalm 23 2nd Reading Ephesians 5:1-14 Tim Splinter Gospel John 9:1-38

Annoucement/Clarification

As Marsha announced, I (Tim Splinter) have taken over the publication of the *Grace Vine*. However, Marcia Snyder is still the "Editor-in-Chief" and is still the point of contact for submitting contents. I am simply the guy who puts it all on paper.

Marsha remains our indispensable "center for all information" - a position she deserves endless credit and appreciation for. She needs to be aware of and review all the material to try to keep us all on the same page.

A deadline of the 15th for each month's material has been set to help keep things moving well, especially while Marsha is still operating somewhat shorthanded.

Marsha Barna has this request from the **Kent Head Start** where she works...

Due to budget cuts we are in need of donations for our classrooms. **Any** and **All** are greatly appreciated.

- White paper towels
- Hand Sanitizer
- 35mm film
- Storage boxes w/lids (shoe box size)
- Dress-up clothes etc. in kid sizes
- Dress-up shoes
- Puppets
- Preschool Books (3-5 yrs. old)
- Play brooms, mops, etc.
- Construction paper
- Leap Pad Learning Systems books (preschool)
- Matchbox cars
- Play Dough
- Stickers

Marsha Barna

Contact Marsha if you are interested or need information.

Did You Know!

By Marsha Snyder

Many thanks to **Cindy Hoskins** and **Pat Williams** for cleaning the floor in the church. All your hard work is deeply appreciated... Thanks to **Kay Canan** and **all her church school teachers** who worked so hard on the children's Christmas pageant. If you didn't already notice---the art work in the Christmas Eve early family service bulletin was drawn by some of our children. The originals are posted in the parish hall, if you want to take a better look at them. We have some very talented children!...The weather kept many families apart this Christmas; **Nancy and Fred Lundgren's son Bill and family** were flying in from Texas and got stuck in the Dallas airport and had to go back home. **Marsha and Steve Barna's children** couldn't make it from Columbus and had to turn back as did **Bill and Marsha Snyder's children** (and especially the grandchildren) who couldn't make it home from Dayton...**Mary Jean and John McDonald** were in Arizona visiting with John's son Andy while Mary Jean's children were here at their home in Rootstown celebrating their Christmas...The **Conway girls** looked so cute at the late Christmas eve service, **Skylar, McKenna, and Jillian** were all dressed in pretty red dresses...**Marcia and Tim Splinter** worked overtime on Christmas eve singing with their children **Kevin and Eric** at the early service and then singing again with the choir at the late service...once again the **Altar Guild** did a bang-up job. The altar looked beautiful and they were busy ladies for three days. Thanks to **Nancy Lundgren, Nancy Ervin, and Goldie Shriver** for their dedication. **Cathy Potisuk** came all the way from Dayton to do the altar flowers (well maybe she didn't come up **just to** arrange flowers) but she did a beautiful job. Thanks Cathy!...**Kay Canan and Judy Canan** knew there wouldn't be many in church on the Sunday after Christmas (we had 25 people in attendance and had as many eight o'clock people as ten o'clock) at this 9:00 only service, so they served pecan pie and homemade cookies. We had a wonderful sermon by **Deacon Bill Snyder** and those who stayed for coffee hour enjoyed conversation about the scriptures with **Fr. Lloyd O'Keefe, Roberta O'Keefe, Maynard Evans, Nancy and Fred Lundgren, George Furrer, Judy Canan and Marsha and Bill Snyder**...**Stephanie Higgins** asked us to pray that she get the job she "really" wanted... and she got it!! Oh, the power of prayer...**Lessons and Carols** was wonderful, just ask anyone who was there - which weren't many. **Mary Ann Switz** did a great job with the bulletins, the music, and the readings. If you missed Lessons and Carols this year don't make that same mistake next year...Many thanks to **Nancy and Fred Lundgren and John McDonald** who took all the Christmas decorations down...**Addrienne Conway** and her friend **Chris Stickle** cleaned out the room downstairs for their Girl Scouts meetings. They got "kicked out" of the parish hall because of the adult education classes. Oops!! Just to let you know this Girl Scout group sent 61 boxes of Girl Scout cookies to soldiers in Iraq. What a wonderful idea!! Thanks girls...**Barb Popiel** visited with her daughter **Michelle and her husband Dave** in Florida over the holidays. Barb reports that Michelle is really enjoying Florida, they love the weather. After this Ohio winter; it's no wonder...**Ken Boydell** hasn't missed a Rotary Club meeting in 38 years...For those of you who missed the first evening adult education class, either because of the weather (ice and snow for the first meeting) or lack of interest, you missed a great experience. Thanks to **Kelly and Ron Postlethwaite** who brought sloppy-joes and chips and **Carolyn Englert's** "crumbly" cookies...**Valerie Hugebeck** called to say the "good Samaritan" award should go to **Steve Barna**. Steve helped them remove eight trees from their yard, including Valerie's lovely mulberry tree. Some of the trees were blocking their driveway and getting out became a real problem...**Jim Capriola** died on January 11th; our deepest sympathy to the **Betty Capriola and family** on their loss. Our prayers and love go with all of you.

Lenten Activities

Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner Party

Sunday Feb. 6th
3:00—6:30 pm

\$20.00 per Family
\$5.00 per Person
Children under 2 are free
(Setup on Sat. @10:00 am)

Ash Wednesday Services

Feb. 9th
Liturgy & Holy Eucharist
12 noon & 7:00 pm

Lenten Soup Suppers

Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

Feb. 16th at Grace Church

Feb. 23rd at St. Paul's

Mar. 2nd at Grace Church

Mar. 9th at St. Paul's

Mar. 16th at Grace Church

Congratulations!

and many happy returns!

Birthdays

2nd—Dale Espey
3rd—David Golec
4th—Dean Hugebeck
9th—Janice Lallathin
13th—Gladys Parsons
16th—Nancy Lundgren
21st—Irene Machisko
26th—Richard Thacker
29th—Fred Lundgren

Baptisms

3rd—Barbara Lundgren
10th—Janell & Jesse Moore
11th—Nancy Ervin
14th—Emily Summy
15th—Richard Thacker

Anniversaries

13th—Sonja & Don Sherwood

FEBRUARY

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2005

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •Adult Ed. 6-8pm	3 •7:30-9:00 Choir Practice	4	5
6 Last Epiphany •8am HEZ •9:15 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HEZ •3-6:30pm Mardi Gras	7	8	9 Ash Wednesday •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •Noon & 7pm Liturgy w/ HE	10 •7:30-9:00 Choir Practice	11	12
13 1 Lent •8am HEZ •8:45 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HEZ •11:15 Coffee Hour	14	15 •7pm Vestry Meeting	16 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •6pm Lenten Soup Supper at Grace	17 •7:30-9:00 Choir Practice	18 •10-2 County Clothing Center	19 •Habitat Lunch & Volunteering
20 2 Lent •8am HEZ •8:45 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HEZ •11:15 Coffee Hour	21	22	23 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •6pm Lenten Soup Supper at St. Paul's	24 •7:30-9:00 Choir Practice	25	26
27 3 Lent •8am HEZ •8:45 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HEZ •11:15 Coffee Hour	28					