



The Grace Vine

February 2011

Rector's Writ

We've all agreed in recent years that our Grace Church family needs and wants to grow, both in the Spirit and in numbers. Our first small group studied *Unbinding the Gospel* followed by *Unbinding Your Heart* last summer and fall. The group unanimously recommended this process to the vestry as one way to offer parishioners an opportunity to improve our own spiritual life and to encourage our growth as a Church community. We have a second group who has committed to this process of study, prayer, and spiritual leadership, and they're progressing well. Please be sure to read Addrienne Conway's article on *Unbinding the Heart*. She does a good job of wrestling with one of the questions this study asks us to explore together: why does our faith matter and what difference does it make in our lives?

We'll be offering a parish wide study of *Unbinding Your Heart* for Lent this year. It's an opportunity to gather in small groups to explore and to grow in our prayer life; to grow closer to God and each other; to learn to talk about our faith. We Episcopalians aren't always comfortable doing such things, but we've found that most of us believe they're important enough to learn. We really can pray without using the Prayer Book; the language doesn't have to be fancy, just sincere. We can make time to listen to God; time to share the faith stories and surprises that follow from listening, obedience, and trust. We learn about the faith journey others have walked and how God's hand has been at work in their lives. *Unbinding Your Heart* is not an easy to process to explain, but it's a good process to experience.

From this Lenten study we'll explore what God is calling the people of Grace Church to be and do in the world. Together we can grow in prayer, faith and fellowship, and share our gifts and blessings with others. We welcome every member of our parish family to join us for this experience of prayer, spiritual growth, and fellowship. Please review the group meeting day options (in this issue) and plan to join us throughout Lent.

"People in churches (with healthy relationships) are trying to yield their lives to Christ to be shaped and used. The more each of us looks to Christ and asks forgiveness for gaffs..and mess-ups, the more likely we are to be able to hear other people's ideas, to forgive and to get along. ..The more the Spirit is leading (a church), the more creativity, energy, and outward focus are freed to go into gear.

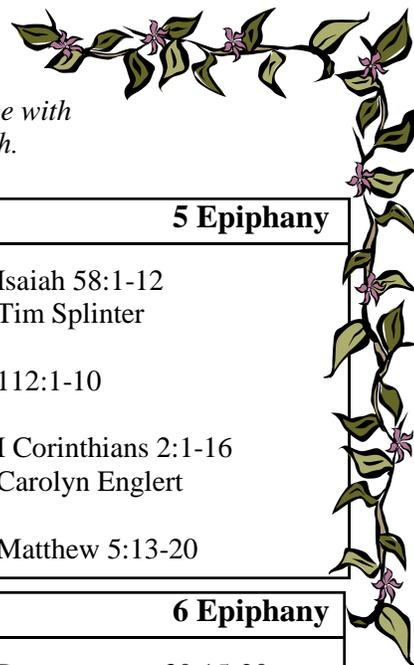
People in love with God and serving each other live with joy. ..People know a great church when they see it. Visitors can feel it."

(Unbinding Your Heart, p. 50)



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, February 6 8:00 & 10:00 AM Morning Prayer 5 Epiphany

Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Isaiah 58:1-12 Tim Splinter
Lay Reader	Addriane Conway		
Greeters	Judy Canan & Kay Canan	Psalm	112:1-10
Acolyte	Schyler Conway & Paige Paxton	2nd Reading	I Corinthians 2:1-16 Carolyn Englert
Altar Guild	Shirley Johnson & Joan Seman		
Coffee Host	8:00 Joan & Frank Seman 10:00 Chris Stickle & Denise Crouse	Gospel	Matthew 5:13-20
Counters	Tony Worthen & Joan Seman		
Emeritus	Kathy Summy		

Sunday, February 13 8:00 & 10:00 AM Morning Prayer 6 Epiphany

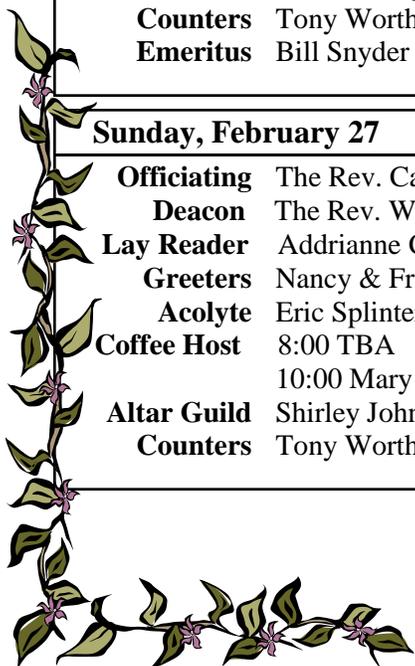
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Maynard Evans
Deacon	The Rev. William D. Snyder		
Lay Reader	Carolyn Englert	Psalm	119:1-8
Greeters	Mary Jean & John McDonald	2nd Reading	I Corinthians 3:1-9 Cathy Mansor
Acolyte	Kevin Splinter		
Altar Guild	Shirley Johnson & Joan Seman	Gospel	Matthew 5:21-37
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Mike & Shirley Johnson 10:00 Jim & Nancy Ervin		
Counters	Tony Worthen & Joan Seman		

Sunday, February 20 8:00 & 10:00 AM Morning Prayer 7 Epiphany

Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 Martha Croll
Lay Reader	Roberta O'Keefe		
Greeters	Jim & Nancy Ervin	Psalm	119:33-40
Acolytes	Jenna Summy	2nd Reading	I Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23 Jeff Croll
Altar Guild	Shirley Johnson & Joan Seman		
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Sandy Ulbricht & Amanda Young 10:00 Nancy & Fred Lundgren	Gospel	John 5:38-48
Counters	Tony Worthen & Joan Seman		
Emeritus	Bill Snyder		

Sunday, February 27 8:00 & 10:00 AM Morning Prayer 8 Epiphany

Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Isaiah 49:8-16a Nancy Lundgren
Deacon	The Rev. William D. Snyder		
Lay Reader	Addriane Conway	Psalm	131
Greeters	Nancy & Fred Lundgren	2nd Reading	I Corinthians 4:1-5 Fred Lundgren
Acolyte	Eric Splinter & McKenna Conway		
Coffee Host	8:00 TBA 10:00 Mary Jean & John McDonald	Gospel	Matthew 6:24-34
Altar Guild	Shirley Johnson & Joan Seman		
Counters	Tony Worthen & Joan Seman		





Sunday, March 6		8:00 & 10:00 AM Morning Prayer	Last Epiphany
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Exodus 24:12-18 Maynard Evans
Deacon	The Rev William D. Snyder	Psalm	2
Lay Reader	Carolyn Englert	2nd Reading	2 Peter 1:16-21 Cathy Mansor
Greeters	Bev Lewis-Mercury & Jeff Marsh	Gospel	Matthew 17:1-9
Acolyte	Skyler Conway & Paige Paxton		
Coffee Hour	8:00 Frank & Joan Seman 10:00 Irene & John Machisko		
Altar Guild	Shirley Johnson & Debbie Shorts		
Counters	Sue Ahrens & Joan Seman		

Wednesday, March 9		Noon & 7:30 Imposition of Ashes	Ash Wednesday
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 Tim Splinter
Deacon	The Rev. William D. Snyder	Psalm	103
Lay Reader	Roberta O'Keefe	2nd Reading	2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10 Carolyn Englert
Greeters	Jim & Nancy Ervin	Gospel	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
Acolyte	Eric Splinter		
Altar Guild	Shirley Johnson & Debbie Shorts		
Counters	Sue Ahrens & Joan Seman		

What is Love?

This question was posed to a group of 4 to 8 year olds, the answers they gave were broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined.

- "Love is the first feeling you feel before all the bad stuff gets in the way." Charlie 5
- "When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love." Rebecca 8
- "When someone loves you, the way then say your name is different. You know your name is safe in their mouth." Bill 4
- "Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other." Karl 5
- "Love is when you go out to eat and gives somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs." Chrissy 6
- "Love is when someone hurts you. And you get so mad but you don't yell at them because you know it would hurt their feeling." Samantha 6
- "Love is what makes you smile when you're tired." Terri 4
- "Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him to make sure the taste is OK." Danny 7
- "Love is when you kiss all the time. Then when you get tired of kissing you still want to be together and you talk more. My mommy and daddy are like that." Emily 8
- "Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen." Bobby 5
- "If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate." Nikka 6
- "Love is hugging. Love is kissing. Loves in saying no." Patty 8

- "When you tell someone bad about yourself and you're scared they won't love you anymore. But then you get surprised because not only do they still love you, they love you even more." Matthew 7
- "There are two kinds of love. Our love. God's love. But God makes both kinds of them." Jenny 4
- "Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it every day". Noelle 7
- "Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well." Tommy 6
- "During my piano recital, I was on a stage and scared. I looked at the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore." Cindy 8
- "My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night." Clare 8
- "Love is when mommy sees daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford." Chris 8
- "Love is when mommy gives daddy the best piece of chicken." Elaine 5
- "Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day." May Ann 4
- "I know my older sister loves me because she give me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones." Lauren 4
- "I let my big sister pick on me because my mom says she only picks on me because she loves me. So I pick on my baby sister because I love her." Bethany 4
- "Love cards like Valentine's cards say stuff on them that we'd like to say ourselves, but we wouldn't be caught dead saying." Mike 8



Did You Know?...



The E.C.W. visited the Fashion Museum at Kent State on January 15th after a very short business meeting. It was a cold & snowy day (what else is new this winter), but the weather couldn't stop us. About 19 ladies attended and enjoyed the Katherine Hepburn exhibit along with the other beautiful clothes on display as early as the 1600's, and the fabrics from India were spectacular. We had lunch at the Pufferbelly Restaurant and enjoyed a lovely social time, although the quarters couldn't have been much tighter. **Martha Croll** brought her mother, sisters and niece and it was a real privilege meeting them. At the business meeting it was decided to share our earnings from the Christmas cookie sale. We sent money to the Lillian Vallely school in Idaho, to the County Clothing Center, and to the church to assist with the deficit. We especially want to thank **Carolyn Englert** for her efforts in organizing the Cookie Sale and all the bakers who brought delicious cookies, and to those who ordered them. The Cookie Sale is the only annual fund raiser for the E.C.W., and we appreciate all the effort that it takes to make it happen...

We were saddened by the death of **Gladys Parsons**, a long time member here at Grace. She was laid to rest on Friday, January 28th. **Rodney Stickle's** mother passed away just two days before granddaughter **Nikki** was to be confirmed by **Bishop Williams**...

Shirley and Mike Johnson attend the tournament of Roses Parade while visiting their daughter **Susan** and her family in California. The pictures of the floats were beautiful, but she said the smell was even better. That's when you wish you had "smell-a-vision"...

Reba Cook took her two sons and four grandchildren on a 10 day trip to Disney World for Christmas. They had a wonderful time, however the weather didn't cooperate and the clothes they brought weren't warm enough, but what a nice Christmas gift...

Jeff Croll hosted the Poker Boys this month. **Martha** had a real spread set for the "boys" and they always enjoy getting together. Once again Grace Church made out, but I understand so did **Tony Worthen**. The rest of them did get out with their shirts on...

It was good seeing **Josh Crouse** in church; he says he will be leaving for Afghanistan some time this year. Our prayers will be with you, Josh...

Johnnie & Irene Machisko are in Florida for several months this winter. Irene wasn't real excited about going – she likes being at home - but I'm sure they will at least

warm up...

The **Thomas'** will be going on a skiing vacation for their anniversary. Now that's one way to enjoy this weather!! It's been great seeing **Leslie and Paige** in church lately, and finding out that **Larry** has recovered from his injuries has been a real blessing...

We received a note from **Phyllis Shorts** with pictures of their great grandson. Take a look at the bulletin board, **Bill & Phyllis** look great and baby **Mikhail** is looking like he's really enjoying the visit with his great grandparents. Thanks for sharing Phyllis...

Thanks to **John Splinter, Tim's father**, for joining the choir during Christmas, he really adds a lot to the men's voices (since we are now down to two men). If anyone enjoys singing and wants to join us, just talk to a member of the choir or let **Mary Ann** know about your interest...

Grace Postlethwaite got her first library card and she was wondering when her three year old sister would get hers – not quite yet!...

Larry Harper came by during the Christmas season to say hello. It was very nice to see him. He stayed with daughter **Linda** while here and he will be going back to the Columbus area after the holidays...

We were visited by **Bishop Arthur Williams** on January 23rd and he confirmed **Nikki Stickle**. He gave a wonderful sermon and the covered dish lunch that followed was enjoyed by everyone. It's always a joy to see **Bishop Williams** and **Lynette** here at Grace...

We have several members that are in need of your prayers those include: **Bette Brooks** (finishing with half of her chemo treatments), **Cory Conway** (recovering for knee replacement), **Ken Englert** (heart surgery), and let's not forget our shut-ins **Betty Capriola, Bud Minnich, Bernice McCauslin, Pauline Wamsley, Katherine Furrer**.

...if you have information you want to share in the "Did You Know" please email it to:
office@graceravenna.org

On the Horizon

Saturday, February 12
Fellowship and
Game Night
6:30pm

Saturday, March 5
Mardi Gras
Pancake Dinner
4-6pm

The Youth Group will serve it's annual Pancake Dinner in the parish hall. \$5/person or \$20/family. Come eat up and support your Youth Group.

Sunday, March 6
Candy Sale Forms

Watch for order forms for the annual Easter Candy Sale to show up!

Saturday, March 12
Fellowship and
Game Night
6:30pm

Lenten Study Unbinding Your Heart

This year our church is focused on growth. With that in mind Christian Education encourages all members to join a Lenten Small Group study, to explore your faith, your pray life and your relationship with God and you neighbor.

Classes will be offered for all ages, Children will meet during normal Sunday School times.

Adults will be offered the following times:

Sundays 9:15 – 10:45am

Sundays 11:30 – 1 pm

Wednesdays 6:30 – 8pm (simple supper served 6 – 6:30 pm)

Daytime weekday class to be determined. If there is a different day and time which you would like , such as Monday or Friday evening, please contact Addrienne Conway and we will see if we have enough people to hold a class at that time.

If you have questions or need more information please contact Addrienne.

Birthdays

2nd Dale Espey
3rd David Golec
9th Janice Lallathin
10th Gary Bell
14th Susan Merrill
16th Nancy Lundgren
21st Irene Machisko
29th Fred Lundgren



Congratulations!

and many happy returns...



Anniversaries

13th Sonja & Don Sherwood



Baptisms

11th Nancy Ervin
Gary Bell
Josh & Phil Crouse
14th Emily Summy
24th Rob Young
29th Kirsten Seman

The Bulletin Board

Acolytes Schedule

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

3/13—Kevin

3/20—Jenna

3/27—Eric & Kenna

4/3—Schyler & Paige

Tim@splinterfactions.net

Marcia@splinterfactions.net

330-527-2084

Fundraising in February

The Fundraising "Fun Group" will be meeting in the Multipurpose Room after the 10am Service on Sunday Feb. 13th. New members with ideas or helping hands are VERY welcome! Come on down and join the fun.

Your New Vestry Members

Barb Popiel
Jeff Marsh
and
Cathy Mansor

were voted in at Annual
Meeting to replace

Marcia Splinter
Roberta O'Keefe
and
Fred Lundgren

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 **Marsha Snyder** for handling.

Unbinding the Heart

A reprint of the presentation Addrianne Conway gave on Sunday, Jan 30

This year Grace Church is focused on Growth. Christian Education is also focused on growth; growth of your faith, and spirituality; growth of your relationship with God; Growth of your relationships within our family.

We are asking that you to go on an adventure of sorts, an exploration of discovery, of your faith and prayer life. As you have seen in the bulletin insert today we would like you to join us this Lenten season and unbind your faith. Learn how prayer can change your perspective and your relationships.

Why unbinding the Heart, well for me it was almost the first question asked in the book. Why does it matter that you are a Christian?

I am a cradle Episcopalian, my parents were active members (vestry, senior warden, treasurer, deacon...), and I have been an active member for all of my life (Youth Group, Sunday School, Acolyte, Christian Ed, vestry, worship leader). Seems like this should be one of the easiest questions I have ever encountered. Nope, I had absolutely no answer for this question when I first encountered it. This bothered me; all I could say was I do not know, I just am, never knew anything else. That's owning your own beliefs.

So I signed on to Unbinding the Gospel (slightly longer version of Unbinding the Heart) to find my answers. At first I found more questions; then we started praying. I do not mean my usual laundry list of chores for God to perform. I mean really praying; praying for God to show me what he wants from me, give me a nudge. This was great; I enjoyed praying this way and found I was spending more time thanking him for everything I had and everyone who makes a difference in my life.

We did an experiment, I spent some time not just praying but actually listening for the answer (Novel idea I know). I think the exercise wanted me to spend a whole day doing this but I only managed the car ride home from work. But I prayed about everything, which turn to take, which road to go down. Then I turned on to the highway and I prayed on whether or not to speed. My usual answer is yes of course you want to get home don't you. When I didn't feel I had answer I went with my usual. Before the next exit how ever there were two State Troopers pulling someone over going the other

direction. "Ok God does that mean I should not speed? Or does it mean the police are already busy so I am in the clear to go all I want." I sped back up and not 30 seconds down the road 3 cars are pulled over and people out walking around. SMACK! I think I have my answer now. I did the speed limit the rest of the way home. I felt God's nudge like a two by four. So now I pray and take time to listen and look for God's nudges. If I am patient I see him working all around me when before I took that for granted.

I have learned a lot about prayer during the study, different ways to pray, different prayers to say, and different people to pray for. We talked a lot about our prayer life, what worked, what did not, and what we are most afraid of when we pray. I learned to pray aloud, not so much learned how to but found the courage. The totally amazing thing I have found is seeing the different ways God answered those prayers, and how the people I prayed for were affected. It was wonderful.

I now know I can answer the question; why does it matter that I am a Christian? It Matters because I know I have Jesus as my intercessor to God, and because I am a Christian, I can recognize God's influence in my life. I know that this will not keep me from pain, but it will never keep me from hope. It would be a very lonely and confusing life to not be able to recognize all He does for me, for us.

My next question: Why does it matter that others believe? Whether one believes in the Holy Trinity or not does not diminish its existence, but believing enlivens yours, both in this life and the next. As a Christian I am called through the Holy Spirit to act out my faith, I can think of no better way than to encourage others to live life to its fullest.

I am not sure I would have examined my faith or what my faith allows me to see if I had not taken this course, and experimented with prayer. For me it changed my life, I am more comfortable talking about my faith and I feel my faith has matured far beyond what it was, because I finally know what I believe, and why it is important to me. Am I going to run out and talk to everyone I see about how to be saved, I doubt it, but if the conversation comes up I am better prepared to explain the benefits I have found in faith.

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.*

The Rev. John Roberts

February 25

John Roberts was born in Wales on March 31, 1853, the son of Robert and Elinor Roberts. He was educated at the local Grammar School until he was 18 when he then attended St. David's College, Lampeter that was affiliated with Oxford University. In 1876, he graduated with his bachelor's degree and 2 years later was ordained to the diaconate. Later in 1878, he went to the Bahamas where he was ordained to the priesthood and served as chaplain of St. Matthew Cathedral and worked among the leper colonies on the islands. Although he enjoyed the hard work, this was not what he felt called to do. These people were already baptized Christians; he wanted a larger challenge—ministering to those who had not yet heard the word of Christ.

In 1880, he sailed for New York (after becoming engaged to the organist at St. Matthew Cathedral, Laura Brown) and asked the bishop of Wyoming and Colorado for “missionary work in your most difficult field.” He was told: “We have it—the Shoshone and Bannock Indian Agency on the Shoshone Indian Reservation, Wyoming Territory” which later became the Wind River Indian Reservation. However, the bishop insisted that he first work among the coal miners in Pueblo. He did so and finally arrived at the reservation in February 1883 after 3 years of working in Pueblo.

Earlier, he had contacted Laura, telling her under no circumstances should she follow him to Wyoming. She replied that she was coming and would arrive at the end of 1880. Roberts had to guess the date of her arrival in Rawlins. He made it on Christmas Day and Laura had arrived that morning. They were married at 4 PM that afternoon, the first wedding at the new St. Thomas Episcopal Church. Although strangers in town, the young couple was treated to a full church for their wedding, and the congregation waved them off the next day for the 2-day trip to the reservation.

They settled into the primitive way of life, working among the very poor Indian tribes who did not trust each other. The Shoshones were Mountain Indians and the Arapahoe were Plains Indians. Gradually Roberts gained their confidence, earning the title “Elder Brother”; he learned their languages and translated the Gospels into both Shoshone and Arapahoe. In addition, he became concerned that the Indian tribes retain their culture, identity, and languages while he still prepared them to cope with the modern developing world around them. This was quite different from the usual approach of missionaries to the West who attempted to eliminate all elements of Native American culture.

The Shoshone chief gave Roberts 160 acres of land near the fort to build a mission school and house. Roberts sent letters to everyone he knew, begging for money to sponsor his project. In time the large house was built and was used to take in boarders, mainly Shoshone and Arapahoe girls.

It is estimated that Roberts established at least 7 churches in Wyoming. In addition, he officiated at the burial of Sacajawea, the Indian guide for the Lewis and Clark Expedition. He retired from active missionary work in 1921 but continued to live on the reservation until his death February 25, 1949. He and his wife were buried among the people they had come to serve and love.

Prayer: Creator God, we thank you for bringing your missionary John Roberts from his native land to live and teach your Gospel in a spirit of respect and amity among the Shoshone and Arapahoe peoples in their own language; and we pray that we also may share the Good News of your Christ with all we meet as friends brought together by your Holy Spirit; for you are one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, living and true, to the ages of ages. Amen.

February The Grace Vine 2011

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •7:00-8:30 Choir Practice	3	4	5
6 5 Epiphany •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:15 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	7	8 •2-4pm Sit & Stitch	9 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •5:30pm Healing Service •7:00-8:30 Choir Practice	10	11	12 •6:30 Fellowship & Game Night
13 6 Epiphany •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:15 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	14	15 •7pm Vestry Meeting	16 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •7:00-8:30 Choir Practice	17 •8am Retired Men's Breakfast	18	19
20 7 Epiphany •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:15 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	21	22 •2-4pm Sit & Stitch	23 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door •7:00-8:30 Choir Practice	24	25	26
27 8 Epiphany •8am HE •9am Coffee •9:15 Choir •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HE •11:15 Coffee	28					

The Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church
 Tony Worthen (2011)
 Reba Cook (2011)
 Alice Boydell (2011)
 Cory Conway (2012)
 Sue Ahrens (2012)
 Joan Seman (2012)
 Cathy Mansor (2013)
 Jeff Marsh (2013)
 Barb Popiel (2013)

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 The Rev. William Snyder
 Marsha Snyder—Secretary
 Mary Ann Switz—Organist/Choirmaster
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If you would like to take advantage of this, send me an email at grwebmaster@graceravenna.org. Please consider carefully, however. We would rather make the paper copy and have it read than save the paper and postage and have it go unread. Thank you.



The Grace Vine

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