



The Grace Vine

January 2013

Rector's Writ

Now that we've celebrated Christmas with loved ones and welcomed in the new year, it's time to turn our attention to getting ready for the annual parish meeting. We rely on the faithful help, generosity, and prayers of our members who give so much to keep Grace Church going. The annual meeting is a time to hear reports, thank our volunteers, approve the budget, and enjoy some fellowship afterward. It's an opportunity to take a look at what we've done in 2012 and what priorities we want to consider and commit to for 2013.

Increasing growth, decreasing the deficit, and encouraging more people to help build our volunteer and program base are among the areas of focus. And of course, we need the help, participation, and prayers of all our members to make these things happen.

Several parishioners have approached our vestry members and rector in support of having only one service for the winter months and possibly longer. The vestry requested that we open this topic for discussion at our Annual Meeting so we can hear from parishioners. We invite all members of our church family to attend the meeting and be part of the discussions and fellowship. We will have one service of Holy Eucharist at 9:30am on Sunday, January 13th, 2013; followed by the Annual Parish Meeting and concluding with lunch and fellowship. Please plan to join us!

"Gracious Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. Amen." (BCP p. 816)

"Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." (BCP p. 818)

"Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen." (BCP, p. 101)



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, January 6 8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist The Epiphany

<p>Celebrant The Rev. Carol Evans Lay Reader 8:00 Bette Brooks 10:00 Carolyn Englert Greeters David Miller & Alexandra Wroblewski Acolytes Cathy Mansor Altar Guild Shirley Johnson & Debbie Shorts Coffee Hosts 8:00 Joan & Frank Seman 10:00 Irene & John Machisko Counters Midge Myers & John McDonald Emeritus Kathy Summy</p>	<p>1st Reading Isaiah 60:1-6 Nancy Lundgren Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 2nd Reading Ephesians 3:1-12 Fred Lundgren Gospel Matthew 2:1-12</p>
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Sunday, January 13 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 1 Epiphany

<p>ANNUAL MEETING Celebrant The Rev. Carol Evans Deacon The Rev. William Snyder Greeters John & Mary Jean McDonald Acolyte Kevin Splinter Altar Guild Shirley Johnson & Debbie Shorts Coffee Hosts Hospitality Committee Counters Midge Myers & John McDonald</p>	<p>1st Reading Isaiah 43:1-7 Kathy Summy Psalm Psalm 29 2nd Reading Acts 8:14-17 Tim Splinter Gospel Luke 3:15-17, 21-22</p>
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Sunday, January 20 8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 2 Epiphany

<p>Celebrant The Rev. Carol Evans Lay Reader 8:00 Bette Brooks 10:00 Nancy Lundgren Greeters Jim & Nancy Ervin Acolyte Jeff Marsh Altar Guild Shirley Johnson & Debbie Shorts Coffee Hosts 8:00 TBA 10:00 Chris Stickle & Loretta Reigelman Counters Midge Myers & John McDonald Emeritus Bill Snyder</p>	<p>1st Reading Isaiah 62:1-5 Martha Croll Psalm Psalm 36:5-10 2nd Reading I Corinthians 12:1-11 Jeff Croll Gospel John 2:1-11</p>
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Congratulations!

and many happy returns...



Birthdays

- 4th Emily Summy
- 10th Patricia Williams
- 15th Bruce Ahrens
- 17th Alice Boydell
- 18th Amanda Ulbricht
- 22nd Pauline Wamsley
- 26th Courtney Rich
- 28th Paige Paxton

Anniversaries

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



Baptisms

- 2nd Reba Cook
- 9th Bill Summy
- 18th Marguerite Rich
 Emily Scibelli



Did You Know?...



Irene and John Machisko are going to be great-grandparents for the first time. Their daughter **Lynn's** daughter is expecting in May and everyone is delighted...

Bill and Marsha Snyder are going to be grandparents again in July. Son **Luke and his wife Alex** are having another baby. They already have two boys; a 5 year old and a 2 year old and now Alex is looking for a nice, sweet little girl. I'm not sure if a girl will fit in that mix. She'll have to be a very strong girl or just very easy going...

Steve Merrill was a wonderful Santa Clause and storyteller on December 9th. Steve gave a sermon on how Santa Clause was inspired by the history and deeds of St. Nicholas. The children, both young and not so young enjoyed understanding why we celebrate as we do...

Alice Boydell has the cutest little dog you'll ever see. Cindy Lou is her name and she has more energy than should be allowed. Alice knew she was up to something in the bathroom and when she shouted at Cindy Lou she came tearing out of the bathroom with the toilet paper wrapped around her. Before Alice could catch her the roll was almost empty and toilet paper was around the kitchen table legs, chair legs, the kitchen island, several times. It's a good thing she's cute...

Judy Canan hosted the Sit & Stitch group at her home for a Christmas get together...

Sally Dier took a trip to New York State to visit with her cousins she hasn't seen for while. She had a wonderful time and enjoyed visiting with family...

Irene & John Machisko were excited about their cruise and their stay with their son John and his family over Christmas...

Shirley & Mike Johnson headed for California for Christmas to visit with their daughter **Susan** and her family. They also get to see the Rose Bowl Parade...

Cathy Mansor was in Florida for the holiday visiting with daughter **Corie**. Cathy flew with her grandchildren at **Hiram, Zachary and Leah**, to Florida to visit with her daughter **Cori** and youngest grandchild **Kacee**. What's with everyone going to warmer weather??...

Amir and Stephanie Amiruzzaman will be going to Stephanie's family near Lima, Ohio after the holidays...

Bud Minnich spent his holidays in Colorado with his sons **Steve and David**...

New grandma **Barb Popiel** will enjoy this Christmas with her first grandson **Tyson**. Grandchildren always make Christmas more fun!...

Taylor Paxton signed up her mother for coffee hour and was **Lisa** surprised when Taylor wasn't available but never fear Lisa had coffee hour with her mother **Nancy**. We can always count on Mom...

Tony Worthen hosted the Poker Boys on Nov. 30th. His wife **Toni** had the usual feast, as only Toni can do, for the six who attended: **Jeff Marsh, Bill Snyder, Maynard Evans, Phil Rich, Rodney Stickle, and Dennis Dier**. And they all had a

great time and some of the winnings went to the Discretionary Fund. Thanks!!...

Jeff and Martha Croll have their family over on Christmas Eve and it's a very "Big Deal" for this family...

Marsha and Bill Snyder also celebrate with family on Christmas Eve and they are excited to have their daughter **Jill** and her girls join them again this year...

Nancy and Jim Ervin had their "big" family party a few weeks earlier, they need to rent a hall to accommodate their large family. They are excited to have nephew **Chris Bell** home for Christmas...

The ECW had their annual Christmas cookie sale and thanks to **Judy Canan, Mary Jean McDonald, Carolyn Englert, Cathy Mansor, Susan Merrill, Shirley Johnson, Nancy Lundgren, Nancy Ervin, Roberta O'Keefe, Marsha Snyder, Irene Machisko, Marcia Splinter, Joan Seman, Pat Williams, Loretta Reigelman, and Toni Worthen** for baking all those cookies. And thanks to everyone who sold cookies and those who came to the church to fill out the orders. A special thanks to Pat Williams and Marcia Splinter who took their order forms to work. We had more orders than cookies, but it seemed to all work out. Thanks be to God. And a special thanks to Carolyn Englert who once again organized the sale...

On December 16th we honored **Goldie Shriver** for her 48 years of service in the church nursery. She was presented with a plaque and another plaque will be placed outside the nursery that reads "Goldie's house" ...which it has been for many years – thanks Goldie for all your faithful service to Grace Church...

Taylor Paxton, a Sophomore at Stow High School lettered in golf for the 2012-2013 school year. Congratulations Taylor. Your parents and grandparents are very proud...

Mary Jean McDonald wanted to thank everyone who helped with the ECW underwear and sock drive. It was a very good response and the children that go to the County Clothing Center will deeply appreciate your generosity.

Kevin Splinter has finally been cleared to wrestle again after 6 weeks recovering from his concussion. Time to catch up! Good Luck Kevin!

Garrettsville's community theatre is working on it's next play, Neil Simon's "Dinner Party" and **Tim and Marcia Splinter** are BOTH in it this time, playing a divorced couple opposite each other. This should be fun to watch! But they warn us that this is a strong PG-13 play, so don't be surprised.

Thank You! Thank You!

- For everyone who took orders, baked, packed up, and bought cookies for the ECW cookie sale.
- To John McDonald, Reba Cook, and Sue Ahrens for the front doors and a special thanks to the Skip Jenks Memorial fund.
- To Steve Merrill for preaching on Dec. 9th and playing Santa Claus.
- John McDonald for getting the new carpets in the entry ways and parish hall and for trim work in front of the rectory.
- The Poker Boys for contributing to the Parish Discretionary fund
- Judy Canan for doing all the lay scheduling for the Grace Vine.
- To Goldie Shriver for all her service to Grace Church.
- Judy Canan for hosting the Sit & Stitch Christmas luncheon.
- Reba Cook for hosting the Vestry meeting at her home on December 18th, even after spending the week before in the hospital
- To Chris Stickle and Nicole Stickle for representing Grace Church for the Loaves and Fishes ministry here in Ravenna.
- To Nancy Ervin and the hospitality committee for hosting the chili and hot dog luncheon after the Hanging of the Greens. And thanks to everyone who made chili.
- To everyone who contributed to the ECW underwear and socks drive for the County Clothing Center
- To those who contributed to the family that Gracie's Back Door adopted.
- To John McDonald and Jim Ervin for removing the not-so-slow growing evergreen by the front of the church doors.
- To everyone who contributed to Safer Futures.

Please call the office or email us a note if you know of any volunteers we need to thank for work, donations, or other good deeds.

From the "Kid's Say the Cutest Things" Department...

Our Father, Who does art in heaven, Harold is His name...

Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm have a real good time like I am.

After the christening of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, "That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I wanted to stay with you guys."

And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets.

Asked, "Why is it necessary to be quiet in church?", one girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, 5 and 3. the boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. "If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.'" The older boy turned to the younger and said, "You be Jesus!"

At the beach a 4 year old ran up to his father and led him to where a seagull lay dead in the sand. "Daddy, what happened to him?" "He died and went to Heaven," the Dad replied. The boy thought and then said, "Did God throw him back down?"

During a dinner party a mother asked her 6 year old daughter, "Would you like to say the blessing?" "I wouldn't know what to say," the girl replied. "Just say what you hear Mommy say," the mother answered. The girl bowed her head and said, "Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"

The Bulletin Board

Acolytes Schedule

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

2/10— Kevin

2/17— Jeff

2/24— Eric

3/3— Cathy

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 **Marsha Snyder** for handling.

Acme Register Tapes

are being collected for the County Clothing Center, please give these tapes to Mary Jean McDonald or Marsha Snyder.

ECW Items for Safer Futures

(a battered women's shelter) will be collected on an on-going basis. Bring your items and place them in the basket in the narthex.

News from Gracie's Backdoor

Coming Attractions

January 2013: DOLLS, DOLLS and more DOLLS will be here for that special gal in your life. Young or just young at heart, few can resist these lovely DOLLS. Come view the collection and enjoy. Also coming in January. FLOWERS. Don't let the January blues get you down, come pick out an arrangement or make your own from the many lovely flower we have. Let them make you happy until the real thing start show their heads. We will also have decorations for Valentines' Day.

February 2013: St. Patrick's Day decorations will be out for you, some really cute pieces are here, come see them while they last. Easter and Spring decorations galore, check out Gracie's before you go anywhere else, you may be surprised what you find. East is March 31st, early this year, so shop early we will love seeing you here.

March 2013: CRAFTS" month at Gracie's. Wait and be surprised about this event.

Gracie's is in need of the following items:

- trash bags
- dish detergent
- paper towels
- window cleaner
- plate stands
- hand cleanser
- paper shopping bags
- bottle brush
- scrubbies
- roll of price stickers
- price tags with string
- solid room fresheners
- broom w/dust pan
- bagless vacuum

If you're cleaning out don't throw anything out - remember Gracie's.

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.*

Julia Chester Emery

January 9

Julia Emery (September 24, 1852-January 9, 1922) was the daughter of a New England sea captain. Two of her brothers became priests. Her sister Helen, who cared for another sister who was ill, offered hospitality in her home to missionaries who were in New York City on leave. Another sister, Mary, was the National Secretary of the Women's Auxiliary of the Board of Missions of the Episcopal Church for its first 4 years of existence, 1872-1876.

In 1876, Julia (who was only 24 years old) succeeded her sister as the National Secretary and served in this role until she retired in 1916. During her tenure, she visited every diocese in the United States, encouraging everyone to support mission work. She traveled to London in 1908 as a delegate to the Pan-Anglican Congress, then to Japan, China, Hong Kong, and the Philippines to advance missionary work. She returned to the United States to report on all of these experiences to the Episcopal women.

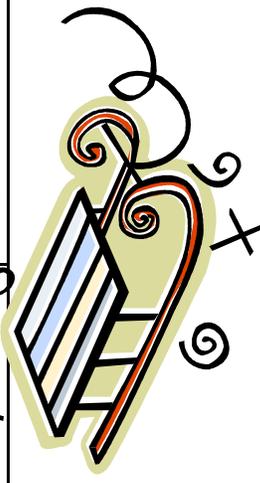
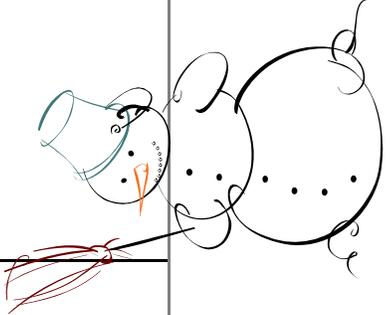
However, it was for her development of the United Thank Offering to support mission work of the Church that Julia is best remembered—and it was one of her last efforts prior to her retirement. The little blue box (really a cardboard piggy bank), small contributions in thanksgiving for some life event—these gifts add up to an on-going tribute to a woman who never desired fame. Julia raised funds, organized volunteers, administered institutions, educated lay members of the Church—and her only training to do these things was a willingness to try. As a laywoman in the late 19th/early 20th century Episcopal Church, her only authority was collegial, for she had neither the office nor the ordained status to support her leadership. Her work reminds all of us that we possess the resources we need to be effective missionaries; however, we also need a willingness to try and the commitment to stick with it.

Prayer: O Almighty God, who have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses: Grant that we, encouraged by the good example of your servant Julia, may persevere in running the race that is set before us, until at last we may with her attain to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

January

The Grace Vine

2013

Sun	*Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
6 	7	1 New Year's Office Closed	2	3	4	5 6pm Game Night
13 The Epiphany •8am HE •9am Coffee Hour •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HE •11:15 Coffee Hour	14	8 •1-3 Sit & Stitch •7pm Vestry Meeting	9 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	10 •7:00 Choir Practice	11	12
20 2 Epiphany •8am HE •9am Coffee Hour •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HE •11:15 Coffee Hour	21 Martin Luther King Day Office Closed	15 •7pm Vestry Meeting	16 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	17 •7:00 Choir Practice	18	19
27 3 Epiphany •8am HE •9am Coffee Hour •9:45 Ch. Ed. •10am HE •11:15 Coffee Hour	28	22 •1-3 Sit & Stitch	23 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	24 •7:00 Choir Practice	25	26 
		29	30 •10-2 Gracie's Back Door	30 •7:30-9:00 Choir Practice		

The Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church
 Fred Lundgren (2012)
 Sue Ahrens (2012)
 Joan Seman (2012)
 Cathy Mansor (2013)
 Jeff Marsh (2013)
 Barb Popiel (2013)
 Reba Cook (2014)
 John McDonald (2014)
 Midge Myers (2014)

Grace Episcopal Church of Ravenna
 The Rev. Carol Evans—Rector
 The Rev. William Snyder
 Marsha Snyder—Secretary
 Mary Ann Switz—Organist/Choirmaster
 Phone: 330-296-3443
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Get your Grace Vine electronically!

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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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