



The Grace Vine

January 2022

Rector's Writ

It feels odd to be writing 2022 already. We wave good bye to a year where COVID concerns are persistent in spite of vaccinations. We try hard to resist the gloom and doom mentality. Some days are easier than others to choose and practice being faithful, hopeful, and relying on God's goodness to bring us through. We trust that no matter what difficulties challenge us, *God is with us*. The Lord provides the blessings and guidance we need. Christ's grace helps us keep on the good paths of his light and love. We may have to trudge along for a time, but when we follow Jesus' ways, his light and grace help us not to stumble.

Following are a few especially appropriate New Year prayers. In 2022 and always, may we be surrounded by God's blessings, protection, guidance, and peace.

Carol+

*"Lord Jesus, at the start of this new year, we ask for a fresh beginning. Wipe our sins away with Your precious blood. Cleanse our hearts of bitterness toward others. Help us to live each day in close communion with You, our true and faithful guide. Amen." (Corrie ten Boom)**

*"Almighty God, you are beyond the reach of our highest thought, and, yet within the heart of the lowliest; come to us, we pray, in all the beauty of light, in all the tenderness of love, in all the liberty of truth. Mercifully help us to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with you. Sanctify all our desires and purposes, and upon each of us let your blessing rest; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." (Service Book and Ordinal of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa)**

*"O Almighty God, you alone are without variableness or shadow of turning, and have safely brought us through the changes of time to the beginning of another year: We beseech you to pardon the sins we have committed in the year that is past, and give us grace that we may spend the remainder of our days to your honor and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." (Irish Prayer Book)**

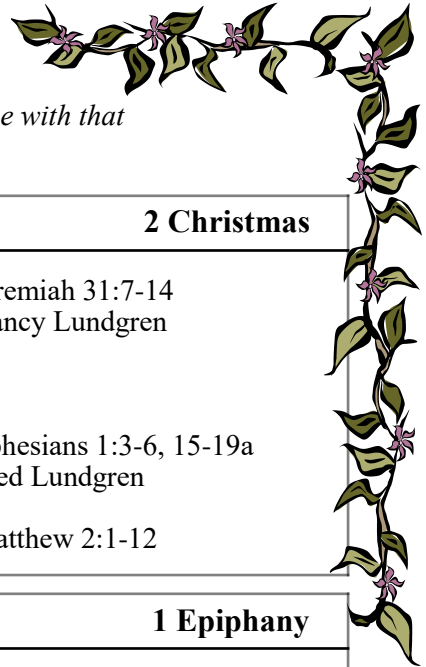


**Above prayers adapted from The Guideposts Handbook of Prayer; pgs. 217 & 218; their source/reference included.*



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 2		8:00 & 10:00 AM Morning Prayer	2 Christmas
Celebrant	The Rev. William Snyder		1st Reading Jeremiah 31:7-14 Nancy Lundgren
Worship Leader	8am Kingsland Pretorius 10am Carolyn Englert		Psalm 84
Greeters	Fred & Nancy Lundgren		2nd Reading Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a Fred Lundgren
Organist	Tim Lewicki		Gospel Matthew 2:1-12
Video	Doug Holzschuh		
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Shirley Johnson		
Coffee Hosts	8am Joan & Frank Seman 10am Mary Jean & John McDonald		
Counters	Carol Marotta & TBA		


Sunday, January 9		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	1 Epiphany
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans		1st Reading Isaiah 43:1-7 Tim Splinter
Deacon	10am The Rev. William Snyder		Psalm 29
Worship Leader	8am Sally Dier 10am Nancy Lundgren		2nd Reading Acts 8:14-17 Carolyn Englert
Greeters	Jeff & Lisa Marsh		Gospel Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Organist	Tim Lewicki		
Video	Doug Holzschuh		
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Shirley Johnson		
Coffee Hosts	8am Mike & Shirley Johnson 10am Nancy & Jim Ervin		
Counters	Carol Marotta & TBA		

Sunday, January 16		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	2 Epiphany
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans		1st Reading Isaiah 62:1-5 Martha Croll
Worship Leader	8am Kingsland Pretorius 10am Carolyn Englert		Psalm 36:5-10
Greeters	Nancy & Jim Ervin		2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 Jeff Croll
Organist	Tim Lewicki		Gospel John 2:1-11
Video	Doug Holzschuh		
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Shirley Johnson		
Coffee Hosts	8am TBA 10am Doris W, Gail R, Carol M		
Counters	Carol Marotta & TBA		



Bible Study
Wednesdays
7:00 P.M.

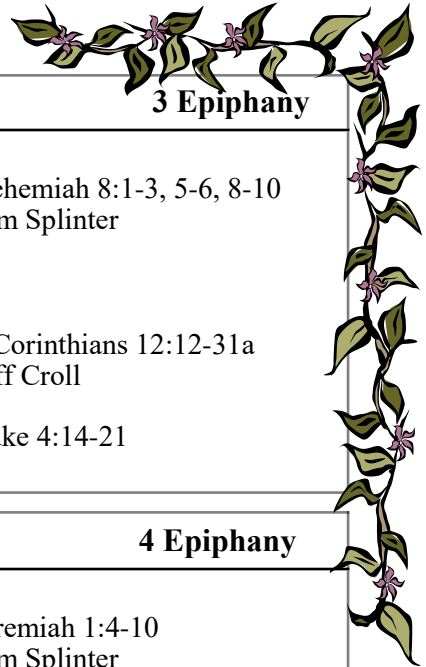
On ZOOM – Please call Carolyn Englert if you're interested in joining the conversation.



Breakfast Club

January 20th, 8:00 AM
Cracker Barrel—Rootstown

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



Sunday, January 23		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist		3 Epiphany	
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10		
Deacon	10am The Rev. William Snyder		Tim Splinter		
Wrshp Ldr	8am Sally Dier	Psalm	19		
Greeters	Jeff & Lisa Marsh	2nd Reading	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a		
Organist	Tim Lewicki		Jeff Croll		
Video	Doug Holzschuh	Gospel	Luke 4:14-21		
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Shirley Johnson				
Coffee Hosts	8am TBA				
	10am Cindy Ward & Cathy Potisuk				
Counters	Carol Marotta & TBA				

Sunday, January 30		9:00 AM Holy Eucharist & Annual Meetin		4 Epiphany	
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Jeremiah 1:4-10		
Deacon	The Rev. William Snyder		Tim Splinter		
Greeters	John & Mary Jean McDonald	Psalm	71:1-6		
Organist	Tim Lewicki	2nd Reading	1 Corinthians 13:1-13		
Video	Doug Holzschuh		Jeff Croll		
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Shirley Johnson	Gospel	Luke 4:21-30		
Coffee Hosts	Covered Dish Lunch				
Counters	Carol Marotta & TBA				

Sunday, February 6		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist		5 Epiphany	
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Isaiah 6:1-13		
Worship	8am Sally Dier		Nancy Lundgren		
Leader	10am Carolyn Englert	Psalm	138		
Greeters	Fred & Nancy Lundgren	2nd Reading	1 Corinthians 15:1-11		
Organist	Tim Lewicki		Fred Lundgren		
Video	Doug Holzschuh	Gospel	Luke 5:1-11		
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Shirley Johnson				
Coffee Hosts	8am Joan & Frank Seman				
	10am Mary Jean & John McDonald				
Counters	Cathy Potisuk & TBA				



Annual Parish Meeting & Reports

January 30th, 9am Service followed by Meeting & Covered Dish Lunch

We will have one Holy Communion service at 9am, followed by Grace's 157th Annual Parish Meeting on January 30th 2022. We will elect one new vestry member; hear reports; and present the 2022 proposed budget for approval. The meeting will be followed by a covered dish lunch and fellowship. Please plan to attend.

The following people are responsible for reports:

- Rector's Report**- Rev. Carol Evans
- Senior Warden's Report** – Barb Popiel
- Junior Warden's Report** – Michelle McLaughlin
- Treasurer's Report** – Marcia Splinter
- Deacon's Report** - Rev. William Snyder
- Altar Guild** – Nancy Lundgren
- Altar Guild Financial** – Marsha Snyder
- Adult Christian Ed** – Carolyn Englert

- Choir** – Martha Croll
- Gracie's Back Door** – Nancy Lundgren/Sally Dier
- Card Ministry** – Shirley Johnson
- Prayer Chain** – Carolyn Englert
- Discretionary Fund** – Marsha Snyder
- Hospitality Committee** – Nancy Ervin
- Mary Helen Beatty** - Barb Popiel



Did You Know?...



Wow! The year 2022. Did you ever think you'd see that? Years 2020 & 2021 have been interesting, and I don't want them repeated any time soon. I hope we can get back to "normal" with everyone back at church. Partially occupied pews are getting a bit depressing, but like the Energizer Bunny we keep going...

We've had many parishioners' staying home for different reasons. But we say "Hello, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year" to everyone, but especially to **Eleanor Blank; Bette Brooks; Kay Canan; Sally Dier** (who plans to return once she's recovered from bronchitis); **Bud and Janet Hughes; Phillip George; Joanne & Jack Sarver; Karen Krofta; Bev Lewis Mercury; John & Cherry Monegan; Courtney, Phil, Gerry, Maggie & Sammy Rich; and David Miller & Alex Wroblewski.** For many different reasons they are unable to worship with us in person, but they remain always in our thoughts and prayers...

Some of our parishioners have had some medical issues: **Sally Dier** recently spent time in the hospital with a lung infection (and **Dennis** told us she was happy to get home from Hillcrest so she could rest!). **Pat Williams** recently had cataract surgery and reports that it was very successful and she's doing well. **Cherry Monegan** has had to have hand surgery again. **Barb Popiel's daughter Michelle Davis** is having medical issues, and Barb is headed to North Carolina to be with Michelle and her family. (Life seems much less stressful with Mom close by!) **Michelle McLaughlin** was planning to take her mother back to Florida before Christmas to recover from pneumonia in a milder climate. (Can't understand why anyone wouldn't want to spend the winter in OhioJ). However, Michelle's sister was diagnosed with tuberculosis, so that return trip for her mom will be postponed for a bit, to keep everyone safe & healthy....

Some good news: **Caitlin & John Fritsch** are expecting their 2nd child this spring. Big brother **George** wants another boy – good luck with that George...

Mary Jean & John McDonald had a visit from daughter **Amy** this month and Mary Jean had all her family over for a holiday get together. The food was great, and they really enjoyed being together...

Rev. Carol & Maynard had a visit from Maynard's daughter **Amy** and got some very good news about her medical reports...

Bette Brooks was delighted to have 2 daughters home for Thanksgiving this year. Both **Laurel & Amanda** came in although Amanda had to leave the day after to cover The Game in Ann Arbor. Too bad it didn't go our way! Laurel Brooks just completed her 7th Half Marathon in Gulfport, MS, walking (yes, she walks half-marathons) 13.1 miles in the balmy South. An added

bonus, in addition to the neat medal, was a visit with her **Aunt Bev** in Gautier. Bette has the added treat of having three of her four daughters home for Christmas. She'll get to see **Amanda, Beverly,** and **Laurel,** and it's always a good time when the Brooks women get together...

Bill & Marsha Snyder will have daughter **Jill,** along with granddaughters **Ellie & Lilly,** and best of all great grandson **Hendrix** home for the holiday...

Tim & Marcia Splinter's sons will be home for Christmas. **Eric** is driving in from New York and **Kevin** will be coming in from college in Illinois. Kevin will also pick up **Barb Splinter** in Wisconsin, —aka Mom and Grandma—to join them for Christmas, too!...

Kathy Summy is delighted that daughter **Jenna** and her husband **Caleb** have purchased their first home, and she helped them get moved...

Carol Marotta wants to thank **Cathy Potisuk** for donating a 55 inch television for Carol's clients on Walnut St. They all love it!...

This congregation has been very generous over the holiday season. Turkeys and money for turkeys have been given to the Center of Hope. And our "adopted families" program was very well received. We got more than twice the funds we were expecting that enabled two families to have a very merry Christmas.

Sit & Stitch

Jan. 11th & 25th, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

The Sit and Stitch group will meet in the multi-purpose room (next to the church office) on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. We hope to see you there. Please bring your sewing project (or just come and enjoy the fellowship, like some of us do) and wear a mask and keep social distancing.



Thank You! Thank You!

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

- **John McDonald & Mike Spellman** for repairing & replacing lights in the church; it's much brighter.
- **All who gave funds for flowers** to adorn the front area of the altar for our Christmas Eve service.
- **Nancy Ervin** and the **Hospitality Committee** for providing a great "Church Greening lunch" that included: chili made by **Marcia & Tim Splinter and Cindy Ward** (soda pop, too); cake & peanut butter cookies baked by **Nancy Ervin**; brownies made by **Marsha Snyder**; and chips from **Carol Marotta**.
- **Nancy & Jim Ervin; Cindy Hoskins; Cindy Ward & Jamison & Xahniya** were all part of prepping & serving food, & helping with clean up after the lunch.
- **All who helped with the 'Church Greening: Sue Ahrens, Laurie Barney, Nancy & Fred Lundgren, Carol Marotta, Marcia & Tim Splinter, & the rector** all helped with decorating the church for Christmas Eve.
- **Marsha Snyder** for making new ribbons for the church window wreaths.
- **Nancy Lundgren & Sally Dier** for being on altar guild duty for both November and December.
- **Everyone** who contributed to our "Adopted families" and gave food and gifts to the Center of Hope.
- **Barb Popiel** our Senior Warden for getting all that information from the Center of Hope for holiday gift giving and for the adopt-a-family idea to help members of our Grace Church family.
- **Vestry & Beatty Members** for coming up with interesting outreach options to help the less fortunate.
- **Our volunteers** who help in so many ways at Grace.
- **Marcia Splinter** for being a great treasurer and keeping the bills paid.
- **Tim Splinter** for design, layout, and graphics for the Grace Vine each month & for keeping office computers updated
- **Doug Holzschuh** for live streaming 8am Sunday Eucharist services (and Christmas Eve) for our members at home to access.
- **Carolyn Englert & the Prayer Group** who support our loved ones & friends with their prayers.
- **Deacon Bill & our Worship Leaders, lectors, & greeters** who assist with services each Sunday.
- **All those who pray for our Grace Church family and for Grace Church**



Birthdays

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

Congratulations!

and many happy returns...

Baptisms

9th	Bill Summy
18th	Maggie Rich



Anniversaries

11th	Fred & Nancy Lundgren
21st	Leslie & Larry Thomas
28th	Mike & Shirley Johnson

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 (September 24, 1852-January 9, 1922)

January 9

Julia was the daughter of Captain Charles Emery, a sea captain and devout Episcopalian. He and his wife Susan had eleven children, the majority of whom distinguished themselves in religious service. Two sons became priests. His daughter Mary preceded Julia as National Secretary of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions and served from 1872 to 1876. Julia came to New York in 1874 to edit *The Young Christian Soldier*. In 1876 she was appointed secretary of the Women's Auxiliary, succeeding her sister. Together they did much to support the missionary work of the Episcopal Church, including making their home on 24th Street available to foreign missionaries visiting the United States.

During her four decades as National Secretary, a position she first held at age 24, Julia visited every diocese in the United States, coordinating and encouraging work in support of missions. Invited by the Bishop of New York, Emery traveled to London as a delegate to the Pan-Anglican Conference and the Lambeth Conference in 1908. She traveled to Japan, China, Hong Kong, and the Philippines to advance missionary work and to be able to report on it to the Episcopal women in the United States. Through her self-effacing work, women received canonical status as deaconesses and the Women's Auxiliary received an important role in the General Convention.

It was Julia who invented the United Thank Offering (UTO). This works by giving each woman a small box with a slit in the top (a cardboard piggy bank) and encouraging her to drop a small contribution into it whenever she feels thankful about something. Once a year, the women of the parish present these at the Sunday service, and the money is sent to national headquarters to be used for missions.

"Miss Julia" died in New York City in 1922, and was buried at the cemetery of St. James the Less in Scarsdale, NY. The United Thank Offering continues to this day, collecting and giving away over \$1 million annually to support Episcopal missions at home and abroad.

Prayer: O Almighty God, who has 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.





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
Phillip Crouse (2021)
Phillip Rich (2022)
Carol Marotta (2022)
Cathy Potisuk (2022)
Barb Popiel (2023)
Michelle McLaughlin (2023)
Laurie Barney (2023)

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