



# The Grace Vine

July 2020

## Rector's Writ

There's been a lot of stress for us all to deal with in recent months. We're worried about the Coronavirus. We're disturbed by unnecessary deaths. We're unsettled by racism, constant conflict, and injustices. It's often difficult to talk about these things, but it's necessary. We may wonder if talking ever helps solve any of these problems. What helps is when we *listen, not only to each other but to listen especially to God.* It may well be the goodness, grace, and love of God are all that will get us through these difficult times. I believe in the power of prayer, or maybe the better way to put that is I believe in the power of the holy Lord who hears our prayers. I invite you to choose one or two of the following prayers that speak to your heart; all are from the BCP; or write and pray your own; but *please pray.* So many things have so little impact on improving lives. What impact might it have if we pray to God faithfully, then listen to and live by what God's Son has already taught and shown us the power of love can do? Carol +

*O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*  
(For the Human Family, BCP p. 815)

*O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.* (In Times of Conflict, BCP p. 824)

*Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. Amen.* (For Peace, BCP p. 815)

*Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart [and especially the hearts of the people of this land], that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.* (For Social Justice, BCP p. 823)

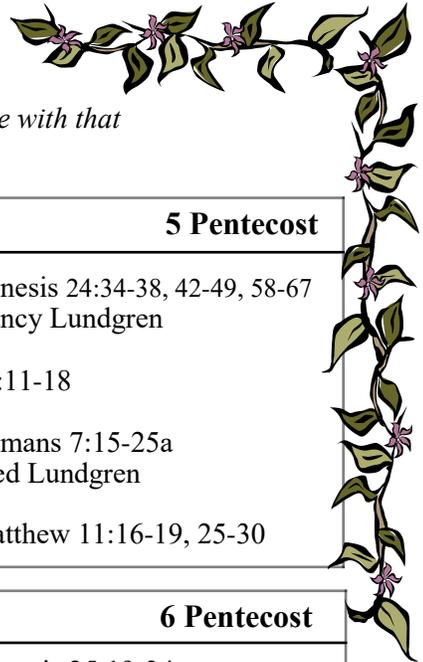
*Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

(For the Nation, BCP p. 258)



## 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, July 5		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	5 Pentecost
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Carol Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 Nancy Lundgren  <b>Psalm</b> 45:11-18  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> Romans 7:15-25a Fred Lundgren  <b>Gospel</b> Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	
<b>Deacon</b>	8:00 The Rev. William Snyder		
<b>Wrshp Ldr</b>	10:00 Carolyn Englert		
<b>Greeters</b>	Nancy & Fred Lundgren		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Nancy Ervin & Cindy Hoskins		
<b>Counters</b>	Midge Myers & Phillip Crouse		
<b>After worship volunteer cleaners</b> Cindy Hoskins & Nancy Ervin			

Sunday, July 12		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	6 Pentecost
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Carol Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> Genesis 25:19-34 Jeff Croll  <b>Psalm</b> 119:105-112  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> Romans 8:1-11 Karen Krofta  <b>Gospel</b> Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	
<b>Deacon</b>	The Rev. William Snyder		
<b>Greeters</b>	John & Mary Jean McDonald		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Nancy Ervin & Cindy Hoskins		
<b>Counters</b>	Midge Myers & Phillip Crouse		
<b>After worship volunteers cleaners</b> Barb Popiel & Carol Marotta			

Sunday, July 19		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	7 Pentecost
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Carol Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> Genesis 28:10-19a Carolyn Englert  <b>Psalm</b> 139:1-11, 22-23  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> Romans 8:12-25 Martha Croll  <b>Gospel</b> Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	
<b>Deacon</b>	8:00 The Rev. William Snyder		
<b>Wrshp Ldr</b>	10:00 TBA		
<b>Greeters</b>	Nancy & Jim Ervin		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Nancy Ervin & Cindy Hoskins		
<b>Counters</b>	Midge Myers & Phillip Crouse		
<b>After worship volunteer cleaners</b> John & Mary Jean McDonald			



**"It's me, oh Lord, standing in the need of prayer."**

Do you ever feel like that? Or know someone else who may? You can pick up one of our Prayer Squares. These will be in a basket in the narthex, next to the guest books, and are free to anyone who wants one. Take one for yourself, your friend, your neighbor, or even the cashier at the supermarket who looks frazzled and in need of prayer! We hope this will answer that "need of prayer." The little squares are handmade by Shirley Johnson, Carolyn Englert, and Mary Cabot and have a little saying on the front. Thanks to you ladies for making them available for all of us. What a wonderful idea!





# Did You Know?...



July's almost here, and we're trying to keep safe and healthy as we carefully steer our way through ongoing Coronavirus concerns. Many businesses have reopened, but it's sad to see or hear of any businesses that didn't survive the impact of this pandemic.

On June 7<sup>th</sup> Grace Church services began again as we regathered for worship, and it was on one of the most beautiful Sundays. Or maybe that's just how we all felt about it. The sun was out, the air cool and clear, the sky was a striking blue, and all was right with the world on that particular day. Maybe we felt that way because "things" seemed to be getting back to some kind of normal. It's good being back in the pews and seeing old and dear friends. One parishioner put it this way on social media: "It felt so wonderful to worship in person, appropriately masked and social distancing, but one in heart and prayer." Many of us felt that way.

A lot of work went into getting the church ready for this opening. The vestry, rector, and a few volunteers had a special meeting and began plans to work on regathering requirements and guidelines established by the diocese (and based on many consultations, CDC guidelines, etc.). Thanks to help from volunteers and vestry members, we removed prayer books and hymnals, did the cleaning and disinfecting, and followed protocol. Rev. Carol and the Vestry have given much thought and consideration to make our transition back into church as safe as possible.

The Diocesan protocol and our processes supporting that are carried out with the priority of keeping our members safe and healthy. Thanks to everyone who has been so helpful getting everything done for our regathering; to those of you who continue to volunteer to help with the necessary clean up and procedures; and to all who continue to keep this Grace Church family in your prayers. **Marsha Snyder** observed that we all certainly know what six feet looks like by now.

Thanks to **Nancy Ervin** and granddaughter **Kenzie; Cindy Hoskins; Fred & Nancy Lundgren; Cindy Ward** and her children, **Aleasha and Ashley**; and the rector for moving all the prayer books and hymnals into the parish hall. They did it the smart way, by wagon--one here and one brought in by the Lundgrens. Books can be very heavy, we have a lot of them, and we had good help moving them. Our thanks to **Cathy Potisuk and Marcia & Tim Splinter** for the storage bins to keep the books in. And thanks to **Nancy Ervin, Cindy Ward, and Cindy Hoskins** for cleaning and sanitizing the pews and the interior of the church once all the books were removed...

It's good to have the Altar Guild back in action, even though their duties have changed a bit. It's also been really nice to have our organist, **Tim Lewicki** with us again so we have music if not voices. We miss the choir! We're glad to be back at church, but there are some differences: wearing a mask; keeping the social distancing; no singing; no Prayer Books; printed single use bulletins (with the entire service); passing "The Peace" verbally (not leaving your pew); and having communion spiritually. It is different, but we can do it!...

To change the subject, it's wonderful seeing **George Furrer** in the pews at Grace Church, and we're so glad to have him back! George's family had a big Saturday Father's Day

gathering that was no doubt enjoyed by him and all his family...

**Kathy Summy** has been working overtime and she's also making masks for friends and family, having made 250 masks so far...

**Bette Brooks** shared with us that daughter **Beverly** contracted Covid19, but is happy to report that she is on the mend and is getting her sense of smell and taste back...

We have some members who aren't ready to return for in person worship yet, and our prayers are with those who feel their safest option is to remain home. We respect and understand that...

A lot of landscaping has been going on now that we're staying at home. When I last talked with **Nancy & Fred Lundgren** they'd been busy unloading mulch for their yard. They recently did a lot of trimming and weeding in front of the church, and it looks much better!...

**Sally, Dennis, and Dani Dier** have "reworked" all their gardens and yards. And believe me that's a no small task. Sally is a master gardener and is planting things that you don't usually see around here. I can't wait to see that harvest!...

**Mike Johnson** is cleaning up the woods behind his house and all those gardens around their home. He and **Shirley** keep it looking like a park!...

**Bill Snyder** has been busy mowing at the funeral home and making his own yard look great. He and **Marsha** have enjoyed watching all the wildlife in their back yard during this quarantine; they have a lot of squirrels (who doesn't), three fox cubs and their momma, a groundhog, and a wild turkey and even a bunny. And in the evening a herd of raccoon, and an opossum...

**John McDonald** has been busy splitting wood from the trees that were taken down in his yard earlier this year. John also designed and built a ramp for the rectory deck, and he and **Mike Johnson** installed that. It looks and works great!...

**Paige Paxton** made the Dean's List at KSU where she is studying Criminal Justice. Congratulations, Paige! **Kevin Splinter** made the Dean's List at Bradley University (Peoria, Il.) where he's majoring in computer science and statistics. Congratulations, Kevin!...

**Amir Amiruzzaman** called to proudly announce that his wife **Stefanie** received her doctorate so she now has her Ph.D. in Evaluation and Measurements. He mentioned how Stefanie kept the home fires going, along with a new baby, while he worked on his doctorate, and now it was her turn to work on that goal. Congratulations, Stefanie!! Earning a Ph.D is a lot of hard work, and now there are two doctors in the Amiruzzaman family!...

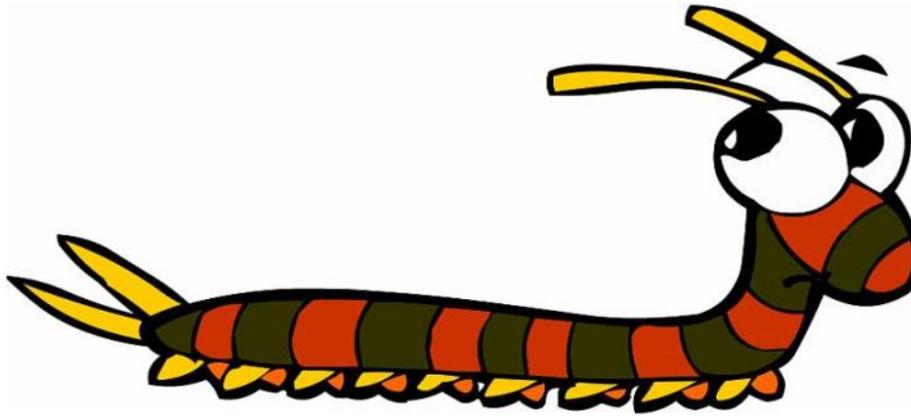
**Sue & Bruce Ahrens'** are so proud of their granddaughter **Morgan Sherwood** who graduated from high school this year. She'll be attending Echerd College in Florida where she will be studying Marine Science and Animal Behavior...

**Tim & Yuka Lewicki** announced they will be expecting their second child!...

It was wonderful for the Sit & Stitch ladies to get together -- not a lot of stitching was done -- but a lot of talking and sitting.

# The Centipede

A single guy decided life would be more fun if he had a pet. So he went to the pet store and told the owner that he wanted to buy an unusual pet. After some discussion, he finally bought a talking centipede, (100-legged bug), which came in a little white box to use for his house. He took the box back home, found a good spot for the box, and decided he would start off by taking his new pet to church with him... So he asked the centipede in the box, "Would you like to go to church with me today? We will have a good time." But there was no answer from his new pet. This bothered him a bit, but he waited a few minutes and then asked again, "How about going to church with me?" But again, there was no answer from his new friend and pet. So he waited a few minutes more, thinking about the situation. The guy decided to invite the centipede one last time. This time he put his face up against the centipede's house and shouted, "Hey, in there! Would you like to go to church with me and learn about God?" (You'll love this part) ... This time, a little voice came out of the box: "I heard you the first time! I'm putting on my shoes!"



## Congratulations!

*and many happy returns...*

### Anniversaries

11th Kenneth & Carolyn Englert  
13th Jeff & Martha Croll  
16th Ralph & Kay Wise  
21st Phil & Courtney Rich  
24th Dan & Lynn Francois



### Baptisms

7th Julie Canan  
19th Eric Splinter  
29th Midge Myers

### Birthdays

1st Lisa Paxton  
3rd Isaiah Allison  
7th Kara Simonson  
10th Phillip George  
11th Michelle Lambert  
12th Rev. Lloyd O'Keefe  
Amy Seman  
14th Bev Lewis-Mercury  
15th Kirsten Seman  
16th Noah Allison  
19th Bennet Nolan Neely  
20th Bill Snyder  
Daniel Kearsney  
23rd Michael Canan  
Debbie Shorts  
24th Jeff Marsh  
26th Dennis Dier  
27th Frank Seman  
31st Samuel Rich

# *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.*

**Karl Lutz (March 30, 1895-February 12, 1975)**

**July 17**

The phrase “Righteous Gentiles” has come to mean any non-Jew who risked their life to save Jews during the Holocaust. However, within the lectionary of the Episcopal Church, it refers to 5 individuals specifically: Raoul Wallenberg of Sweden (GraceVine July 2018); Hiram Bingham IV of the USA (GraceVine July 2019); Karl Lutz of Switzerland; C. Sujihara of Japan; and Andrew Trocme of France. This entry will be about Lutz because of the enormous impact of his actions.

Karl Lutz was born in NE Switzerland where he attended local schools. Soon after his mother’s death when he was 14, he accepted an apprenticeship in a textile mill. Barely 3 years later, he immigrated to the United States. Working a variety of jobs to earn money for college, he began his studies at Central Wesleyan College in Missouri. In 1920, he landed a job at the Swiss Legation in Washington, DC, and completed his studies at George Washington University. He rose quickly in the diplomatic ranks, becoming Chancellor at the Swiss Consulate in Philadelphia and then in St. Louis. In January 1935, he became Vice Consul to the Swiss Consulate in Jaffa (Palestine). In 1942, he was transferred to the Swiss Embassy in Budapest.

Beginning in 1942, he issued safe-conduct documents to Hungarian children so they could leave the country. Ten thousand children were saved. When the Nazis took over Budapest in 1944, they began deporting Jews to the various death camps. Lutz was permitted to issue 8,000 passes, the Nazis thinking that was just a small number. However, Lutz interpreted the 8,000 individual passes to mean whole intergenerational families. When he reached 8,000 (family) passes, he just continued to write them using any number between 1 and 8,000. He established 76 “safe houses,” labeling them “annexes to the Swiss Embassy.” He is credited with saving more than 62,000 Jews in Budapest alone. As the Soviet Army entered Budapest in late 1944, the Swiss government pulled Lutz from his post for his own safety. He continued his diplomatic career until retirement in 1961. He died in Bern, Switzerland, in 1975.

Initially, few knew of the lengths to which Lutz had gone to save Hungary’s Jewish population. However, stories began to emerge from those who escaped about the brave Swiss diplomat who stood up to the Nazis. As a result of his actions, over half the Jewish population of Budapest survived. The number was finally set at 62,000 saved. He was awarded the title of Righteous Among the Nations by Yad Vashem posthumously.

**Prayer:** God of the Covenant and Lord of the Exodus, by the hand of Moses you delivered your chosen people from cruel enslavement: We give you thanks for Karl Lutz and all those Righteous Gentiles who with compassion, courage and resourcefulness rescued thousands of your children from certain death. Grant that, in the power of your Spirit, we may protect the innocent of every race and creed in the Name of Jesus Christ, strong Deliverer of us all; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.





## The Grace Vine

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### Grace Episcopal Church of Ravenna

The Rev. Carol Evans—Rector  
The Rev. William Snyder  
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Tim Lewicki—Organist  
Martha Croll—Choirmaster

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The Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church  
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Fred Lundgren(2020)  
Barb Popiel(2020)  
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