



# The Grace Vine

March 2007

## *Rector's Reflections*

With the arrival of March comes a little more daylight and a lot of unpredictable weather. While waiting for spring, we also give ourselves to the "observance of a holy Lent." We agree with those reminders of our wretchedness and the promise of God's forgiveness in the Ash Wednesday service. Yet by the time we're into the first week or two of Lent that "observance" moves us to a spiritual place that seems to demand more from us than giving up or taking on some discipline.

One hope of our 40 day pilgrimage is to be closer to God. We may feel like that's happening in micrometers when often we want something drastic, some-thing "super-spiritual" to happen so we know our discipline is bearing results. We prefer growth to guilt; reflection to repentance; and concrete experience NOW to that unseen, much-talked-about-but-seldom-defined sense of HOPE.

Lent is a time to invite Jesus to stand beside us as we take a look at our lives. Only God in Christ and the Holy Spirit can give us the courage and will to do that difficult work of examining our lives, our relationships, and what we value or "treasure." With God's help we learn what sins we need to repent of and what change and renewal we need to move toward. We find hope and meaning, not in what we turn away from or take on, but in the LORD WE TURN TOWARD. On that path, our penitence is received with God's mercy...our reflection is focused by the Spirit's guidance...our hope is made firm in Christ's grace.

Have a blessed Lent.

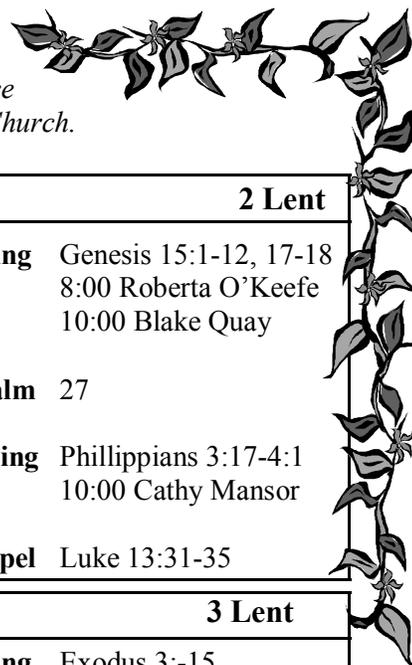
*"Now quit your care and anxious fear and worry; Lent calls to prayer, trust and dedication; God brings new beauty nigh; reply, reply..with love to love most high. ...To rend the soul, such grief is not Lent's goal; but to be led to where God's glory flashes, his beauty to come near. Make clear, make clear.. where truth and light appear."*

*(Hymn #145, Words by Percy Dearmer)*



## Service and Lay Ministry Schedule

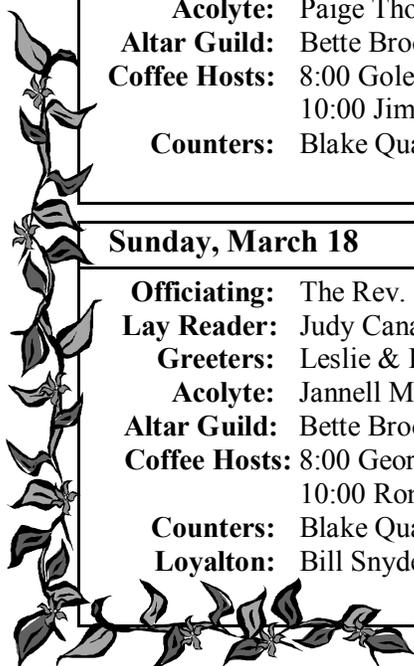
*If you cannot serve when scheduled, please find a substitute and call the parish office with that person's name. Thank you for sharing in the liturgical ministry of Grace Church.*



Sunday, March 4		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	2 Lent
<b>Officiating:</b>	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 8:00 Roberta O'Keefe 10:00 Blake Quay  <b>Psalm</b> 27  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> Phillippians 3:17-4:1 10:00 Cathy Mansor  <b>Gospel</b> Luke 13:31-35	
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	Carolyn Englert		
<b>Greeters:</b>	Judy Canan & Kay Canan		
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Jenna Summy		
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Bette Brooks & Stephanie Higgins		
<b>Coffee Hosts:</b>	8:00 Janice Lallathin 10:00 Fred & Nancy Lundgren		
<b>Counters:</b>	Blake Quay & Pat Williams		
<b>Loyalton:</b>	Maynard Evans		

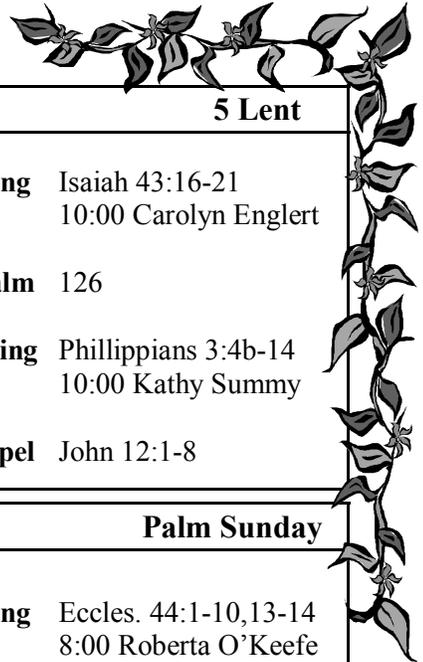
Sunday, March 11		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	3 Lent
<b>Officiating:</b>	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> Exodus 3:-15 8:00 Melissa Strainer 10:00 Steve Barna  <b>Psalm</b> 63:1-8  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> 1 Corinth. 10:1-13 10:00 Kelly Postlethwaite  <b>Gospel</b> Luke 13:1-9	
<b>Deacon:</b>	The Rev. William D. Snyder		
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	Bette Brooks		
<b>Greeters:</b>	John & Mary Jean McDonald		
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Paige Thomas		
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Bette Brooks & Stephanie Higgins		
<b>Coffee Hosts:</b>	8:00 Golec Girls 10:00 Jim & Nancy Ervin		
<b>Counters:</b>	Blake Quay & Pat Williams		

Sunday, March 18		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	4 Lent
<b>Officiating:</b>	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> Joshua 5:9-12 8:00 Roberta O'Keefe 10:00 Paige Thomas  <b>Psalm</b> 32  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> 1 Corinth. 5:16-21 10:00 Tim Splinter  <b>Gospel</b> Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	Judy Canan		
<b>Greeters:</b>	Leslie & Paige Thomas		
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Jannell Moore		
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Bette Brooks & Stephanie Higgins		
<b>Coffee Hosts:</b>	8:00 George Furrer 10:00 Ron & Kelly Postlethwaite		
<b>Counters:</b>	Blake Quay & Pat Williams		
<b>Loyalton:</b>	Bill Snyder		



## A Stewardship Reminder

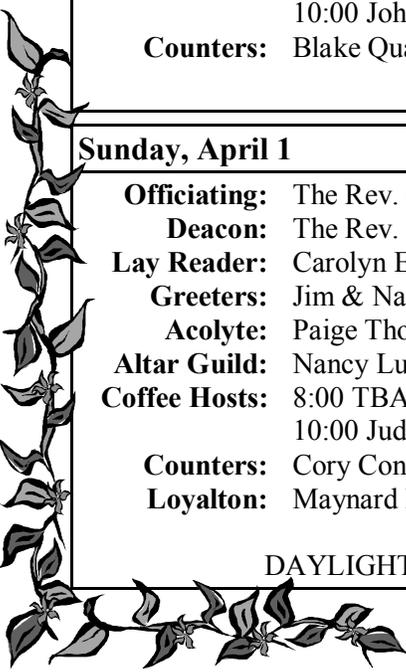
Even though we approved the 2007 Budget with a \$19,000 deficit, we're hit hard this month with insurance bills due, snow removal, heating, and low attendance due to bad weather. We need to average \$3000 a week in pledges and income just to keep the doors open and the budget even. Fred has items budgeted for February totaling \$12,692 and so far we have taken in only \$9,012 leaving us with a shortfall of \$3,680. Please be sure your pledge is current, and if there's any way you could contribute beyond your pledge it would be much appreciated. For anyone who has not returned a pledge card for 2007, please do so; for those of you who have, we thank you. We need and appreciate everyone's contributions.



<b>Sunday, March 25</b>		<b>8:00 &amp; 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b>		<b>5 Lent</b>
<b>Officiating:</b>	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	Isaiah 43:16-21	
<b>Deacon:</b>	The Rev. William D. Snyder		10:00 Carolyn Englert	
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	Maynard Evans	<b>Psalm</b>	126	
<b>Greeters:</b>	Nancy & Jim Ervin	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>	Phillippians 3:4b-14	
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Julie Canan & Eric Splinter		10:00 Kathy Summy	
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Bette Brooks & Stephanie Higgins	<b>Gospel</b>	John 12:1-8	
<b>Coffee Hosts:</b>	8:00 TBA 10:00 John & Mary Jean McDonald			
<b>Counters:</b>	Blake Quay & Pat Williams			

<b>Sunday, April 1</b>		<b>8:00 &amp; 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b>		<b>Palm Sunday</b>
<b>Officiating:</b>	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	Eccles. 44:1-10,13-14	
<b>Deacon:</b>	The Rev. William D. Snyder		8:00 Roberta O'Keefe	
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	Carolyn Englert	<b>Psalm</b>	149	
<b>Greeters:</b>	Jim & Nancy Ervin	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>	Revelation 7:2-4, 9-17	
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Paige Thomas & Jannell Moore		10:00 Cathy Mansor	
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Nancy Lundgren, Cindy Hoskins, Melissa Strainer	<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 5:1-12	
<b>Coffee Hosts:</b>	8:00 TBA 10:00 Judy Canan & Kay Canan			
<b>Counters:</b>	Cory Conway & Bette Brooks			
<b>Loyalton:</b>	Maynard Evans			

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS



## *Volunteer for Hospice*

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted”-Aesop.

Hospice Volunteers share kindness every day as they share talents with people in need. It is not necessary to have experience in working with people who have a life-limiting illness to become a Hospice Volunteer. Volunteers uphold the basic hospice philosophy of enhancing the quality of life for our patients, while helping them maintain dignity. Compassion, reliability, and a non-judgmental approach are essential qualities. Our volunteers provide a wide variety of services based on each patient and family's particular needs and desires.

We are especially seeking respite volunteers. Those volunteers provide relief time for the caregiver. Vigil volunteers who provide support to families when it appears death is imminent are also needed. Other opportunities available as well are volunteers for Special Events, Nursing Home Team, and Bereavement Support Volunteers

Every volunteer is provided the necessary training and ongoing education and support. Training is held twice yearly at RMH. Spring training sessions will be held Wednesday, March 7th, 14th, and 21st from 6:30pm to 9:30pm and Saturday, March 10th and 24th from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

For more information please call Bernadette Thomas, Volunteer Coordinator, Robinson Memorial Hospital Visiting Nurse & Hospice at 330-297-8899, [bthomas@rmh2.org](mailto:bthomas@rmh2.org).



# Did You Know?...



**Amanda Brooks** is visiting seminaries (she's on her way to becoming a priest). She visited Candler Emery in Atlanta in mid-February and then she'll be off to Church Divinity School of the Pacific (Carol's old alma mater) some time in March...

**Beverly Brooks** won a photography award at Wooster College. A photo she took in Rome will be featured on the Wooster International website...

The February Fellowship Night was a small but enthusiastic group. Some regulars and some new faces. Lots of fun and games. Join us next time for the fun...

The ladies from the Sit & Stitch group, **Mary Jean McDonald, Judy Canan and her friend Judy, Carolyn Englert, Jean Lawrence, Jean Mercer, Alice Boydell, and Ken's sister Gail, Sue Ahrens and Marsha Snyder**, went to Charm, Ohio, a small Amish community about an hour and a half from here. We enjoy seeing beautiful quilts and fabrics and of course the fellowship, and let's not forget lunch. It was decided that we could communicate between cars by cell phone—the only problem is the Amish don't use cellphones (what were we thinking) so therefore there wasn't much communication between cars down in Amish country. But we still had a wonderful time and are looking forward to our next road trip...

Nine year old **Samantha Stickle** was very impressed with her first real understanding of Lent and Ash Wednesday. After thinking about it for some time, she decided to give up teasing her sister for Lent. Her parents thought this was a wonderful idea, however, Samantha soon realized that Lent was a lot longer a time than she thought and knew there was little hope she could keep that promise. So she decided to stop calling her sister names. Good going Samantha. I'll bet your big sister **Nikki** is happy about that!!...

Once again, Grace Church was involved in Loaves and Fishes at the Methodist Church and our fearless leader **Kay Canan** planned a meatloaf lunch that was a big success...

The 2-Cents-a-Meal program here at Grace Church has really seen an increase in money collected since **the children** have made it part of their discipline. Thanks Kids!!...

And **Addrienne Conway** has this report from the Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner...

The dinner was quite a success even with all that snow. Saturday the teenagers came to set up. **Colin Thomas and Vince and Josh and Phillip Crouse** manned the ladders. **Nikki**



**Stickle and Sam** cut out table cloths. **Emily Summy and Julia Canan** decorated the walls and **Jenna and Schyler** came to help too, and rolled silverware.

On Sunday, **Kay** was a great help full of advice and ideas. She was also an ace at the little things, like making sure I ate something that day and butter (yes I forgot the butter for a pancake supper). Thank you **Kay**.

**Julia Canan and Betty Capriola** helped set up tables. **Paige, Colin and Vince** showed up and helped with a bunch of stuff. **Colin** shoveled the walks in shorts and a t-shirt (can we say polar bear club). Our waiters and waitresses were **Eric and Kevin Splinter, Samantha and Nikki Stickle, Taylor Paxton** (recently recovered for chicken pox), **Schyler Conway, Angelina Welling** (the newest member of our youth group), **Julia Canan, Paige Thomas** (who helped in the kitchen too), and **Jenna Summy. Emily Summy**, our in house photographer, took over 50 pictures (no wonder the batteries died). In the kitchen **Colin and his cousin Vince** washed dishes with help from Paige Paxton (on a chair); **Paige Thomas** helped get orders out make coffee and just help. **Phillip Crouse** took care of sausage and plated orders.

The parents also need a big round of applause with out whom we would have been sunk. **Chris Stickle**, my slave, ran every where on Saturday and Sunday, and took charge of the waitresses and waiters with the help of her sister **Denise Crouse and Marcia Splinter. Cory Conway**, in his thoroughly gimp state took money. **Tim Splinter** flipped the cakes. **Kathy** ran around and did every thing I could think to tell her (thank you). **Larry Thomas, Lisa Paxton and Marcia Splinter** took over dishes for the boys.

Through all this the kids raised money for them selves and will donate \$100 to Safer Futures, the battered women's and children's home.

# Congratulations!

and many happy returns...

## Birthdays

1st—Bette Brooks  
3rd—Amelia Golec  
6th—Sally Wolfe-Langan  
9th—Kelly Ervin  
14th—Amanda Brooks  
14th—Beverly Brooks  
22nd—George Furrer  
22nd—Dutch Shriver  
22nd—Rodney Stickle  
26th—Ken Boydell  
26th—Emily Ervin  
31st—Gwen Baker



## Anniversaries

25th—Dennis & Sally Dier



## Baptisms

11th—Beth Dier  
18th—Joan Seman  
21st—Bill Shorts, Sr.  
22nd—William Robert Collette  
24th—Michael Williams  
25th—Mary Jean McDonald  
26th—Bernice McCauslin  
31st—Kay Canan

Another reminder to let us know in writing about any errors or omissions. We lost some information in a computer crash last year and also suspect that some dates have been put in wrong categories.

## OUTREACH SUPPORT OPPORTUNITY

Jean & Len Mercer's niece and her husband—Karen and Trace Bender—are planning to become Missionaries to Africa with Wycliff Bible Translators. They're in an intense two year training that will prepare them for both the scriptural and practical ministries they'll carry out in Africa. Wycliff is a long standing mission with a good reputation, and the work Karen and Trace will do—in teaching Holy Scripture and in helping with engineering projects—is significant. They would welcome any funds people at Grace Church could offer to provide financial support for this outreach. A one time donation or an ongoing partnership...either would be greatly appreciated. Please call Jeanie and Len (or the Church office) for the address and brief form if you'd like to contribute.

## Notes from the Fun-draising Committee

**Fellowship night: March 10<sup>th</sup> 6:30**

Come spend some casual time with fellow church members and get to know each other better.

**Fun-draising Meeting: March 14<sup>th</sup> 7:00**

Yes, this conflicts slightly with the Lenten program. Feel free to come after that is over if you wish. New ideas and/or members ALWAYS WELCOME!

### INFORMATION NEEDED

PLEASE let Marcia Splinter know if you think you will have donations for a garage sale in late April or early May. It was a good fundraiser last year (\$ 500), but we have to know if there will be items to sell. See me after church, call 330-527-2084 or email [splinter@vipppn.com](mailto:splinter@vipppn.com)

# On the Horizon

**Wednesdays March 7 to  
March 28**  
**Lenten Gatherings**  
**6:00pm Dinner**  
**6:30-7:30 Program**

**Saturday March 10th**  
**Fellowship Night**  
**6:30pm**  
Another open night of fellowship.  
Come spend some casual time with  
fellow church members and get to  
know each other better.

**Wednesday March 14th**  
**Fundraising Meeting**  
**7:00**  
Yes, this conflicts slightly with the  
Lenten program. Feel free to come  
after that is over if you wish. New  
ideas and/or members ALWAYS  
WELCOME!

**Saturday March 17th**  
**Youth Group Meeting**  
**3pm—5pm**  
Bring your favorite games.  
Snacks will be supplied.

**Tuesday March**  
**13th & 27th**  
**Sit & Stitch**  
**2-4pm**

**Saturday March 24th**  
**Spring Cleanup**  
**9am**  
Time to freshen things up a bit. Most  
of the chores will be indoors, so  
weather shouldn't be a problem.

**Saturday March 31th**  
**Youth Group**  
**Easter Egg Coloring**

## Holy Week & Easter Worship Schedule

**Palm Sunday**  
April 1st 8 & 10 a.m.

**Palm Sunday Choral Evensong**  
at Christ Church, Hudson 5:15 p.m.  
Bishop Hollingsworth Preaching  
(concert at 4:15 p.m.)

**Service of Healing & Holy Eucharist**  
Wednesday April 4th 6 p.m.

**Maundy Thursday Service**  
Thursday April 5th 7 p.m.

**Candlelight Watch\*\***  
Thursday April 5th 9 p.m. through 8 a.m. Friday

**Stations of the Cross and Good Friday Liturgy**  
Friday April 6th 7 p.m.

**Holy Saturday Service**  
Saturday April 7th 10 a.m.

**Festive Holy Eucharist**  
Sunday April 8th 8 & 10 a.m.  
**Children's Easter Egg Hunt**  
following 10 am service

\*\*The Candlelight Watch is a way to remember Jesus' time in prayer and with his disciples at Gethsemane ...and his betrayal. Some members have expressed an interest in holding this watch which will go through Thursday night and end at 8 a.m. Friday. Ideally, we need to have at least two people for each block so no one is at the Church alone. People can sign up for an hour (or more) and use this time for prayer, meditation, reading, quiet thought or conversation about Christ's story. It's based on Scripture, "Could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation..." (Matt. 26:40-41) It can be a spiritual way to prepare for the joy we celebrate on Easter. Please let the rector know if you're interested in being part of this Candlelight Watch.