



The Grace Vine

March 2009

Rector's Writ

The arrival of March brings with it a reminder of transition and change. The persistent barrage of winter snow and cold gradually gives way to longer days. We're not just waiting for winter to be over, we're waiting for spring to arrive. As we journey through our Church year, we cleave to the Epiphany teachings of God dwelling among us; that new light God has caused to 'shine in our hearts,' revealing to us his glory in Jesus Christ. The Christmas and Epiphany stories have shown us God's nature and glory. Then in Lent, beginning with the Ash Wednesday Liturgy, the Church not so gently reminds us of our human nature.

In order for us to enter into Lent's call to repentance, fasting, and self denial, we need the continual light of God's mercy, Christ's grace, and the Spirit's guidance. One hope of our 40 day Lenten discipline is to be closer to God. We may feel that growth in the Spirit and being closer to God happens in micrometers. We tend to want something drastic or dramatic to happen so we know our discipline is bearing results. We prefer growth to guilt; reflection to repentance; and a reassuring spiritual experience now to that seldom-defined-but-often-longed-for sense of hope and comfort.

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 beliefs, our relationships, and what we value or "treasure." With God's help we learn what sins we need to repent of and what changes we need to embrace. We find hope and renewal, not in what we turn away from or take on, but in the LORD WE TURN TOWARD. On that path, God's mercy and goodness meet our penitent hearts; the Spirit's guidance focuses our reflection; and Christ's grace makes our hope real and revives our spirit. The journey ends...and begins anew...with Easter; the lasting reminder of God's ongoing grace and glory and victory.

Have a blessed and faithful Lent.

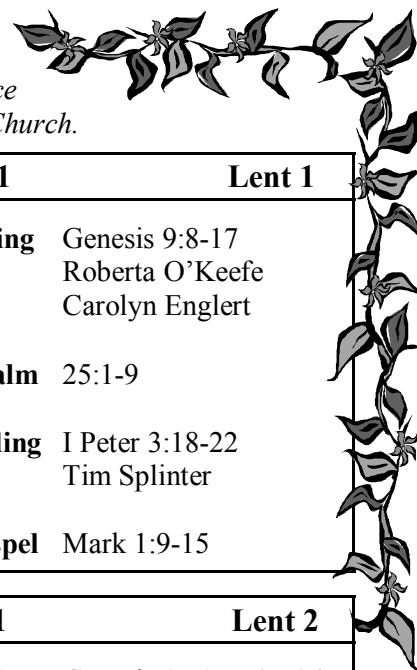
Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(The Book of Occasional Services, from Lent, solemn Prayers over the People, p.23)



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.

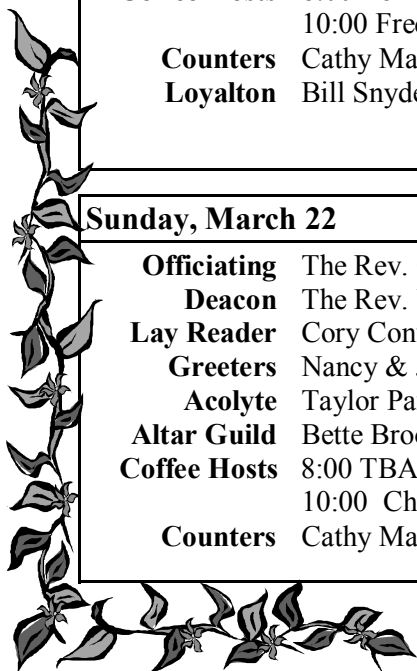


Sunday, March 1		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite 1		Lent 1
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Genesis 9:8-17	
Lay Reader	Bette Brooks		Roberta O'Keefe Carolyn Englert	
Greeters	Fred & Nancy Lundgren	Psalm	25:1-9	
Acolyte	Sammy Stickle & Jenna Summy			
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Cindy Hoskins	2nd Reading	I Peter 3:18-22	
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Joan & Frank Seman 10:00 John & Mary Jean McDonald		Tim Splinter	
Counters	Cathy Mansor & Roberta O'Keefe	Gospel	Mark 1:9-15	
Loyalton	Kathy Summy			

Sunday, March 8		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite 1		Lent 2
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	
Deacon	The Rev. William D. Snyder		Gordon Thompson	
Lay Reader	Carolyn Englert	Psalm	22:22-30	
Greeters	Bonnie Quay & Bev Lewis-Mercury			
Acolytes	Schyler Conway & Kevin Splinter	2nd Reading	Romans 4:13-25	
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Cindy Hoskins		Kathy Summy	
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Jennifer Golec & Janice Lallathin 10:00 Nancy & Jim Ervin	Gospel	Mark 8:31-38	
Counters	Cathy Mansor & Roberta O'Keefe			

Sunday, March 15		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite 1		Lent 3
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Exodus 20:1-17	
Lay Reader	Maynard Evans		Roberta O'Keefe Cathy Mansor	
Greeters	John & Mary Jean McDonald	Psalm	19	
Acolyte	Eric Splinter & Sammy Stickle			
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Cindy Hoskins	2nd Reading	I Corinthians 1:18-25	
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Toni & Tony Worthen 10:00 Fred & Nancy Lundgren		Steve Barna	
Counters	Cathy Mansor & Roberta O'Keefe	Gospel	John 2:13-22	
Loyalton	Bill Snyder			

Sunday, March 22		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite 1		Lent 4
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Numbers 21:4-9	
Deacon	The Rev. William D. Snyder		Bette Brooks	
Lay Reader	Cory Conway	Psalm	107:1-3, 17-22	
Greeters	Nancy & Jim Ervin			
Acolyte	Taylor Paxton & Schyler Conway	2nd Reading	Ephesians 2:1-10	
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Cindy Hoskins		Maynard Evans	
Coffee Hosts	8:00 TBA 10:00 Chris Stickle & Denise Crouse	Gospel	John 3:14-21	
Counters	Cathy Mansor & Roberta O'Keefe			





Sunday, March 29		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite 1		Lent 5	
Officiating	The Rev. Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalm	51:1-13
Deacon	The Rev. William D. Snyder		Bud Minnich		
Lay Reader	Carolyn Englert	2nd Reading	Hebrews 5:5-10	Gospel	John 12:20-33
Greeters	Bud Minnich & Gary Bell		Judy Canan		
Acolyte	Jenna Summy & Kevin Splinter				
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Cindy Hoskins				
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Amanda Ondrejko & Brittany Groff 10:00 Judy Canan & Bev Lewis-Mercury				
Counters	Cathy Mansor & Roberta O'Keefe				

Sunday, April 5		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist		Palm Sunday	
Officiating	The Rev Carol S. Evans	1st Reading	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm	31:9-16
Lay Reader	Bette Brooks		Roberta O'Keefe John Machisko		
Greeters	Irene & John Machisko	2nd Reading	Philippians 2:5-11	Gospel	Mark 14:1—15:47
Acolytes	Taylor Paxton & Schyler Conway		Maynard Evans		
Altar Guild	Nancy Lundgren, Cindy Hoskins, & Toni Worthen				
Coffee Hosts	8:00 Joan & Frank Seman 10:00 John & Mary Jean McDonald				
Counters	Bette Brooks & Tony Worthen				
Loyalton	Kathy Summy				



This Simple Painless Ministry is Calling You

We are in need of a few more **Lectors** to share the Lesson Readings at both the 8:00 and 10:00 services. There are no requirements for this particular ministry other than the ability to read and talk. If you are willing, please contact the office or Judy Canan.

If there is interest, we can have a simple "helpful hints" session, for both new readers and experienced pros,. Take a look at the lesson book on the Lectern. Get some tips on reading out loud and reading scripture. Make it all less intimidating and get your feet wet without a congregation sitting out there. Please don't be shy. It truly is painless once you step up and do it. Talk to Tim Splinter or Rev. Carol is you have any interest in this help session.

Be Ready for Rite I During Lent

We will again be using Rite I for our services during Lent. Be prepared and pull out the Book of Common Prayer right off so you don't get tripped up. And don't forget to squash those Alleluias before they slip out.

Our Parish is Giving Up Announcements for Lent

The Worship Committee and Vestry have decided to have the parish "Give Up Announcements for Lent." We will not be pausing after the Peace for announcements. To this end, please be extra diligent about getting your announcements in to the office in time for inclusion in the service bulletin and Grace Vine. You can also use the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.



Did You Know?...



Joan Seman has returned from an eleven day trip to Egypt, hitting all the interesting and important sites including the Cairo Museum where King Tut's treasures are on display. It was a wonderful trip and she had a lot of pictures to share...

Cindy Hoskins is enjoying her new "puppy" Jesse Anne, it was a gift from her niece and nephew...

John McDonald & Steve Barna worked very hard getting the wiring for the new air-conditioner installed in the parish hall, but I'm still not sure it will ever get warm again!! What is this I hear about global warming???

John McDonald and Jim Ervin worked their fingers to the bone trying to keep the snow from the back parking lot and sidewalks and they did a wonderful job of it. The church staff and visitors thank you!! Ron Postlethwaite even used his snow blower to remove snow from the back lot one day, his snow blower just happened to be in the back of his truck - what luck!...

The choir is boasting three new members (yes, that's right---three) Kathy Summy, Emily Summy, and Brittany Groff. Welcome ladies!!...

We also welcomed three new vestry members: Alice Boydell, Reba Cook, and Tony Worthen. The new vestry officers are: Cathy Mansor, Senior Warden; John McDonald, continuing as Junior Warden ; and Roberta O'Keefe continuing as Clerk. Congratulations! We're all looking forward to a very exciting year!...

Habitat lunch was served to the workers at the five new homes being built in Atwater. On January 31st Grace Church took lunch to the group of very hard working and dedicated people. Thanks to everyone who participated including those who supplied the food: Cathy Mansor, Judy Canan, Irene Machisko, Nancy Ervin, and Marsha Snyder. Toni, Tony, & Megan Worthen and Marsha Snyder delivered the food to the site and enjoyed being with the 25+ people who were working on this most worthwhile project that truly changes lives and families. It was wonderful being part of this. One of the homes being built is for past member Shawn Donahue and his wife...

Congratulations to the newlyweds, Josh and Danielle Crouse, who were married here at Grace on Valentine's Day (how romantic). We wish them all the very best...

We heard from Phyllis Shorts and she shared with us that her grandson Will Putt (Susan's son) was deployed to Afghanistan, so please keep him in your prayers. He did spend some time with Bill & Phyllis before leaving and that was wonderful. The Shorts are headed for a week's cruise to the Caribbean, just for a change of pace...

We also heard from Jean Mercer and she says "hello" to everyone, and she still misses Grace Church. And Grace Church misses her and Len too!!...

The E.C.W. presented the church with \$512 to complete the Matching Funds, and \$500 to the Jubilee Project. Thanks to that group for their generosity...

On February 1st we welcomed Sammy Vanderpool as a newly baptized member of Grace Church...

Please join us for the Lenten Studies that will take place every Wednesday during Lent from 6:00-7:30 PM. We will begin with a light dinner. A video about "Who Wrote the Bible" will be the study, and we will end with Compline. Come join us, a sign up sheet is in the parish hall...

Thanks to Courtney Rich for heading up the Easter candy sale. The order forms look great and we are hoping for a very successful sale...

A big thank you to everyone who participated at our Mardi Gras celebration, this is an annual event sponsored by the Youth Group. Those that planned and worked so hard that evening (and some worked for two days) were **Chris, Sammy, and Nikki Stickle; Denise & Phillip Crouse; Lisa, Taylor, & Paige Paxton; Stacy Scibelli; Addrienne, Skyler, McKenna, & Jillian Conway; Kathy, Emily, and Jenna Summy; and Tony, Toni, & Megan Worthen.** The Worthen's spent most of their time in the kitchen along with Addrienne, Phillip & Nikki. The servers were wonderful and eager to help. Thank to everyone who brought food for this event and to those who came to enjoy the fellowship and great pancakes. sausage, potatoes, and applesauce. It was great fun!

SPRING LUNCHEON DEANERY E.C.W. MEETING ST. PAUL, MEDINA

APRIL 1, 2009

Registration 9:30-10:30, \$6.50

Eucharist 10:30

Business Meeting 11:15

Lunch to follow

*The Guest Speaker will be
Linda Darling.*

*Please see Marsha Snyder if
you're interested in attending.*

On the Horizon

Saturday, March 7th
Diocesan Lenten Retreat
9:30am—3pm
 Details elsewhere in this issue.

Saturday, March 14th
Fellowship and Game Night
6:30 pm
 Weather willing, we'll try to get back into the swing of things with these game night that have been difficult to pull off lately.

March 20th-21st
Youth Event
 For Youth 7th grade and up in Cuyahoga Falls. Contact Addrienne Conway for details.

Saturday, March 21st
ECW Breakfast Meeting
9am
 All the women of the parish are invited. Roberta O'Keefe & Mary Jean McDonald will host.

Sunday, March 22nd
Easter Candy Orders Due

March 27-28
Ministry in Difficult Economic Times
 Put on by Church of Our Savior, Akron. Look for Details elsewhere in this issue.

Wednesday, April 1st
ECW Deanery Spring Luncheon
 Details elsewhere in this issue.

Sunday, April 5th
Easter Candy Delivery
 Easter Candy Orders will be ready for pickup in the Parish Hall on Palm Sunday.

Saturday, May 30th
Youth Lock-in
 Plans for this are in the works.

Lent Program

Wednesdays March 4th - April 1st
 6pm—7:30pm
 Light dinner; video & discussion
Who Wrote the Bible; *Compline*
 (Please sign up to host or participate)

Holy Week & Easter Services

Sunday, April 5th
 Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday & Holy Eucharist 8 & 10am

Monday, April 6th
 6pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday, April 7th
 6pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday, April 8th
 6pm Healing & Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday, April 9th
 7pm Maundy Thursday followed by the Prayer Vigil

Good Friday, April 10th
 7pm Stations of the Cross & Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday, April 11th
 10am Holy Saturday

Easter Sunday, April 12th
 Festive Easter Eucharist 8 & 10am

Birthdays

1st Bette Brooks
 3rd Amelia Golec
 6th Sally Wolf Langan
 10th Eli Stover
 14th Amanda Brooks
 Beverly Brooks
 15th Sammy Vanderpool
 22nd George Furrer
 Dutch Shriver
 Rodney Stickle
 26th Ken Boydell
 31st Gwen Baker



Congratulations!

and many happy returns...

Anniversaries

29th Dennis & Sally Dier



Baptisms

11th Beth Dier
 18th Joan Seman
 21st Bill Shorts Sr.
 24th Michael Williams
 25th Mary Jean McDonald
 26th Bernice McCauslin
 31st Kay Canan

The Bulletin Board

Acolytes Schedule

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

4/12—Easter - Everybody Including Phil. Please let us know **early** if you won't be available.

Tim@splinterfactions.net
Marcia@splinterfactions.net
330-527-2084

We need Teachers for the Intermediate Sunday School class. The commitment is not for every week, which is why we need more in the first place. Contact any Sunday School teacher if you can help.

Ebay for Grace!

Marcia and Tim Splinter are offering Ebay selling service to everybody. We will help you sell your stuff...take pictures, do the computer work, use our Ebay account, the whole nine yards...

Once your item sells, we will deduct the selling fees, give 10% to the parish and get the rest of the proceeds to you.

Clean out your saleable stuff and help the parish at the same time!

Tim@splinterfactions.net
Marcia@splinterfactions.net
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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.

Directory Updates...

Bill Lyle
10243 County Rd 286—Unit A3
Huntsville, OH 43324-9699
937-842-5525

Crouse, Denise
please add her husband David

Crouse, Josh & Danielle
new phone number 330.842.3357

Williams, Perry & Pat
email correction - patnperrywms@aol.com

Easter Candy Sale

We need to stress that this is a preorder sale. There may be a very limited amount of extra candy for sale on Palm Sunday, but please do not count on it.

A limited number of Color Photo copies will be available in the Parish Hall for any outside selling. Please find the order form enclosed. You can start ordering your Easter candy now! Pass the order form on to friends and family. If you need more forms please call the office and they will be sent to you immediately. This is all homemade candy and it will be a great addition to any Easter basket.

Orders have to be in by March 22nd
Candy will be ready in the Parish Hall on April 5th, Palm Sunday.

Diocesan Lenten Retreat Day

Sat., March 7th

9:30am—3pm

St. Paul's, Medina

Adults & older youth are invited to attend this retreat day with meditations, reflection, responses, & fellowship led by Bishop Hollingsworth. Lunch provided with registration.

(Register through Rita Rozell in the Christian Formation office: 1-800-551-4815 or rrozell@dohio.org)

Ministry in Difficult Economic Times

March 27 & 28th

**Church of Our Saviour,
Akron**

The rector & people of Church of Our Saviour are opening this to laity & clergy of our deanery.

Please call Rev. Carol if you're interested in attending, either of these events.

EASTER FLOWERS

Contributions for Easter Flowers may be made by using this form. We will adorn the church for Easter with lilies, hyacinth, and tulips. The suggested contribution is \$15.00.

Yes, here is my contribution for Easter plants:

In memory of: _____

In thanksgiving for: _____

Given by: _____



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