



The Grace Vine

October 2021

Rector's Writ

The days get shorter, the leaves fall, and we're well into the fourth quarter of another year passing all too quickly. Among other things, we begin thinking and reflecting on stewardship. For those faithful in giving to support God's church, it's a matter of giving for the right reasons. We love and worship God, we work at loving one another, we give thanks for the Lord's blessings. We can only do that with grace and gratitude when we come to realize and believe that *all we have comes from God*. That includes our blessings of health; the health and well-being of family and friends; a home, a job, and food on the table; the love and kindness we're privileged to give and receive.

Remembering those blessings is important, because they come from the love of God in Christ Jesus. The power of God's love, Christ's grace, and the Spirit's guiding presence are what help us to value and practice loving one another. We've learned that we can't do it on our own...it's challenging and difficult work. Consider what we hear on the news. Today (and throughout history) many human difficulties seem to stem from differences: different values and beliefs; different races, cultures, nationalities; different political approaches to issues; differences in getting or refusing a vaccination; differences in people of poverty and wealth, the powerless and the powerful; differences in responding to people and problems with peace or violence. Will we, as people of faith commit to walking in the ways of Jesus or will we be distracted by the ways of the world? Good stewardship goes beyond what we give and includes *how we live*: loving God and one another and living in the light, truth and ways of Jesus.

Eternal God, light of the minds that know you, joy of the hearts that love you, strength of the wills that serve you; grant us so to know you that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may gladly serve you, now and always. Amen.
(from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*, p. 627)

God our ruler and guide, when we come to the place where the road divides, keep us true to the way of Christ, alive to present opportunities, and confident of eternal life. Amen. (from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*, p. 640)

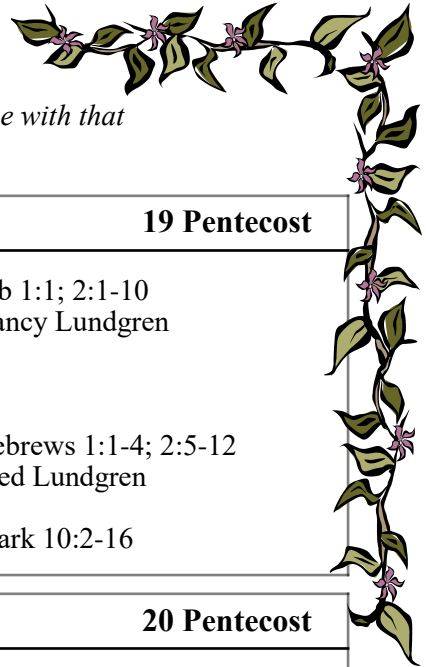


Carol +



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, October 3		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	19 Pentecost
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans		1st Reading Job 1:1; 2:1-10 Nancy Lundgren
Worship	8am Sally Dier		Psalm 26
Leader	10am Carolyn Englert		
Greeters	Fred & Nancy Lundgren		2nd Reading Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12 Fred Lundgren
Organist	Tim Lewicki		
Video	Doug Holzschuh		Gospel Mark 10:2-16
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Shirley Johnson		
Coffee Hosts	8am Joan & Frank Seman		
	10am Nancy & Fred Lundgren		
Counters	Barb Popiel & Michele McLaughlin		

Sunday, October 10		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	20 Pentecost
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans		1st Reading Job 23:1-9, 16-17 Tim Splinter
Deacon	10am The Rev. William Snyder		Psalm 22:1-15
Worship	8am Sally Dier		
Leader	10am Nancy Lundgren		2nd Reading Hebrews 4:12-16 Karen Krofta
Greeters	Jeff & Lisa Marsh		
Organist	Tim Lewicki		Gospel Mark 10:17-31
Video	Doug Holzschuh		
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Shirley Johnson		
Coffee Hosts	8am Mike & Shirley Johnson		
	10am Nancy & Jim Ervin		
Counters	Barb Popiel & Michele McLaughlin		

Sunday, October 17		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	21 Pentecost
Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans		1st Reading Job 38:1-7, 34-41 Martha Croll
Worship	8am Sally Dier		Psalm 104:1-9, 25, 37b
Leader	10am Carolyn Englert		
Greeters	Nancy & Jim Ervin		2nd Reading Hebrews 5:1-10 Jeff Croll
Organist	Tim Lewicki		
Video	Doug Holzschuh		Gospel Mark 10:17-31
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Shirley Johnson		
Coffee Hosts	8am TBA		
	10am Doris W, Gail R, Carol M		
Counters	Barb Popiel & Michele McLaughlin		



Blessing of the Pets

October 3rd, 1pm
Church Front Lawn

Plan to bring your pets for a blessing on Sunday, Oct. 3rd at 1pm to the Church Front Lawn, weather permitting. We'll also include a prayer to remember pets who've died the past year. Treats for people and pets will be included. Hope you'll join us!



Sunday, October 24 **8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist** **22 Pentecost**

Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Job 42:1-6, 10-17 Carol Marotta
Deacon	10am The Rev. William Snyder	Psalm	34:1-8, 19-22
Worship	8am Sally Dier	2nd Reading	Hebrews 7:23-28 Carolyn Englert
Leader	10am Nancy Lundgren	Gospel	Mark 10:46-52
Greeters	Jeff & Lisa Marsh		
Organist	Tim Lewicki		
Video	Doug Holzschuh		
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Shirley Johnson		
Coffee Hosts	8am TBA 10am Cindy Ward & Cathy Potisuk		
Counters	Barb Popiel & Michele McLaughlin		

Sunday, October 31 **8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist** **23 Pentecost**

Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Ruth 1:1-18 Tim Splinter
Deacon	The Rev. William Snyder	Psalm	146
Greeters	John & Mary Jean McDonald	2nd Reading	Hebrews 9:11-14 Martha Croll
Organist	Tim Lewicki	Gospel	Mark 12:28-34
Video	Doug Holzschuh		
Altar Guild	Bette Brooks & Shirley Johnson		
Coffee Hosts	8am TBA 10am Nancy & Jim Ervin		
Counters	Barb Popiel & Michele McLaughlin		

Sunday, November 7 **8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist** **24 Pentecost**

Celebrant	The Rev. Carol Evans	1st Reading	Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17 Nancy Lundgren
Worship	8am Sally Dier	Psalm	127
Leader	10am Carolyn Englert	2nd Reading	Hebrews 9:24-28 Fred Lundgren
Greeters	Fred & Nancy Lundgren	Gospel	Mark 12:38-44
Organist	Tim Lewicki		
Video	Doug Holzschuh		
Altar Guild	Nancy Lundgren & Sally Dier		
Coffee Hosts	8am Joan & Frank Seman 10am Nancy & Fred Lundgren		
Counters	Laurie Barney & Cathy Potisuk		

Fall Cleanup Day Planned

The vestry is planning a *Fall Clean Up Day on Saturday, October 23rd, 9am—3pm*, and volunteers are needed. This is the first time we've had the annual tidy-up inside & outside in a while. We need and appreciate your help for all or part of the day and hope to get a lot accomplished. Junior Warden Michelle McLaughlin is already working on a list of projects & chores that need to be done. Donuts, coffee, and lunch will be provided for volunteers. Please plan to attend and enjoy working & sharing fellowship together.





Did You Know?...



Fall! Oh, beautiful fall! Love this time of the year; low humidity, cool weather, beautiful colors, the gardens planted this summer are producing all that healthy food we so enjoy, and now we can get busy and freeze or can them (if you're into that, which I'm not). That reminds me; thanks to **John McDonald** for bringing those beautiful tomatoes from his garden for all of us to share. I love the mums, pumpkins, corn stalks and gourds that are decorating our homes. It's also football season (love the game). And Christmas is just far enough away that we don't have to worry about it yet...unless you're a member of the church choir and music staff. We're thinking about it, preparing, and practicing because ready or not it'll be here before we know it!! On September 12th the church choir sang for the first time in at least eighteen months. It was good to be back in the choir loft, and the music chosen seemed to please those in the congregation. We received a lot of compliments. We're back in full force, all five of us. (If you're interested in becoming a choir member, please talk with **Martha Croll**.) It looks like it could be an interesting year. Martha's been in the choir room office searching through the vast volume of music that's been stored there. There is sheet music in that office we haven't sung for years, if ever. And since she's now retired from teaching physics and has more time on her hands, she's looking for new and interesting things for the choir to sing. A big thank-you to **Marcia Splinter**; she took all those choir robes that have been collecting dust for these many months; washed them, ironed them, and brought them back to us all cleaned up, shiny, and smelling good. And thanks to the Splinters for buying those plastic pieces that go in the masks to make singing and breathing a lot easier. Breathing is always good for singing. Many thanks, folks!...

We welcomed a newly baptized person into our parish. **Hazel Whitacre** is a cousin of **Carol Marotta, Gail Richards, and Doris Whipple**. Hazel was baptized on September 5th after the 10am service, and Carol Marotta sponsored her. It's good to have Hazel as part of our church family...

On Sunday, September 12th we remembered the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy with prayer followed by the choir's lovely choral benediction. Rev. **Carol** also shared with the congregation the pastoral letter from our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. It's so hard to believe that it has been twenty years; most of us won't ever forget where we were or the shock and tragedy of that day...

We had our annual Fall Fellowship Luncheon on September 12. The lunch consisted of sloppy joes, chips, pasta salad, drinks, and desserts. Thanks, to **Nancy Ervin** and the Hospitality Group for sponsoring the event. Those who made or provided food and helped with the meal included **Nancy & Jim Ervin, John & Mary Jean McDonald, Carolyn Englert,**

Cindy Hoskins, Cindy Ward, Cathy Potisuk, and Marsha Snyder. Nancy certainly knows how to get things organized. She and the Hospitality Group had a very nice lunch for all those who attended...

Kathy Summy has been busy with her monarch butterflies. She can even tell you what sex they are, it has something to do with the spots on their wings. She released four last Sunday; three females and a male and said she had four more to be released soon. Keep up the good work Kathy we all need more butterflies in our life...

Laurie Barney went to Pennsylvania to see her son **Andrew** marry the love of his life, **Kellie**. This was their second of two lovely ceremonies. Kellie's father had been very ill, and she wanted him to give her away in marriage (and he wanted that, too!). So she and Andrew arranged their marriage ceremony so her father was part of their special day. He has since passed, but Kellie and Andrew were glad they moved the wedding up so he could be there. They had a beautiful celebration with many family members and friends attending their most recent ceremony. Every day is a gift...

Marsha & Bill Snyder's daughter Jill was married to **Paul Glosser** in Marion, Ohio on Sept. 18th. Everyone had a wonderful time. Jill's two-year grandson **Hendrix** was in the wedding and looked so cute in his tux!! The bride even played her bass guitar with the band. The leader of the band said that was a first for him. I'm sure it was. All the members of the wedding party were the children of the bride and groom...and of course Hendrix. It was lovely...

We were saddened by the death of our own **Goldie Shriver**, who passed away at the age of ninety on September second. Goldie was a long-time member, and she excelled at overseeing the nursery and enjoying the babies and little ones most of that time. She probably took care of most of the children that passed through these doors. **Nancy Lundgren** has a picture of Goldie in the nursery when her children were small, and they're both over fifty years old now. Goldie loved children, loved to shop, and had a talent for crafts and making lovely gifts. She made the most beautiful flower arrangements and wreaths. **Bette Brooks** recalled how (in the pre-COVID days), Goldie's pew had a line of people waiting for their 'Goldie hug' at the Peace. She and her family will be in our prayers and thoughts, especially when we go past the nursery, better known as "Goldie's House."

Thank You! Thank You!

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

- All those who regularly host coffee hour and those willing to host when we need recruits.
- **Nancy Ervin** and the Hospitality Group for the sloppy joy luncheon served on September 12th.
- **Marcia Splinter** for washing all the choir robes and for the interior frames to keep our masks off our lips while we sing.
- Our **organist, choir director, and choir**. We've enjoyed the music all summer; we love having the choir back; and you all sound great!
- **Rick Taylor, Cathy Potisuk, Frank Seman, and Rev. Carol** for arranging to invite **Deborah Likins-Fowler** of the diocesan Racial Justice Commission to preach at Grace Church and to lead a conversation on Racial Justice, along with Denise **Caywood** after the 8am service. Deborah also led a conversation with several members after the 10 am service.
- **Mike & Shirley Johnson** for doing some major trimming on rectory trees and bushes and clearing it away.
- **Fred & Nancy Lundgren** for trimming back the ground greenery near the handicap access and clearing it away.
- **Doug Holtzschuh** for live streaming and recording services for our members at home to access.
- Our members being cautious with COVID and viewing the live stream services from home. So glad to have you with us!
- **Marcia Splinter** for being a great treasurer and keeping the bills paid.
- **Tim Splinter** who does a masterful job of designing & layout for the Grace Vine each month, and has recently taken on the task of being Grace's webmaster (since our 'regular guy' **Mike Stevens** retired from years as webmaster).
- All those who pray for our Grace Church family and for Grace Church.

Birthdays

1st MacAlah Simonson
5th Mike Johnson
8th Kay Wise
11th Lynn Zimmerman
13th Maggy Rich
18th Jamie Popiel
21st Nancy Ervin
22nd Janet Hughes
25th Aundrea Seman
26th David Miller
29th Linda Stover



Congratulations!

and many happy returns...

Baptisms

3rd Jane O'Neill
13th John McDonald
16th Marsha Snyder
25th Aundrea Seman
h Kevin Splinter
rtha Croll



Anniversaries

7th Cindy & Gary Ward
11th Jeff & Lisa Marsh
17th Tim & Marcia Splinter
20th Bill & Kathy Summy
31st Tony & Bev Mercury

The Bulletin Board

Bible Study

Wednesdays
7:00 P.M.

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

Breakfast Club

October 21st 8:00 AM
Cracker Barrel—Rootstown

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

Gracie's Back Door

Many, I'm sure are wondering why Nancy & Sally made the decision to close Gracie's Back Door after only two weeks open. They did not feel that the area was adequately safe for the guests or them.

There is no way to get proper ventilation into the area.

There is no way to socially distance effectively.

No way to sanitize the area through the day or week to week.

Not everyone comes in with a mask on.

There is no way to tell if people are fully vaccinated.

Sally has a compromised immune system.

Both women are of the age to be more vulnerable to COVID.

Nancy and Sally will be working in Gracie's at times to continue to clean and take in donations looking forward to the time Gracie's will reopen permanently. Until then they will try to keep you updated as to any changes.

Sit & Stitch

Oct. 12th & 26th, 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.



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.*

James Hannington and His Companions (1885)

October 29

The growth of the Church in Africa has been exponential. We have only to look at the list of Dioceses for prayer in Forward Day by Day to see this. However, this growth has not been without danger and martyrdom, especially in Uganda.

Among the new nations of Africa, Uganda is now the most predominantly Christian. Mission work began there in the 1870's with the favor of King Mutesa, who died in 1884. However, his son and successor, King Mwanga, opposed all foreign (colonial/European) presence, including the missions.

James Hannington, born in 1847, was sent out from England in 1884 by the Anglican Church as missionary Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa. As he was travelling toward Uganda, he was apprehended by emissaries of King Mwanga. He and his companions were brutally treated and, a week later, October 29, 1885, most of them were put to death. Hannington's last words were: "Go tell your master that I have purchased the road to Uganda with my blood."

The Church in Uganda began with the deaths of these and other martyrs. The first African martyr was the Roman Catholic Joseph Mkasa Balikuddembe, who was beheaded after having rebuked the king for his debauchery and for the murder of Bishop Hannington. On June 3, 1886, a group of 32 men and boys, 22 Roman Catholic and 10 Anglican, were burned at the stake. Most of them were young pages in Mwanga's household, from their headman, Charles Lwanga, to the thirteen-year-old Kizito, who went to his death "laughing and chattering." These and many other Ugandan Christians suffered for their faith then and for several more years.

Around 1900, Uganda became a British protectorate, with the chief of the Buganda tribe as nominal ruler, and with several other tribes included in the protectorate. In 1962 Uganda became an independent country within the British Commonwealth, with the Bugandan chief as president and Milton Obote, of the Lango tribe, as Prime Minister. In 1966, Obote took full control of the government. In 1971, he was overthrown by General Idi Amin, Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces. Almost immediately, he began a policy of repression, arresting anyone suspected of not supporting him. Hundreds of soldiers from the Lango and Acholi tribes were shot down in their barracks. Amin ordered the expulsion of the Asian population of Uganda, about 55,000 persons, mostly small shopkeepers from India and Pakistan. Over the next few years, many Christians were killed for various offenses. One man, reading the Psalms for a radio broadcast in 1972, was shot upon leaving the station because he had read the word "Israel" as it occurred in the Psalm. In 1977, the Anglican Archbishop Janani Luwum and many other Christians suffered death for their faith under the tyrant Idi Amin.

Thanks largely to their common heritage of suffering and death for their Master, Christians of all communions in Uganda have always been on excellent terms. And the Church continues to grow.

Prayers:

Precious in your sight, O Lord, is the death of your saints, Whose faithful witness, by your providence, has its great reward: We give you thanks for your martyrs James Hannington and his companions, who purchased with their blood a road unto Uganda for the proclamation of the Gospel; and we pray that with them we also may obtain the crown of righteousness which is laid up for all who love the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Almighty God, who called your faithful servants James Hannington and his companions to be witnesses and martyrs in Africa, and by their labors and sufferings raised up a people for your own possession: Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon your Church in every land, that by the service and sacrifice of many, your holy Name may be glorified and your kingdom enlarged; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever. Amen.



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

Phone: 330-296-3443
Web Site: www.graceravenna.org
Email: revcarol@graceravenna.org

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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