



# The Grace Vine

September 2021

## Rector's Writ

A few notes from the rector follow and a brief reminder to continue practicing measures to help keep our entire church family safe and healthy. It feels like we're all getting weary of the COVID-19 and Delta variant concerns and anxieties, but we still need to be vigilant in keeping the protection, safety, and health of all our parish family in mind.

### PLEASE PRACTICE COVID-DELTA SAFETY MEASURES

At our August 17th meeting, the vestry & rector re-visited the COVID-19 safety guidelines from earlier this summer. Portage county is in the red zone; as of Aug. 18th only two Ohio counties are NOT in the red zone. In light of the rising DELTA variant concerns, the vestry & rector offer these updated guidelines:

- ◊ Sunday School will NOT start on Sept. 12th & is suspended until further notice
- ◊ Children & Youth are asked to wear a mask while attending church & coffee hour
- ◊ All members are strongly encouraged to wear masks during worship (especially while singing) & coffee hour (except while eating). When masks are removed please put them in your pocket or purse, NOT on the tables where we eat & gather.
- ◊ Members are reminded to keep the required 6 feet social distance safety, especially: as we enter & leave church, as we go forward for Holy Communion, at coffee hour
- ◊ Please use hand sanitizer, especially prior to worship, communion, and coffee hour

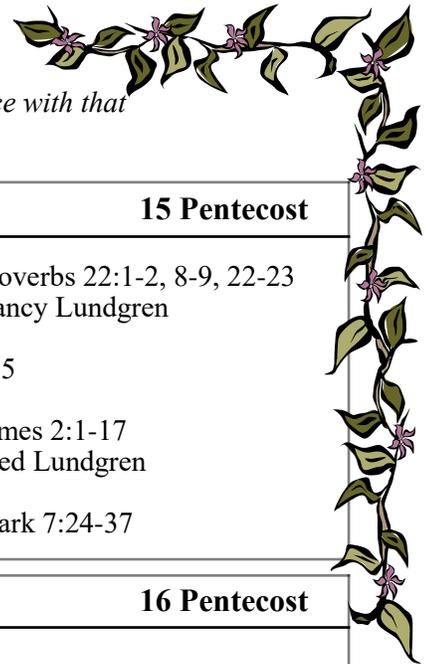
### LABOR DAY PRAYER

Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



## 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, September 5		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	15 Pentecost
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Carol Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 Nancy Lundgren	<b>Psalm</b> 125
<b>Worship Leader</b>	8:00 Bette Brooks 10:00 Carolyn Englert		
<b>Greeters</b>	Nancy & Fred Lundgren	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> James 2:1-17 Fred Lundgren	<b>Gospel</b> Mark 7:24-37
<b>Organist</b>	Tim Lewicki		
<b>Video</b>	Doug Holzschuh		
<b>Coffee Hosts</b>	8:00 Joan & Frank Seman 10:00 Mary Jean & John McDonald		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Nancy Lundgren & Laurie Barney		
<b>Counters</b>	Carol Marotta & Cathy Potisuk		

Sunday, September 12		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	16 Pentecost
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Carol Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> Proverbs 1:20-33 Tim Splinter	<b>Psalm</b> 19
<b>Deacon</b>	10:00 The Rev. William Snyder		
<b>Worship Leader</b>	8:00 Sally Dier 10:00 Nancy Lundgren	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> James 3:1-12 Karen Krofta	<b>Gospel</b> Mark 8:27-38
<b>Greeters</b>	Jeff & Lisa Marsh		
<b>Organist</b>	Tim Lewicki		
<b>Video</b>	Doug Holzschuh		
<b>Coffee Hosts</b>	8:00 Mike & Shirley Johnson 10:00 Nancy & Jim Ervin		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Nancy Lundgren & Laurie Barney		
<b>Counters</b>	Carol Marotta & Cathy Potisuk		

Sunday, September 19		8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	17 Pentecost
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Carol Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> Proverbs 31:10-31 Martha Croll	<b>Psalm</b> 1
<b>Worship Leader</b>	8:00 Bette Brooks 10:00 Carolyn Englert		
<b>Greeters</b>	Nancy & Jim Ervin	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> James 3:13-4:3,7-8a Jeff Croll	<b>Gospel</b> Mark 9:30-37
<b>Organist</b>	Tim Lewicki		
<b>Video</b>	Doug Holzschuh		
<b>Coffee Hosts</b>	8:00 TBA 10:00 Doris W., Gail R. & Carol M.		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Nancy Lundgren & Laurie Barney		
<b>Counters</b>	Carol Marotta & Cathy Potisuk		



### Breakfast Club

September 16th 8:00 AM  
Cracker Barrel—Rootstown

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

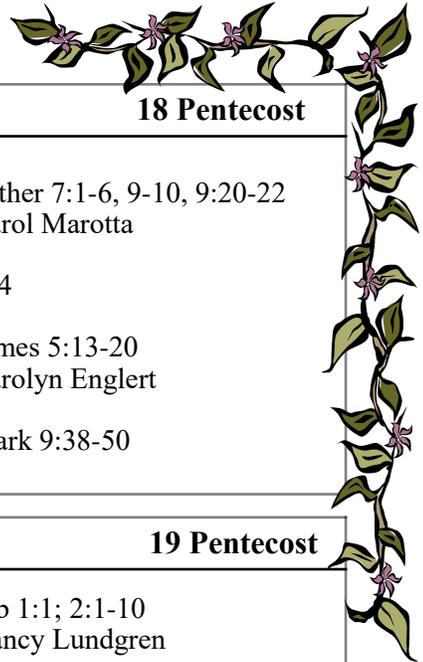
### Sloppy Joe Luncheon

The Hospitality Committee is  
planning a sloppy joe lunch.

September 12<sup>th</sup>  
11:15 am

sloppy joes, chips, pasta salads, brownies,  
and a drink will be served.

Please come and enjoy the  
fellowship and good food!



**Sunday, September 26**                      **8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist**                      **18 Pentecost**

<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Carol Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22
<b>Deacon</b>	10:00 The Rev. William Snyder		Carol Marotta
<b>Worship</b>	8:00 Sally Dier	<b>Psalm</b>	124
<b>Leader</b>	10:00 Nancy Lundgren		
<b>Greeters</b>	Jeff & Lisa Marsh	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>	James 5:13-20
<b>Organist</b>	Tim Lewicki		Carolyn Englert
<b>Video</b>	Doug Holzschuh	<b>Gospel</b>	Mark 9:38-50
<b>Coffee Hosts</b>	8:00 TBA 10:00 Cindy Ward & Cathy Potisuk		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Nancy Lundgren & Laurie Barney		
<b>Counters</b>	Carol Marotta & Cathy Potisuk		

**Sunday, October 3**                      **8:00 & 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist**                      **19 Pentecost**

<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Carol Evans	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	Job 1:1; 2:1-10
<b>Worship</b>	8:00 Bette Brooks		Nancy Lundgren
<b>Leader</b>	10:00 Carolyn Englert	<b>Psalm</b>	26
<b>Greeters</b>	Nancy & Fred Lundgren		
<b>Organist</b>	Tim Lewicki	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>	Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12
<b>Video</b>	Doug Holzschuh		Fred Lundgren
<b>Coffee Hosts</b>	8:00 Joan & Frank Seman 10:00 Nancy & Fred Lundgren	<b>Gospel</b>	Mark 10:2-16
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Bette Brooks & Shirley Johnson		
<b>Counters</b>	Barb Popiel & Michele McLaughlin		



# Congratulations!

*and many happy returns...*

## Birthdays

- 3rd Daniel Francois
- 9th Athena Whipple
- 10th Mary Jean McDonald
- 11th Doris Whipple
- 13th Leslie Thomas
- Rick Taylor
- 15th Barb Popiel
- 25th Martha Croll
- 26th Cindy Ward



## Anniversaries

- 3rd Fred & Chris Ahrens
- 24th Michael & Kay Canan
- 26th Doug Holzschuh & Kingsland Pretorius

## Baptisms

- 7th Jenna Summy
- 22nd Lisa Paxton
- Gerry Rich
- 25th Sue Ahrens
- 30th Sammy Rich





# Did You Know?...



What happened to summer!! The kids are back in school already and that usually means fall and winter will soon be upon us. But it looks like we may have a longer summer than usual --- it's still nice and warm. So, for now let's enjoy the summer. However, we may be able to enjoy it more if it would only stop raining. I heard this is the wettest summer since 1975 and July is the hottest month on record. August usually brings burned out grass, trees changing color, and very dry weather. But not this year...

On a rainy-day last month (what's new) **Shirley & Mike Johnson** had the Sit & Stitch group over to their house for lunch. The group enjoyed a wonderful meal and great fellowship. And our gracious hosts, Shirley & Mike served hot dogs, baked beans, the best cauliflower salad, deviled eggs, vegetable salad, and cake & cookies. Everything was delicious. There were plenty of leftovers and Shirley sent some goodies home with us. Those attending were **Carolyn & Ken Englert, Mary Jean & John McDonald, Roberta O'Keefe, Bette Brooks, Marsha & Bill Snyder, and Rev. Carol...**

It was good seeing **Jeff & Lisa Marsh** back in church after their COVID quarantine. They shared with us that daughter **Sarah Beth** is off to Italy for a semester of studies in Florence (her mother Lisa is wishing she was going along); but since Sarah Beth's been there before she will have a wonderful time and what a great experience for her to travel and get a good education...

**Marcia & Tim Splinter** are back from the trip to Wisconsin to see Tim's mother **Barbara** and their son **Kevin** went back to school to begin his senior year at Bradley University...

**Ms. Deborah Likins-Fowler and Denise Caywood** were here on August 22; they both are member of the Commission for Racial Justice appointed by Bishop Hollingsworth. Debbie preached at both the 8am and 10am service and joined us at the coffee hour where she led very interesting discussions about racism in our lives, church, community, and nation. Ms. Denise Caywood was able to take part in the 8am coffee hour but had to leave to go back to her duties at her parish in St. Phillip's, Akron. Thanks to members of our congregation who brought these issues to our parish: **Cathy Potisuk, Frank Seman, Rick Taylor, and Rev. Carol**. Be looking for other opportunities to take part in the continued racism discussion groups...

**Kathy Summy** has been busy this summer raising monarch butterflies. She's released 97 so far; so, if you see a beautiful monarch butterfly in your garden it just might be one of Kathy's. Keep up the good work! ...

A new hot water tank has been installed in the church furnace room and you can bet the coffee hosts are

delighted to have hot water to clean up after Sunday's coffee hour. The rectory also has a new refrigerator, and the Rector is certainly happy about that...

**The Johnsons** were delighted with the visit from their daughter **Susan** and granddaughter **Elizabeth** all the way from California. Elizabeth hasn't been to see her grandparents for awhile and they even came to church. And **Mary Jean & John McDonald** were happy to have their three children with them; all at the same time this summer--they posted a great picture on Facebook...

We heard from **Tracy Shriver**, her mother **Goldie** has been in the hospital, and she is off to rehab and has just had her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Please keep Goldie in your prayers.

## The Special Giving on the Second Sunday of the Month

*You know! All those baskets and the little white church on the communion rail...*

*For those unfamiliar with these disciplines.*

**2 Cents a Meal** (*metal bucket*)-- The idea is to put two cents (or more) aside for each meal to be mindful of those who are hungry and turn it in here. It goes to The Center of Hope to assist with hunger programs in Portage County.

**Christian Cupboard** (*basket*) Giving for the Portage County Christian Cupboard so food can be given to those in need.

**Habitat For Humanity**--(*basket*) Pretty self-explanatory... it's passed along to Portage County Habitat for Humanity.

**Flowers** (*basket*) Giving for altar flowers when no member is covering the cost of flowers in memory of loved one or in celebration of a special event.

**Birthdays** (*wooden church*) Giving in honor of birthdays or other special occasions. It goes into the Rector's Discretionary Fund. This can be used privately by Rev. Carol to assist parishioners and/or community members or cover miscellaneous small parish uses (*gifts for grads, confirmands, etc*)

In all cases you can give cash or checks. All donations are deposited to the Church's account to be passed along by the Treasurer to the various places, SO.... **If you write a check**, please make it out to Grace Episcopal and put the purpose (*from the list above*) in the memo line.

*(Actually, the Flowers money goes directly to the Altar Guild's account, but making it out to the church works just fine for that too.)*

# The Bulletin Board

## *Sit & Stitch*

Sept. 14th & 28th, 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:

- To all those who sign up to host the 8am & 10am coffee hour, and those who are willing to be coffee hour when asked.
- To **Nancy & Jim Ervin** for taking the items in the red wagon down to the Center of Hope.
- **Rev. Carol, Rick Taylor, Cathy Potisuk, and Frank Seman** for bringing us members of the Commission for Racial Justice to speak to our congregation on Aug. 22nd.
- **Tim Lewicki & Jeff Croll** for live streaming and recording services for our members at home to view (*while Doug Holzschuh was away on vacation*).
- **Marcia Splinter** for being a great treasurer and keeping the bills paid.
- **Tim Splinter** for designing and e-mailing the Grace Vine to our members.
- Our faithful members who continue to support the church with your pledges.
- All those who pray for our Grace Church family and for Grace Church.

# *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.*

**Constance and Her Companions (1878)**

**September 9**

In August 1878, yellow fever invaded the city of Memphis, Tennessee, for the third time in ten years. By the month's end, the disease had become epidemic and a quarantine was ordered. While more than 25,000 citizens had fled in terror, nearly 20,000 more remained to face the pestilence. As cases multiplied, the death toll averaged 200 people per day. When the worst was over, ninety percent of the people who remained had contracted the fever and more than 5,000 people had died. The city was so depopulated that it lost its charter and was not reorganized for fourteen years. The economic toll lasted for decades.

In that time of panic and flight, many brave men and women, both lay and ordained, remained at their posts of duty or came as volunteers to assist in spite of the terrible risk. Notable among these heroes were four Episcopal nuns from the Community of Saint Mary, and two of their clergy colleagues, all of whom died while tending to the sick. They have ever since been known as "The Martyrs of Memphis," as have those of other communions who ministered in Christ's name during this time of desolation.

The Sisters had come to Memphis in 1873, at Bishop Quintard's request, to found a school for girls adjacent to St. Mary's Cathedral. When the 1878 epidemic began, George C. Harris, the cathedral dean, and Sister Constance immediately organized relief work among the stricken. Helping were six of Constance's fellow Sisters of St. Mary; Sister Clare from St. Margaret's House, Boston, Massachusetts; the Reverend Charles C. Parsons, Rector of Grace and St. Lazarus Church, Memphis; and the Reverend Louis S. Schuyler, assistant at Holy Innocents, Hoboken, New Jersey. The cathedral group also included three physicians, two of whom were ordained Episcopal priests; the Sisters' two matrons; and several volunteer nurses from New York.

The cathedral buildings were located in the most infected region of Memphis. Here, amid sweltering heat and scenes of indescribable horror, these men and women of God gave relief to the sick, comfort to the dying, and homes to the many orphaned children. Only two of the workers escaped the fever. Among those who died were Constance, Thecla, Ruth, and Frances, the Rev. Charles Parsons, and the Rev. Louis Schuyler. All six are buried at Elmwood Cemetery.

The monument marking the joint grave of Parsons and Schuyler bears the inscription: "Greater Love Hath No Man." The high altar in St. Mary's Cathedral, Memphis, is a memorial to the four Sisters.

## **Prayer:**

We give you thanks and praise, O God of compassion, for the heroic witness of Constance and her companions, who, in a time of plague and pestilence, were steadfast in their care for the sick and the dying, and loved not their own lives, even unto death. Inspire in us a like love and commitment to those in need, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Note:* St. Mary's Episcopal School is still a growing and dynamic place, educating young women in Memphis and providing them a strong academic and spiritual experience. My daughter Beverly is their newly hired Director of College Guidance.



## 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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If you would like to take advantage of this, send me an email at [grwebmaster@graceravenna.org](mailto:grwebmaster@graceravenna.org). Please consider the paper copy and have it read rather than save the paper and postage and have it go unread.