

PACE is published by

Grace Episcopal Church

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Church Office Hours

9:00 a.m. to Noon
Monday - Friday

Children's Christian Education

**First 3 Sundays
each month**

Team Teaching by :

Karla Zargari
Debbie Zimmerman
Lynn Kramp
Bobbin Davis
Tiffany Parks
April Frazier
Charlotte Stodt

Deadline for next *Pace*
is Sunday, Dec. 23rd



December 2016

The *Pace* of Grace



From the Rector :

A new year is beginning. No, I am not jumping the gun by a month. With Advent, a new liturgical year is beginning. Just as January 1 finds us anticipating what the year will bring, so we anticipate and prepare for the coming of our Lord. We prepare to welcome God incarnate in the form of a helpless human child, needing what any human infant needs, food, warmth, protection and most of all unbounded love. We also await the day when our Lord will come again, bringing the Kingdom of God to complete fruition here on earth.

Advent gives us the time to ready ourselves to receive the great gift God has bestowed on us. I sometimes hear frustration expressed that we don't begin to sing Christmas carols until Christmas. We sing advent hymns and we don't decorate the church until Christmas is here. What gives? Well, what gives is our God, who allows us time to contemplate and process what it is that we prepare to celebrate; to ready ourselves for the huge task at hand – welcoming and accepting the gift and the responsibility that comes with the gift.

What do we do to prepare? We of course pray, light Advent Wreaths, sing and worship together, gather with loved ones; the list could go on and on. The other thing we do is what the people of Grace Church always do so well – preparing to take care of the infant Jesus and anticipating welcoming the risen Christ by taking care of those that God places on our path. We will be helping our AA and NA groups feel welcome with home baked cookies thanks to the Evangelism team and all our dedicated bakers. We have helped three families have a real thanksgiving dinner and then some from food baskets delivered to their home and we will be doing the same as Christmas approaches.

continued inside

Officers & Rector :

Dave Zimmerman
Senior Warden

Larry Seymour
Junior Warden

Harry Dodds
Treasurer

Judith Stafanick
Clerk

The Rev. Rose Anne Lonsway
Rector

Inside this *Pace* :

This & That

- *Worship committee*
- *Vestry report*
- *Church Mouse*
- *Caroling*
- *Evangelism*
- *Outreach*
- *Stewardship*
- *Fellowship*
- *Pace*

Monthly Finances

Calendars

Lessons / Readings

Looking Ahead

***“When Christmas Hurts”, a service of healing at Grace Church
December 14 at 7pm.***



Christmas Caroling



at Grace Woods December 11th at 12:30pm.



Christmas Eve there will be one service at Grace Church at 7pm with Eucharist, music by Grace Notes Choir, Choir Interns and Seasonal Brass.

Christmas Morning there will be two services at 8 and 10am and you are invited to “Come as you are”, jammies are acceptable.



Services at 8 and 10am

From the Rector : continued

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Thanks to the Outreach Team and all who donated. The gift tree is up and ready to accept your donations. The choir and Sunday School are getting ready to add their best efforts for Christmas services. We will be having a special service on December 14th to help those for whom the holidays are a hurtful time prepare to live through them and to know that others care about their pain. "When Christmas Hurts" is open to the community and several Willoughby clergy will be participating in leading the service.

There is one other thing we can do to prepare for Jesus coming. Be brave! We can prepare ourselves to be brave enough to stand up to hatred and evil. We can be brave enough to make a difference to those living in fear of their emotional and physical safety or perceived loss of rights and status. We can be brave enough to let God show us how to make a difference in this world and the lives of our neighbors. We can be brave enough to be kind. We can be brave enough to learn of others and their ways, even if their ways are different from our ways. We can be brave enough to agree to disagree. We can be brave enough to preach the Gospel every day and "use words when necessary"!

We don't often associate Advent with bravery, but in my mind, they are inextricably linked. Our Lord calls us to a hard task that often has us going against the accepted norms of our crazy and broken society. It takes bravery to do that. It takes courage to help those that society would dismiss as "the other"; those not like us.

It takes bravery and courage to love. Jesus shows us the way to love and during this Advent season I pray that your preparation will bring you to a place of peace and comfort, knowing that our Lord is with us each step of the way and that we will find more and more ways to "Love God, Love our Neighbor, Change the world!"

Prepare with strong faith and have a blessed Christmas!

Mother Rose Anne+

Christmas Card Collection

To avoid the high cost of mailing Christmas cards to parish members, Grace will be collecting your Christmas cards during the month of December. Three decorated collection boxes can be found in the church library beginning the



Sunday after Thanksgiving. Parishioners are asked to place their cards in the boxes by Friday, December 23. To make the distribution easier please put your cards in alphabetical order with a rubber band around them. Cards can be picked up at the Christmas Eve service. Please include a monetary donation if you wish. Donations will be given to the "Little Feet" program.

Thank you,
Walt and Kathy Iliff.

CAROLING AT GRACE WOODS

Please join us in making a joyful noise when we go caroling at Grace Woods after the 10:00am service on Sunday, December 11th. We will meet together for practice and snacks in the undercroft. Then we will walk or carpool down the hill between noon and 12:30pm. It's a special present to share the joy of the season for all.

Peggy Burkacki

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Choir – there will be five choir interns here for Christmas Eve along with the Seasonal Brass and the Grace Notes. Scott Arra is getting music for the youth to sing at the service

Family Sunday – the children will be working on projects in Sunday School and won't be on the altar. There won't be Sunday School on Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

All Saints Day – went well and everyone liked the last hymn. There was a suggestion that we have quiet music playing during the reading of the names. The UTO In-gathering went well.

November 27 – First Sunday of Advent. The Advent wreath will be set up on the altar. Families will be asked to sign up to light the candles. If there are not volunteers, the person on the altar will light the candles.

When Christmas Hurts – Wednesday, December 14. Members of the WAMA group will participate in this community service.

The Sunday School and any interested adults will do caroling at Grace Woods on Sunday December 11th. Peggy Burkacki will make the arrangements with Grace Woods.

Christmas Eve Service – the service is at 7pm

Christmas Morning, December 25 – there will be services at 8am and 10am with Eucharist. It is come as you are.

New Year's Day – there will be services at 8am and 10am with Eucharist.

Epiphany – Friday, January 6 there will be a service and a party will be planned.

Mother Rose Anne will be on vacation January 12 – 17, 2017 and a supply priest will be needed.

The next meeting will be January 10, 2017. Remember everyone is invited to join the meeting – no experience is necessary.

Submitted by, *Judy Stafanick*

Evangelism & Adult Education

Phil and Bobbin Davis will represent Grace Church to our 12-step groups by asking for homemade cookies from the parish and presenting the cookies to the groups this Christmas season.

Christmas bags will be put together and given to all who attend the Christmas Eve and /or Christmas day services.

The trifold for Grace is nearing completion. We have asked Mother Rose Anne to write a short bio to be included.

We still are looking for people to sign up for the Episcopal information/education classes. Please sign up on the board in the library if you are interested.

Peggy Burkacki

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

We all know winter is coming and some of our parishioners will be house bound.

Since we now have a working freezer (thanks to Walt Illif) we thought it would be nice that when you make soup for your family you would double the recipe and put half in the freezer downstairs. Then when someone is in need we can buy a nice loaf of bread to go with it and take the meal to their home. Please put the type of soup and the date on the package so we can keep things fresh. Thanks! Any questions: Pat Newyear 440-946-8381 or prnewyear@oh.rr.com

FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship Team will begin the New Year with our meeting on January 10, 2017 at 6 pm. The Team would like to extend an open invitation for all who would like to join us. We are continuing to plan and organize social events such as outings, picnics, events and would welcome new feedback and helping hands. Hope to see you there.

Linda Beharry

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Advent will be upon us as you are reading this. The Sunday School has some fun and interesting projects for the season. Because of this, there will be no Family Sunday on November 27th, as this is the first Sunday in Advent. We will then go through the month of December with Sunday School until we reach Christmas and New Year's Day. There will be NO Sunday School those days. We will start up again on January 8th.

We have observed that the children would rather be with their parents than sitting together in the front pew. We have decided to discontinue the group sitting. I would like to tell you the reason I sit up in front. When my children were small they could not see what was happening at the altar, so we moved closer to the altar. They could not only see, but they knew that everybody could see them! They had to behave. I let them read or quietly color. It had to be quiet or else the person behind them might say something.

Bobbin Davis

This is such a busy time of year so I know not to get my tail in the girl's way.

Thank you so, so much to everyone who donated food and money, helped pack, shop and deliver the food to three families in our area who needed food for Thanksgiving. We are good at stepping up and helping out those in need.

Somewhere out there is a family in need and Grace Church is going to make sure they have a good Merry Christmas.

Can't wait for the Giving Tree to be up, I like to sleep in the branches.

We can't thank Kathy Hill enough for all the hard work she did to make sure that the children that needed shoes and boots got them. There was even an article in the Gazette Newspapers. Here's to you Girl!

Nik has a lot of friends and when he isn't here they are very sad but sometimes we just need a break.

What's this I hear? Myrt Benlein is going to Arizona to be near her family and live the good life.



From me and my family we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Church Mouse Family

VESTRY MEETING

The minutes from the October 18, 2016 meeting and the Treasurer's Report for October were approved

The budget for 2017 needs to be approved at the next Vestry meeting in December and Harry Dodds asked that comments, additions and suggestions be forwarded to him.

Tiffany Parks made a motion to amend the "Procedures for Expenses" to have all expenses go to the team chairperson for their review and payment. – All approved.

Names of those persons interested in running for a Vestry position in 2017 were presented for discussion and will be brought to the Vestry in December.

The Vestry was asked to take a look at the old Mission Statements, review and bring comments and ideas to the December meeting.

The replacement for the Pace editor is still in progress. Phil Davis has graciously offered to help with the Pace beyond the December issue of the Pace.

Stewardship – See article

The Outreach Team – See article

The Evangelism Team – See article

The Pastoral Care Team – See article

Grace Church will host When Christmas Hurts on December 14 along with the Willoughby Area Ministerial Association.

Mother Rose Anne was elected to the Diocesan Council at Convention. Confirmation classes are going well with Phil Davis' help and the children will be asked to choose a "Mentor". The services before and after the Election went well. The

Christmas Eve service is at 7pm, Christmas Day there will be services at 8a and 10a with Eucharist. There will be an Epiphany service on January 6 with a party. Mother Rose Anne shared her activities for the month.

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 5, 2017. It was suggested to have one service with a meeting and meal to follow. The nominating committee is at work.

The Junior Warden shared a list of things that need to be done to the building in 2017.

The order of the Agenda was discussed and it was decided to have the Rector, Sr. Warden & Jr. Warden after the Treasurer's report. The new arrangement will be tried at the next meeting.

The next Vestry meeting will be December 20, 2016.

Submitted by: *Judy Stafanick*, Clerk

STEWARDSHIP

As of the writing of this article we are winding up the 2017 Stewardship Campaign. The preliminary results are looking good. So far we have exceeded last year's pledges by \$2000 with an estimated \$12,000 still outstanding. Next month I'll have some solid figures to share with you.

All things come of Thee oh Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee.

Dave Zimmerman
Stewardship Team Chair

Team members: Frank Burkacki, Cathy Nash, Tiffany Parks, and Mother Rose Anne

OUTREACH TEAM UPDATE

Three Thanksgiving baskets have been packed with turkey and lots of trimmings for three families in our local area. Deb Zimmerman delivered the food boxes on Monday, November 21 – thanks Deb. Also a very kind person from Breckenridge donated a food basket for Thanksgiving and will donate a Christmas food basket as well.

The giving tree has been set up and is ready to receive mittens, scarves, hats, underwear, socks and like items. We are also collecting items for pets. You can leave your donations under the tree or hang them on the tree, whichever you prefer. The items will be divided between Project Hope and perhaps Edison Elementary School. Thanks for setting up the tree Walt.

As we did last year, we are providing gifts for a Lake County family. This year we will be providing gifts for a single mom and her 3 children. Tags with gift ideas and the child's information will be on the tree very soon. You can select a tag to purchase a gift if you wish. There will be a \$30 limit per gift and no gift cards should be purchased. If you prefer not to shop and want to donate by cash or check, that's great too. We will be happy to shop for you. You can give the donations to Mother Rose Anne or Judy in the office. Checks can be made payable to Grace Episcopal Church (please write "Gifts for Family" in the memo section).

We are so blessed to have an opportunity and the means to provide for others who are in need, especially for the holidays. Many thanks to all who are so generous in helping to make the holidays a little happier and blessed for others.

God's peace

Kathy Hill

SR. WARDEN'S REPORT

The gift to the Life Care program at Breckenridge Village was delivered to David Schell / Executive Director. He was totally surprised and grateful for Grace's gift. At David's suggestion we are giving the gift to the long term Legacy program for residents in need of financial assistance.

Last month the vestry had a retreat in Elyria at St. Andrew's. Mother Rose Anne, Kathy Hill, Tiffany Parks, Deb Zimmerman and Dave Zimmerman did the initial introduction to the "Holy Currencies" from Kaleidoscope Institute as sponsored by the Diocese of Ohio. The program covers six areas considered Holy Currency in providing self-sustaining ministries. The six areas are: Currency of Time and Place, Currency of Leadership, Currency of Relationship, Currency of Truth, Currency of Wellness and Currency of Money. All six currencies are needed, must flow and recirculate. Grace is in the process of committing to a Diocesan program to learn how to implement the "Holy Currencies". More information will follow once we have a better understanding of our commitment.

Our annual meeting is fast approaching. The annual meeting will be on Sunday, February 5, 2017. In November the vestry discussed having a 9am service with a brunch and meeting to follow the service. We would like to have as many parishioners as possible attending so please let us know your thoughts on the time.

David Zimmerman, Senior Warden

Pace

Where is my Pace?

So, what happens before the Pace is in your mailbox. The articles to appear in the Pace are received in the office. The administrative assistant formats the articles received and also writes some articles. Mother Rose Anne reviews all material contributed to the Pace before it goes to the Editor-in-Charge who then lays out the Pace for printing. The finished layout copy is brought back to the office to be copied. The Pace copies go to the Iliff's to collate for mailing, and they then take the Pace to the Post Office for distribution by postmen. We use a Bulk Rate Mailing Permit (not a high priority) to mail the Pace which means it does **not** go First Class and this gives the mail person the option as to when the Pace will be delivered. Since this is election time all the mail you got regarding the election has priority over the Pace. So as you can see, there are a lot of elements involved in getting the monthly Pace in the mail and into your hands. Most of the time things work well and you receive your Pace around the first of the month and then there are the times when things happen, like vacations and such, and then the Pace is late. And these are the times when we ask for your patience and understanding.

Enjoy!

Judy, Manager of the Pace Office



**Anniversary in
December**

Don & Phyllis Speidel 13
Larry & Cynthia Seymour 31



The 54th Boar's Head and Yule Log
Festival!!!

at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Cleveland
Saturday, December 31st, 2016
3pm and 5:30pm

For more information call: 216-771-3630

Come and extend your Christmas
celebration with visual and musical joy.

Free will offering

★ **HAPPY** ★ in
BIRTHDAY! December

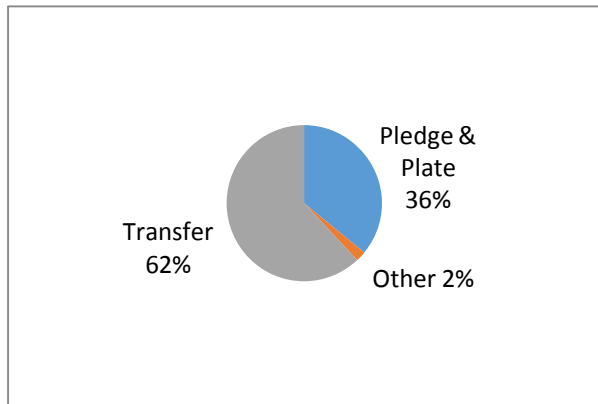
Toni Swisher	2
Pat Newyear	8
Bradley Stoldt	15
Fred Stoldt	15
Doug Zargari	15
Kelsey Frazier	20
Owen Seymour	21
Carol Burke	24
Dorothy Ferguson	28
Jeremy Gramley	29

**On behalf of Mother Rose Anne
Lonsway, the staff,
Wardens and Vestry,
we wish you a
very merry and blessed Christmas
Season
and a Happy New Year**

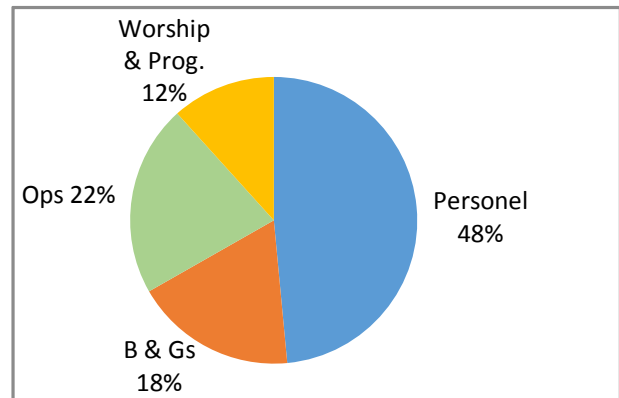
Operating Fund Interim Report -- thru end of October 2016

<u>Income</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Pledge and Plate Contributions	\$65,346.89	\$61,293.00	\$4,053.89
Other Income	\$3,883.00	\$2,333.32	\$1,549.68
Transfer from Grace Woods Capital Fund	\$112,500.00	\$109,650.00	\$2,850.00
Total Income	\$181,729.89	\$173,276.32	\$8,453.57
 <u>Expenses</u>			
Personel	\$91,457.96	\$87,916.66	\$3,541.30
Buildings and Grounds	\$34,353.41	\$33,443.34	\$910.07
Operations	\$40,694.53	\$34,750.00	\$5,944.53
Worship and Programs	\$22,047.04	\$18,351.88	\$3,695.16
Total Expenses	\$188,552.94	\$174,461.88	\$14,091.06
Excess/Deficit	-\$6,823.05	-\$1,185.56	-\$5,637.49

Income



Expenses



Treasurer's Report

As you can see our expenses are running 8% over our 2016 budget. We are working on a 2017 budget to try and address these escalating costs, yet still maintain meaningful programs. Anyone who would like to be a part of that discussion, please feel free to attend the next finance meeting 12/13 at 4:30 PM.

Harry Dodds, Treasurer

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Dated material
Please deliver by December 1, 2016

*OR CURRENT
RESIDENT*

READINGS FOR THE DAY

December 4.....
The Second Sunday
of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

December 11.....
The Third Sunday
of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:4-9
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

December 18.....
The Fourth Sunday
of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-25

December 24.....
Eve of the Nativity

Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

Christmas Day.....
The Nativity of our Lord
Jesus Christ

Isaiah 62:6-12
Psalm 97
Titus 3:4-7
Luke 2: (1-7) 8-20