

The PACE is published by

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Church Office Hours  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

## Children's Christian Education

**Sunday School**  
Team teaching by:

Cathy Nash  
Tiffany Parks  
Debbie Zimmerman  
April Frazier  
Lynn Kramp  
Bobbin Davis

Co-Directors  
Cathy Nash &  
Debbie Zimmerman

We are disciples of Jesus:  
helping one another be the  
hands and feet of Christ by  
sharing God's love with the  
world.

**Deadline for next Pace  
is Sunday, Jan. 6, 2019**



# The *Pace* of Grace

**December 2018**



## From the Rector:

December is a month of preparation. The world prepares for gift giving and celebrations. We of the church prepare as well, however in addition we prepare for the gift given to us by our loving, gracious and merciful God: The gift of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We call our time of preparation Advent – the Coming. The description of the coming is two-fold: the incarnation of the infant Jesus and the second coming of Jesus to fulfill the coming of God's kingdom.

One of the ways that we prepare is through prayer and, while there are many ways to pray, one of them is to pray the O Antiphons. I would like to share with you the preface of a book I found that is a collection of reflections and prayers for advent written by Brother David Vryhof, SSE, Assistant Superior of The Society of St. John the Evangelist. The title of the book is *O Wisdom: Advent Devotions on the Names of Jesus*.

Br. David says: "The O Antiphons are a series of seven short sentences (antiphons) that are recited or chanted during Evening Prayer in the days leading up to Christmas. They are familiar to most of us as paraphrased in the Advent Hymn, 'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel', but they have been in use in the church (and especially in monastic communities) since at least the eighth century. The recitation of the O Antiphons comes before and after the Magnificat, the beloved Song of Mary. Each of the antiphons begins with 'O' and references one of the titles for Jesus drawn from the book of Isaiah. Each also includes a petition that springs from this title.

**December 17:** *O Sapientia* (O Wisdom) – Isaiah 11:2-3, 28:29

**December 18:** *O Adonai* (O Lord) – Isaiah 11:4-5, 33:22

**December 19:** *O Radix Jesse* (O Root of Jesse) - Isaiah 11:1, 10

**December 20:** *O Clavis David* (O Key of David) - Isaiah 9:6, 22:22

**December 21:** *O Oriens* (O Dayspring) - Isaiah 9:1

**December 22:** *O Rex Gentium* (O King of the Nations) – Isaiah 2:4, 9:5

**December 23:** *O Emmanuel* (O God with Us) – Isaiah 7:14

Advent is a season of waiting, of longing with eager expectation for God's promise to be fulfilled. The O Antiphons direct our attention to the promised Messiah and build our expectation for his coming. The repeated use of the phrase

*(Continued Inside)*

## From the Rector, continued:

'O Come' underscores our desire and enflames it. We await the Savior, as we anticipate his three-fold coming: as a child at Bethlehem on Christmas morning; daily in our own experience; and his coming again in glory, as he has promised. ... In Advent, we wait for him, look for him, expect him. Pray your expectation and your faith in him. He has promised to come to us, where we are, as we are.

How do you desire Jesus to come to you now, in this particular season of your life? Which name or title reflects your current desire or need? You might pray with each of these seven names but consider also the other names of Jesus, such as the Good Shepherd, the Bread of Life, the Way, or the Truth and the Life. Pray your desire and expect Jesus to come to you and meet you in the place of your greatest need.

Praying with the O Antiphons is an occasion for gratitude. God has not only *promised* to come to us, but *has* come to us, and for this we offer grateful thanks. How have you experienced Jesus as *Emmanuel*, 'God with us'? Or has Jesus been for you *Clavis*, a 'key' or *Oriens*, the 'rising dawn' or 'morning star', enlightening you and shedding light on your path? When has Jesus been for you *Sapientia*, 'wisdom' for on high, teaching you the way to true, authentic, abundant life? Pray your gratitude, offering a prayer of thanksgiving for all that Jesus has been and all that he has done for you."

Brother David has given us the roadmap of preparation through prayer for Jesus's coming. The O Antiphons can help us to draw closer to Jesus in our time of waiting for Jesus to come to us. I pray that you will find them an intriguing draw into Advent, a way that will help you find the name of Jesus that holds you fast to our Savior." To help in this endeavor, there are a few copies of the O Wisdom Book. Some of you may have gotten a copy from the table in the library. There are a couple of copies left and if there are none when you look, please see me and I will order more.

There is another opportunity to prepare as well. Please join our Seminarian, Noah Sutterisch, in the lounge between the services for a discussion of the program "The Way of Love." The class will span Advent and I know that it will generate good discussion and learning.

Wishing you a joyous and peace-filled Advent and Christmas season,

M. Rose Anne+

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## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE

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Once again Grace will hold a Christmas Card exchange for parishioners. The collection boxes can be found on the Harvest Table in the main church lobby.

Please follow these directions:

- All cards need to be placed in the boxes by December 23.
- Please consult the current church directory for current church members.
- Please put the cards in alphabetical order with a rubber band securing them.
- This year we are asking for a \$2.00 donation per family. Donations will be given to the Little Feet program. Please drop off with the office.
- Cards will be available for pickup beginning Christmas Eve.

Happy Holidays!

- Walt and Kathy Iliff

**Please note:** The next *Pace* will be a combined January/February edition, to be published in mid-January. Please submit articles for that edition by **January 6, 2019.**

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## OUTREACH TEAM UPDATES

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### *Little Feet*

We had a very successful shopping event for Little Feet. Out of the 110 kids on the list from the schools we had 99 children select their shoes or boots. The kids are so cute and excited to get new shoes. The parents and kids all were so grateful and thanked the Grace family for providing the much needed help. Some of the kids sent some very cute thank you notes. They are in the office if you would like to read them.

Again, thank you all so much for your donations, and participation in this ministry. Because of your

generous donations and hard work we had more than enough to purchase the gift cards for the shoes and boots. It is such a blessing to actively serve our community by providing warm and comfortable footwear to so many children in need.

### *Holiday Food Baskets*

We had one family in need of a food basket for Thanksgiving this year. Thank you Peggy for helping with the shopping with not much notice. We were able to put together a nice box of food for the family. They were so appreciative.

### *Scarf/Mitten Tree*

The scarf/mitten tree is being set up for Christmas. Please bring mittens, gloves, scarves hats, etc. to put on the tree. In addition to adult socks and underwear we especially need underwear for children, sizes 5-6 to 10-12 and kids socks 4-6 and 6-8. Again this year the children's items will be divided among Edison, Grant and Longfellow. Since we can't forget our pets, there will be a box available for pet items.

### *McKinley Community Outreach Center*

In 2019, we will continue providing Feed the Body, Feed the Soul meals at McKinley. The dates that we will prepare and serve are March 25, June 24, and September 23.

### *More updates*

- Come join us at our next meeting! In December, we will meet on a Wednesday (instead of Tuesday), on December 5 at 7:00 pm in the lounge. All willing hearts and hands are welcome to share ideas to reach out to those in need.
- Kathy Ivey has generously consented to Co-Chair the Outreach Committee. Thank you so much, Kathy. We are so blessed to have you with us.
- Best wishes to all for a blessed and peaceful holiday!

- *Kathy Hill and Kathy Ivey, co-chairs*

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## EVANGELISM UPDATES

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We will probably be getting more visitors for this Holiday Season. Make sure you greet them with a welcoming hello, and offer help with whatever they need.

Christmas bags are being prepared for all who come to our Christmas Eve service. Join us at our December meeting on December 4 at 7:00 p.m. to help put them together.

Phil and Bobbin Davis will be in charge of Christmas cookies for our 12-step groups. Please contact them if you are able to bake cookies for them.

The Evangelism team discussed how changes in our service affect visitors and newcomers. The team also decided we need better advance notice to the parish and community for special events at Grace. Check out the events scheduled for December and bring a guest!

- *Peggy Burkacki*

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## WORSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATES

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### *Poinsettias*

**Altar Guild** will again order poinsettias from Abates Nursery in Chesterland. Order forms have been distributed with bulletins the past few Sundays.

### *Educational programming suggestions*

The **Study Group** continues to read *The Book of Joy*. We are looking at *The Way of Love* for our Advent study this season. Seminarian Noah Sutterisch will lead a study between services on Sundays. The study is part Bible study and part study of living our faith in our lives.

### *Acolyte Updates*

**Riley** and **Mason** have been trained and now need to be fitted with robes.

### *Choir*

We currently have 2 choir interns with possible a third. More information to follow!

The date for caroling at Grace Woods is scheduled for December 16 after the 10:00 service.

### Upcoming Services

**Wednesday, December 19 is When Christmas Hurts** service with Eucharist. Mark will prepare an announcement for the Lake County Gazette. The service will be announced in church the week before and that Sunday the 16th as well.

We will have **Greening of the Church** Sunday, 12/23 after the 10:00 a.m. service.

Our **Christmas Eve service**, Tuesday, December 24 at 7:00 pm., will feature the choir and Seasonal Brass. We are looking for families to participate in the service, to populate the nativity. Please let Rose Anne know if you are interested. In particular it is so great to see our kiddos participate.

Tuesday's **Christmas Day** 10:00 a.m. service will again be a "Come as you are" service with Eucharist. There will be no music.

Sunday, December 30 will be **Lessons and Carols**. Rose Anne will be out (December 27 – January 4), and Noah will lead the service. There will not be Eucharist or sermon.

The committee has discussed having **Evensong** after Easter, and planning for a special service for **Epiphany** (January 6) is underway.

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## STEWARDSHIP NEWS

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We have finally broken \$90,000 for our annual pledges. Forty-two pledges have been received for a total of \$90,916. According to my records, that's up \$5,169 from last year – an almost 7 percent increase. Praise the Lord!

We have 6 new pledges and 15 parishioners raised their pledges. Eight people pledged last year, but did not pledge this year for various reasons including moving, transferring and various other issues. Well done, family of Grace! Every year I'm struck by the faith we demonstrate by committing/pledging financially to a future we do not know. Congratulations!

*Financial Peace University*

During the Stewardship luncheon I mentioned the Dave Ramsey course "Financial Peace University." Frank Burkacki, Debbie and I have taken this 6-week course. We all recommend the course for helping us to be good stewards of our own finances. If you are heavily in debt or are just concerned about improving your financial situation, this fact-based course is for you. The course cost us about \$100 for two people. Scholarships are available through the Stewardship Team. You may register on-line. The course will be offered at the following locations:

Kirtland Christian Fellowship  
10001 Chillicothe Rd.  
Willoughby, Ohio 44094  
Starts 1/13/19 Sun @ 6pm

St. John of the Cross  
140 Richmond Rd  
Euclid, Ohio 44143  
Starts 1/14/19 Mon@6:30pm

South Euclid Hillcrest United Methodist  
1534 South Green Rd.  
South Euclid, Ohio 44121  
Starts 2/12/19 Tues@6:00pm

Perry First Baptist  
3918 Main St.  
Perry, Ohio 44081  
Starts 1/16/19 Wed@6:00pm

### *Why I Give to Grace Church*

Dave Zimmerman called and asked me to speak today. My first thought was "why me?" Then I thought "Why not me?" I guess because I've been here for a long, long time

The Taylor family came as a result of Boy Scouts. We had become disillusioned by the church of a different denomination and were not attending a church. We came here for Scout Sunday in 1977 and have been here since then. I can't speak for the rest of my family but I stayed because of the Liturgy. I was completely awestruck by it. I found out later that my grandparents were married in Grace Church. I was just coming home.

Through the years the family was involved in the church at various levels. We had an active youth group that kept my sons involved. We never had a discussion about whether or not we were going to church. It was Sunday - time to go to

church. As a family we occasionally had financial struggles but there was always money for church. Not always as much as I would have liked, but at least regular and always working at increasing our pledge.

A few years ago my brother was rethinking his church choice. He called me and asked why I went to church. I gave him the canned response about community and faith and family. The next day I realized that was true 30 plus years ago but why do I go to church today? I couldn't come up with an answer.

As I started writing this I realized I go to church today for the same reason I started attending many years ago. It's the liturgy. Look at what attending church means to you.

Sincerely,

*Mary Taylor*

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## KIDS CORNER

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Updates from our Sunday School students:

- **Maggie** is flying for the first time with her Dad to visit her grandparents.
- **Annabelle** "is officially 9 years old." Her grandparents and brothers bought her Hatchimals for her birthday.
- **Sabella's** class at school is receiving Christmas ornaments for good behavior. The class who wins will win a donut party and earn an extra recess period.
- **Angel** is 5 years old. It was nice to see her again. She is Sabella's cousin.
- **Nina** and **Natalie's** Girl Scout Troop is collected slightly used, worn or new shoes. It's a fundraiser to help the troop travel to Savannah, Georgia, the birthplace of Girl Scout founder Juliette Gordon Low. (See announcement elsewhere in this issue of Pace.)

- **A big thank you to Charlotte for organizing the beautiful Advent Wreaths to help benefit Little Feet!**
- In December we will be decorating cookies for coffee hour, caroling at Breckenridge, and making ornaments to be given away Christmas Eve. Join us!

Happy holidays,

- *Debbie, April, Tiffany, Cathy, Bobbin and Lynn*



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## VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

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*From the November, 2018 Vestry Meeting*

**Attending:** Rose Anne Lonsway, Deb Zimmerman, David Webster, Linda Beharry, Kathy Iloff, Noah Sutterisch, Tiffany Parks, Peggy Burkacki, Dave Ivey.

*Treasurer's Report and Finance Update*

The treasurer's report was approved. It was noted that our funds decreased with recent market changes, but over the long haul should be OK. Budget planning for next year continues.

*Website and Picture Directory Presentation*

Dave Ivey presented the new website and reviewed each section, noting enhancements still needed. He also presented the draft of the Parish Picture Directory and described what the finished version will look like. David Webster moved that we authorize Dave to have 100 directories printed by LBL Printing. Second by Peggy, Motion carried.

*Senior Warden's Report*

- **Nominations for Vestry:** There are four candidates to date for the three open positions. No interest has been generated for the Jr. Warden position.
- **Long Range Planning:** The elevator report is waiting for drawings to be completed so that pricing can be done.
- NAMI will begin holding mental health support group meetings at Grace on the first and third Wednesdays beginning in January. Deb will get this information to the support groups and other outside groups.

### *Junior Warden's Report*

One of the lights above the Altar is burned out. David had an electrician in for a quote. He has now contacted a second one since the first never got back to him.

### *Re-visit of Mission Statement*

The concern was expressed that the published mission statement was not what was decided on, specifically the phrase "with the world". Discussion by the vestry re-affirmed the mission statement as published:

*We are the disciples of Jesus: Helping one another be the hands and feet of Christ by sharing God's love with the world.*

### *Foundation*

The available funds have been allocated for the year, most recently to a prison ministry, Forbes house and the Rector's Discretionary Fund.

### *Rector's Report*

- Mother Rose Anne was invited to give the Invocation at the Willoughby Tree Lighting Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Meetings with Parishioners continue. Mother Rose Anne met with about 20 parishioners and will contact more after the first of the year. Feedback was constructive and mostly positive. She wants to hear from more people to make sure all voices are heard.

- *Flocknote Update:* Database clean- up continues
- *IT Update:* E-giving is now available, but we need more education about this function.
- The Y has asked to use our facility for some meetings. They will be using the old nursery space as office space for three people. Currently we are offering the space at no charge, doing as "good neighbors." We will monitor usage and determine fees down the road.
- Riley Gumto is working on a Scout badge and is doing a video as a project. He is interviewing people around the church.
- We have two choir interns and Cloe's family has been coming with her.
- Mother Rose Anne will be away December 27 – Jan 4, 2019. Dec. 30 will be Lessons and Carols, led by Noah.

### *Stewardship*

The campaign went very well, with an increase in amount pledged. Please thank the Stewardship team for the outstanding job they have done and are doing to support our parish.

### *Evangelism*

The Evangelism team discussed ideas and next steps around digital bulletin boards. Phil is gathering pricing information.

### *Outreach*

Little Feet provided around 100 pairs of shoes and boots to students at three elementary schools. Thanks be to God for the dedication of the people of Grace to this wonderful outcome.

### *Worship*

Planning for Christmas Services is underway.

### *Next Meeting*

The next Vestry meeting will be Tuesday, December 18, 2018, at 7:00 pm.

## Officers and Rector

**Debra Zimmerman**  
*Senior Warden*

**David Webster**  
*Junior Warden*

**Harry Dodds**  
*Treasurer*

**Elizabeth Estep**  
*Clerk*

**The Rev. Rose Anne Lonsway,**  
*Rector*

## Inside this Pace:

### **This & That**

- *Annual Christmas Card Exchange*
- *Outreach Team Updates*
- *Evangelism Updates*
- *Worship Committee Updates*
- *Stewardship News and Why I Give*
- *Kids Corner*
- *Vestry Highlights*

**December and January Calendars**

**Our Christmas Tree**

**Annual Clam Bake**

**Insert: December Volunteer Schedule**

**Lessons / Readings**



## **Looking Ahead**

- **Tuesday, December 4** – Evangelism team, 6:00 pm; Outreach team, 7:00 pm.
- **Tuesday, December 11** – Finance team, 4:30 pm; Worship team, 7:00 pm.
- **Sunday, December 16** – Caroling at Grace Woods, following 10:00 a.m. service.
- **Tuesday, December 18** – Vestry, 7:00 pm.
- **Wednesday, December 19** – When Christmas Hurts service, 7:00 pm.
- **Sunday, December 23** – Greening of the Church, following 10:00 a.m. service.
- **Monday, December 24** – Traditional Christmas Eve service with music, 7:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday, December 25** – Simple Christmas Day service, no music, 10:00 a.m.
- **Sunday, December 30** – Lessons and Carols Service, 10:00 a.m. **No 8:00 a.m. service.**
- **Sunday, January 6** – Epiphany celebration following 10:00 a.m. service.

# GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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## READINGS FOR THE DAY

December 2  
The First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Luke 21:25-36  
Psalm 25:1-9

December 9  
The Second Sunday of Advent

Baruch 5:1-9  
Philippians 1:3-11  
Luke 3:1-6  
Canticle 4 or 16

December 16  
The Third Sunday of Advent  
Proper 28

Zephaniah 3:14-20  
Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:7-18  
Canticle 9

December 23  
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a  
Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)  
Canticle 15 (or 3)

December 30  
The First Sunday after Christmas

Isaiah 61:10-62:3  
Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7  
John 1:1-18  
Psalm 147



# Good Food and Good Times at the Annual Clam Bake



## **Our Christmas Tree**

**A TIME TO REJOICE AND CELEBRATE!**

Every year when Christmas comes around, life suddenly becomes VERY busy. Somewhere out there many people are walking around their life paths, and they are asking,

**"WHAT DOES CHRISTMAS MEAN?"**

**CHRISTMAS** is a miracle offering forgiveness and redemption and a time to rejoice and celebrate.

It is a time that allows us to assist the less fortunate children in our communities. We are telling them that they are loved, that they worthy, and that they are important.

**"It takes a village to raise a child."**

So let's help our village again this year by providing basic needs for our children.

### **Mittens, Mittens**

**Mittens for the snow time  
When the world is white.  
Mittens for my two hands.  
Mittens left and right.**

**Mittens with a thumb place.  
Mittens warm and snug.  
Mittens make me feel  
like A bug inside a rug!**

*Author Unknown*

#### **NEEDS FOR THIS YEAR'S TREE:**

- ❖ **MITTENS and SCARFS**
- ❖ **CHILDREN'S UNDERWEAR (Sizes 5-6 to 10-12)**
- ❖ **CHILDREN'S SOCKS (Sizes 4-6 and 6-8)**
- ❖ **PET SUPPLIES**