

The PACE is published by

Grace Episcopal Church

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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:

Bobbin Davis

Phil Davis

April Frazier

Lynn Kramp

Kristin Ludvik

Cathy Nash

Debbie Zimmerman

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, March 15, 2020



The *Pace* of Grace

March 2020

From the Rector:



Every time we say evening prayer or compline, and often with morning prayer, we get to be reminded that we are God's and that God will always love us no matter what. We may not have laid eyes on our Savior directly as our Biblical brothers and sisters were blessed to do, but we see Jesus every day as we live our lives in his love, as we strive to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this world.

I saw it during our recent Annual Meeting, when we came together as the body of Christ to review what we accomplished together in 2019 and pledged to support one another in 2020 and beyond, as we strive to meet God's mission for us in this place. In the Annual Meeting Booklet (copies of which are still available at the church), you will see how diligent we have been in living out God's love. You will see our mission statement: *We are disciples of Jesus, helping one another to be the hands and feet of Christ by sharing God's love with the world.* It has not always been easy to carry out our mission, but through the determination and dedication of many we have, as they say, persevered. My thanks to all who have served with grace and dignity, even when things got challenging.

What I would like to do is focus our thinking on our future. This could prove to be a tough year in this country and in our community. We are facing another election that may again prove to be divisive, both nationally and locally with the race for President and the Willoughby-Eastlake school bond issue. The *via media*, our Episcopal "middle way," encourages us not to march in lockstep but to be critical thinkers, finding the path that lives into our commonalities rather than our differences. This is not easy by any means and it is my hope that we will make time to study and practice civil discourse. This will encourage us to show our love and Christ's love for one another here at Grace and in the community at large.

We will have opportunity to demonstrate this as we celebrate 150 years of Grace Church. A team has come together and is planning excellent opportunities to celebrate and to do so in a way that engages the community at large. We are inviting our sister parishes in NEMAC (Northeast Mission Area Council) to join us in some of our celebrations as well.

CONTINUED inside

Officers and Rector

Kathy Hill

Senior Warden

Cathy Nash

Junior Warden

Harry Dodds

Treasurer

Elizabeth Estep

Clerk

The Rev. Rose Anne Lonsway,

Rector

Inside this *Pace*

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- Stewardship Updates
- Kids Corner
- Worship Updates
- Vestry Highlights

Chili Cookoff / Easter Flowers

Do You Want to Fast for Lent?

Insert: March Calendar/Volunteer Schedule

Lessons / Readings

Courage

A reflection by Jane Schierloh

When I phoned my girlhood friend Barbie recently, I found she was not her usual cheerful self. "I'm depressed," she said. She was looking at family photos, some of much-loved people, now long gone. Also, we agreed that the world situation is depressing. I shared with her a little dark humor I used to help me handle the bad world news. For a while I copied the front page headlines of the New York Times into a notebook. Here is a sample from May 19, 2019:

- Heroin is vanishing as Fentanyl swamps streets
- Columbia orders Army to step up killings
- Driven to despair: How reckless loans devastated cab owners

But was the world situation any better when my parents were bringing me up? No! My parents lived through World War II. I have a vivid memory of playing near the radio when I was about four years old and hearing the news that over a thousand U.S. soldiers had been "wiped out" in an ambush. I went to the kitchen and asked my mother what "wiped out" meant. I could see the pain in her face. She did not want to answer my question.

In my adult years I was active in the Civil Rights movement. At one point I became very discouraged. I was reading a book by Hans Kung at the time. Hans Kung was a great Catholic theologian and scholar. I decided to write him to thank him for writing his great book, *Is There a God?* I went to the bookstore where I had purchased the book and asked the owner if there was any way I could contact the author. "Sure, he said. "We will contact his publisher for you."

One day many weeks later I received an envelope from Tübingen, Germany. Inside was a piece of paper with the handwritten word "COURAGE." I still have the envelope and the paper. Once in a while I get it out of the drawer and look at it to remind myself that it takes courage to live.

Jane Schierloh

REMIINDER: To avoid unnecessary repetition and make room for more news and photos, the "Looking Ahead" section of the *Pace* has been discontinued. A complete monthly calendar of parish events is included in every issue of the newsletter.

From the Rector, continued

I have been involved at the Diocesan level, through Diocesan Council, in developing a program designed to foster discernment for lay leadership and lay ministry roles in our diocese and parishes. The program, called LEAD, Leaders: Engaging, Acting, Discerning, A Diocesan Council Action Agenda for Congregational Vitality. The mandate for the program is based on the catechism: *The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church* (Catechism, BCP, p. 855).

The program was introduced at Winter Convocation last month and will be presented through the mission councils as well. The underlying premise is discovering the spirituality underlying leadership in the church helping laypeople to discern their call to serve. It is my hope that you will be active participants in this initiative.

There will also be opportunity to learn about and hopefully participate in interfaith education and dialogue. Several of us attended a Teatime for Peace event and found it engaging and enlightening.

My challenge to you for the year is this: I want us to begin to buck the trend of decreasing religious affiliation. I believe that we have something special here at Grace to offer to those who have turned away from faith or have never been introduced to Jesus and our God. This begins with us.

I challenge each of you to begin to discern what you need to make your faith, attendance at services, and sharing your faith a high priority in your life. There are many competing priorities in this crazy, overly demanding, over-scheduled world of ours. It is entirely possible that spending time with God and our fellow parishioners in worship will help us sort through those conflicting demands and help us make sense of our lives while building a stronger community. I believe that once we do that, it will be easy to take the next step of inviting people to come and meet the Jesus that we know and love.

When we shine with that light of love, people will want what we have – the Good News of God in Christ and the Holy Spirit in our lives.

- M. Rose Anne+

OUTREACH TEAM UPDATES

Lake County Community Network: Lake County Community Network is closing its doors after 20 years of serving those in need in Lake County. Our last day in the office will be March 31. Through support from churches and generous donations from the general public we have been able to assist so many people with help for their electric and housing bills over the years.

Many thanks to the many people who have worked so selflessly to keep the network running so smoothly. And thank you all for giving of your time, talent and treasure to assist in the fundraisers to support our services.

Pasta Palooza: Our very own Pasta Lady, Joyce Hoste, will make more of her delicious home-made pasta to be sold at the March 7 Soup & Chili Cookoff and for the upcoming Rummage Sale. There will be different flavors to choose from.

Coffee Hour Snacks: I'm sure by now you all have noticed a more nutritious array of goodies being served at coffee hour. There have been many positive comments. Thank you to all those who are bringing the tasty and healthier fare.

Camera idea: It was suggested that cameras be installed at our front and lower level doors. A video feed would go into Mark and Mother Rose Anne's computers. Further discussion is needed.

Rummage Sale: The date for the rummage sale is yet to be determined. Items are already being accepted.

Work Day: A church cleaning/work party was discussed to clean the church and kitchen. Saturday, March 28 from 9:00 am to noon was the date that was selected. More information will follow.

McKinley Meal: The menu for the next McKinley meal will be discussed at the March 23 outreach meeting.

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Blessing Bags: A possible new outreach project, Blessing Bags was discussed. Christ Church in Geneva has a program that distributes plastic bags with soap,

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shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, and other personal items to be given out as needed. Donations from church members would be needed to fill the bags. A list of needed items would be provided.

Next Meeting: The next Outreach Team meeting will be March 3. Please join us and share your ideas and suggestions. All are welcome.

Peace and Blessings,

- Kathy Hill and Kathy Ivey, co-chairs

STEWARDSHIP UPDATES

The Stewardship 365 Team did not meet in February due to illness, weather, and other factors. The next meeting is scheduled for March 12 at 6:30 pm.

Dave Zimmerman attended the 2020 Winter Convocation at Kalahari. The keynote speaker had some innovative ideas on creating new ministries within a parish. One of the workshops was conducted by the St. Peters Stewardship team in Lakewood. They covered ten years of Stewardship Campaigns evolving into the last two years being year-round. One thing I did get out of their seminar was a focus on the "attitude of gratitude."

The Stewardship Team is not putting on the "State of Grace" luncheon in the Spring but will be helping out with Grace's 150th celebration.

All Things come of Thee and of Thine own have we given Thee,

- Dave Zimmerman and the Stewardship Team

KIDS CORNER

The Sunday School Team will collect wrapped Easter candy for our Easter egg hunt. A bag for donations will be placed in the office. The children will hunt for Easter eggs on Easter Sunday. Thank you for your contributions!

Updates from our Sunday Schoolers:

- Mason, Andrew and Isaiah will all be graduating from Cub Scouts on February 23 and bridging over to Boy Scouts. All three will be joining

Troop 185 at Grace Church. Congratulations, boys!

- Kelsey and Shaylee helped their mom and dad move furniture into storage to get their house ready to sell.
- Shaylee travelled to Atlanta to compete with her theater troupe and they won "Best in Music."
- Kelsey will be selling Girl Scout cookies with her Troop at Heinen's in Willoughby and Wal-Mart in Eastlake in March.
- Maggie is so excited she has a new hairdo. She and her mommy got a new haircut by her mommy's work. Maggie has bangs. She got a sloth for Valentine's Day and visited the Disney Store and got a Unicorn.
- Alex and Andrew recently finished their wrestling season. Both had a lot of fun.
- Marshall is reading *The Mighty Jack* and *Dog Man* series from the library. He really likes them. He also visited his Uncle Jason. He made a race car X-I Raptor Valentines box for his school party.

Thanks,

- Debbie Zimmerman and the Sunday School Team

WORSHIP UPDATES

Altar Guild: Altar Candles have been repaired and the Torches are now in the process of being rehabilitated.

Educational programming: Mother Rose Anne is considering forming another committee to help with educational programming. The group would help discern where we should head with Adult Education. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.

Lenten Education Series: This will start the first Wednesday after Ash Wednesday (March 4) at 6:00 pm. Attendees will share a light meal, followed by Evening Prayer or Compline, then education. The series will continue every Wednesday at 6:00 pm, including Holy Week. On Holy Wednesday, worship will include the Stations of the Cross.

Sunday School : Mother Rose Anne has spoken to

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Educators and more notice will be given to Parish members with kids about changing of Sunday School programming.

Choir: Scott Arra reached out to Lakeland Community College and was able to reach the Music Program. Lakeland will advertise our Choir Scholarship and will provide the information to the Scholarship Department. Scott will touch base with them again to see if there is any interest. Noah Sutterisch offered to provide Scott with a contact for Notre Dame school. He knows someone who might be able to connect Scott to the music department there.

Upcoming Special Services:

- Palm Sunday 4/5/2020
- Holy Week 4/5/2020 – 4/11/2020
- Easter 4/12/2020.

Discussion : Grace will host the NEMAC Easter Vigil service on Saturday, April 11 at 4:00 pm. Noah will lead the preparation for this much like he did last year. Scott Arra was invited to be the organist/music leader for this service and is considering it. Scott will ask our choir to be part of this service. Choir practice for the Vigil is held 2 hours prior to that service, followed by a break before the service.

Grace 150th Anniversary Worship Events:

- **May 17 "1870 Style" Eucharist.** Similar to how services were held in 1870.
- **Choral Evensong.** Date TBD. Other NEMAC churches may be invited to participate.

Next Meeting: The next Worship Committee meeting will be March 12 at 6:00 pm.

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights from the February 9 Vestry Meeting:

Junior Warden election: Mary Miragliotta nominated Cathy Nash to continue as Junior Warden. Ray Sphatt seconded the nomination. Cathy accepted the nomination, and no other nominations were made. Cathy Nash was elected to serve as Junior Warden by acclamation.

Senior Warden election: Mary Miragliotta nominated Kathy Hill as Senior Warden. Cathy Nash seconded the nomination. Kathy accepted the nomination, and no other nominations were made. Kathy Hill was elected to serve as Senior Warden by acclamation.

Treasurer and Vestry Clerk: Cathy Nash nominated Harry Dodds as Treasurer and Elizabeth Estep as Vestry Clerk. Ray Sphatt and Mary Miragliotta seconded the nominations. Harry and Elizabeth were elected by acclamation.

Vestry 2020 Meeting Schedule: Cathy Nash moved that the Vestry change the regular meeting from the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm to the third Sunday of each month at approximately 11:45 am (following the 10:00 am service). Ray Sphatt seconded the motion, which was then carried by acclamation. (NOTE: This change was made to accommodate the schedules of new Vestry members and to encourage meeting attendance.)

Vestry 2020 Retreat: Possible dates for a Vestry retreat were proposed. Mother Rose Anne will share the finalized date after absent Vestry members can be consulted, and arrangements made.

Vestry Meeting Minutes Distribution: Mary Miragliotta requested that the meeting minutes be distributed to the Vestry members before the following meeting. In the future, the Clerk will distribute the first draft meeting minutes to the entire Vestry after each meeting. Please send the Clerk any proposed corrections before the next meeting.

Next meeting: The Vestry will next meet on Sunday, March 15 at 11:45 am in the Lounge.

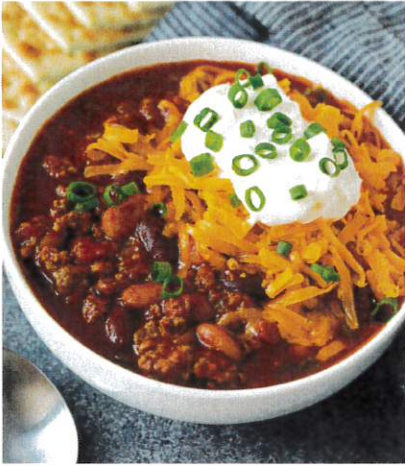
Be a good steward!

If you are putting anything in the downstairs freezer or refrigerator, please make sure it has a label that indicates what it is and when you placed it in there.

If you are leaving something at church to be used for Coffee Hour or other occasions, please leave a note to let someone know it is available and where it is.

All of this will help us to use what we have and not waste food.

DON'T FORGET!
8th ANNUAL SOUP & CHILI COOKOFF



**Saturday, March 7
11:00 am - 2:00 pm**

**GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
36200 RIDGE RD
WILLOUGHBY, OH (440) 942-1015**

Enjoy the tastes and vote for your favorites!

**All proceeds will benefit the Little Feet ministry to help
buy shoes for school children in our community who are in need.**



Easter Flowers



If you would like to have a spring plant on the altar this Easter, please fill out this slip and put in the collection plate or return to the office by March 29, 2020
The cost of each plant is still only \$15. Please include payment with your order.

Given in loving memory of

Or

Given in thanksgiving for

by _____

*Please make check payable to Grace Church and in memo line write: Easter Flowers
If you intend to leave your flowers to be donated, please check here _____*

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

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Dated material
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READINGS FOR THE DAY

March 1
The First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11
Psalm 32

March 8
The Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17
Psalm 121

March 15
The Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42
Psalm 95

March 22
The Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41
Psalm 23

March 29
The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45
Psalm 130