

The PACE is published by

Grace Episcopal Church

36200 Ridge Rd.

Willoughby, OH 44094

(440) 942-1015

E-mail

Office@GraceWilloughby.org

Web Site

<http://GraceWilloughby.org>



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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, May 17, 2020



The *Pace* of Grace

May 2020

From the Rector:



This month I am devoting this space to an important pastoral letter issued by Bishop Hollingworth on April 24.

- M. Rose Anne+

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

First and most importantly, please know that each of you and those you love are in my prayers daily. My appreciation and admiration for all you are doing to remain connected pastorally and spiritually with one another, and with the communities you continue to serve so faithfully, is without end. The lay and clergy leadership exhibited during this challenging time is encouraging and inspiring, and every day there are reports of the difference you are making within and beyond your congregations. How you are living through this pandemic and its consequences witnesses powerfully to the resurrection of Jesus.

With Governor DeWine's announcement of a three-phased "reopening" plan scheduled to begin on May 1, we are all imagining how it might inform our own decisions about our common life, work, and worship as the body of Christ. As the descriptions and directives of Phase 1 continue to emerge, it is clear that what we are currently doing is in accordance with both the federal and state guidelines. While religious institutions have been excluded from the ban on gatherings of a certain size in Ohio, our Christian responsibility to the safety and security of others mandates that we err on the side of caution and adhere to what medical and scientific professionals define as best practices.

Those of us who have family members who have contracted COVID-19, and that includes me, are painfully aware of how vulnerable all of us are to this virus, and that, moving forward, our vigilance must not be compromised, especially for the sake of those who are most susceptible. Thirty-five percent of communicants in The Episcopal Church are 65 years old or older. Two thirds are 50 or older. It would reasonably follow, therefore, that half of our communicants should continue to shelter in place at least through Phase 2. As well, schools and organized youth activities are directed to remain closed through Phase 1. With this guidance, and a clear understanding of our moral and gospel responsibility to act first for the benefit of others, **all congregations of the Diocese of Ohio will continue the suspension of public worship until further notice.**

Most of us had imagined, for some time at least, that on a particular date and time, perhaps of our own choosing, we would be able to gather as

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*

Episcopal Bingo: Social Distancing Edition (below)

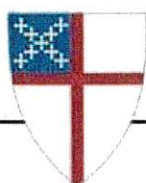
This & That

- Outreach Team Updates
- Evangelism Update
- Study Group Update
- Kids Corner
- Stewardship Updates
- Vestry Highlights

May Calendar

May Volunteer Schedule

Lessons / Readings



Episcopal Bingo

Social Distancing Edition

DID A ZOOM COMPLINE	PARTICIPATED IN A PHONE TREE	MISS THE EUCHARIST	TRIED MORNING PRAYER FOR THE FIRST TIME	MADE A HOME ALTAR
KNOW SOMEONE WHO TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19	WATCHED MORE THAN ONE CHURCH'S ONLINE SERVICE	RESTED ON SUNDAY	SUPPORTED A FOOD BANK	WATCHED A PB CURRY VIDEO
SAID "FLATTEN THE CURVE"	ZOOMED IN PAJAMAS	FREE SPACE	CALLED A LOVED ONE	SUBSCRIBED TO YOUR CHURCH'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL
PRAYED WHILE WASHING YOUR HANDS	FEARED A COFFEE SHORTAGE MORE THAN A TP ONE	USED YOUR BCP AT HOME	BAKED BREAD	PASSED THE PEACE VIRTUALLY
WORE A FACE MASK IN PUBLIC	PLANTED (OR ATTEMPTED TO PLANT) A GARDEN	ATTEMPTED TO HOMESCHOOL CHILDREN	PUT PALMS ON YOUR DOOR FOR PALM SUNDAY	SWITCHED TO GIVING YOUR PLEDGE ONLINE

From the Bishop, continued

we have in the past and celebrate in a grateful and triumphant way our victory over, or at least survival of, the novel coronavirus. We are seeing now that our emergence, if not out of this, at least in to what lies ahead, will be less precise and more humble. As a society used to a high expectation of certainty, we are being challenged and called to live into greater ambiguity and at a yet undetermined cost.

I know how hard this is, particularly for those who yearn for the pastoral services of our faith and tradition. My father-in-law died on Good Friday, and not only were we unable to travel to be with him in his final days, we are unable to gather as family and friends and do those familiar things we have long relied upon to process our grief and affection. Likewise, I am in a number of conversations with couples planning to marry who are coming to terms with the fact that their celebration of matrimony will differ substantially from what they had for some time imagined. And we have candidates for Holy Orders whose ordinations will be unlike any they or we have experienced previously.

If we are to be realistic, these examples represent the tip of the iceberg. We will learn new ways to be the church and to carry out the practice of our faith, but whatever our reopening, it will not open up onto the landscape where we were before. To that end, we are continuing conversations with clergy and lay leaders about how we will move forward into this new reality, taking into account the complex pastoral, spiritual, liturgical, and financial implications with which it presents us. The power of evil would have us be anxious and disheartened, for that will leave us vulnerable to contention and division. But we are Easter people, and this is a time to be energized by the prospect of new life. This is a moment in which we may well come to understand the promise of resurrection more as the first followers of Jesus did and replicate in our own lives the courageous faith of our spiritual forbearers.

As we move ahead, questions of when and how will continue to be explored in detail. Members of the Bishop's Staff have been working tirelessly to collect, interpret, and provide resources pertinent to all aspects of parochial life, relying on the contributions of clergy and lay leaders from across the Diocese. The collaborative spirit of so many is a testament to the collegiality and strong fabric of the church. As we imagine gathering for worship, formation, and service in the months ahead, we will need to ask searching questions about whether we do so for those who can take the risks or wait until it is safe for all. Might small congregations begin sooner than large ones? Young ones sooner than older ones? In gathering for worship,

how do we handle the Eucharistic elements, if at all? Can some partake and others not? Do we act as one body, or meet individual needs and desires? How do these values inform the parochial context? How do they play out in the diocesan context? How do our practices for gathering for worship, virtually and in person, inform our gathering for youth programming and summer camp, and vice versa? How do we explore the implications of potential changes in financial resources? What will it cost us in our giving and spending practices – as individuals, congregations, diocese, and wider church? How do we imagine the practice of ecclesial governance in each context?

Each of these questions, as do countless others, reflects the extraordinary opportunity given us in this time to reflect, redirect, and recommit ourselves to the life of corporate faith, being the body of Christ in the world. The Standing Committee, Diocesan Council, Mission Area Deans, Trustees, and other groups have been engaging these discussions, and more such conversations are being planned. Most of these questions do not have simple, clear answers, and will take the combined wisdom and sacrifice of many to discern what is the next right thing. I have every confidence in God that we will find a variety of roads forward. There is rarely only one approach; God is not that stingy. The challenge is our willingness to walk together.

As we continue to explore the next steps, there are number of things that warrant mention now.

Weddings: If it is necessary to celebrate Holy Matrimony at this time, **please limit participants to the priest, the intendeds, and the two required witnesses.** A subsequent celebration of the marriage may be held at a future date, if and when circumstances for such public worship allow, in the spirit of the celebration of a civil marriage. Please contact me with any questions.

Funerals: Please continue to abide by the direction that, if interment is necessary, only **a minimal number of immediate family (ten or fewer, including the priest) may be present for a graveside service outside, observing current norms of distancing.** A memorial celebration of life may be held at a future date, if and when circumstances for such public worship allow. Again, contact me with any questions.

Clergy Conference: For the annual Clergy Conference scheduled for May 12-14 at Geneva State Park, we will not gather in person. I ask all required participants (actively serving parochial clergy) please to hold that time open. We will not use all of it, but we are as yet uncertain how much time and when will be needed for

virtual gathering. Additional information will be forthcoming. As we have found with other such meetings, more extra-parochial and retired clergy may be able to participate in a shorter, virtual format.

Ordinations: Candidates for Holy Orders who have completed their pre-ordination formation and been approved by the requisite ecclesial bodies will be ordained in the presence of the canonically required participants. We will do all we can to provide access for others to participate online, which may well make it possible for many to be a part of these important services who might previously not have been able.

Summer Camp: As with schools and organized youth activities that are currently closed, camp is not permitted in Phase 1. Whether the restrictions and procedures in Phase 2 will allow us to provide summer camp at Bellwether Farm this year is still unknown, but the summer camp and Bellwether staffs are preparing for all possibilities. As soon as details become more clear, registered campers, their families, and the wider public will be notified.

Bellwether Farm: Farm life continues unabated in terms of birthing lambs and kids, fattening pigs, collecting eggs, seeding and planting vegetables, and installing four new colonies of bees. Seventeen gallons of maple syrup have been processed and bottled for Chef Lonny's culinary creations. The dining hall remains shut down, as do all restaurants, but plans continue for when the facility will again be available for public use. It is possible to visit the farm for a hike in the woods and fields, respecting physical distancing and using masks, homemade or otherwise. Please call or email the Bellwether office in advance to let the staff know of your desire to visit. As soon as reopening is possible, and there is clarity under what conditions, all will be notified.

Trinity Commons: Trinity Commons and the Cathedral itself remain closed to the public. All diocesan staff are working from home with effective procedures for receipt of mail and email, and access to voicemail and necessary databases. Each office has established its own schedule for being in the building for limited and essential tasks, in collaboration with appropriate Cathedral and Commons staff.

Diocesan Convention: At this time, it is not imaginable that we will be able to gather as four hundred lay and clergy delegates and staff in one place (save perhaps First Energy Stadium or Progressive Field) in November. We are currently reviewing the canonical

and secular requirements that pertain to Diocesan Convention and the governance of corporate entities in Ohio to explore how to accomplish our work virtually. The dates will remain Friday and Saturday, November 13 and 14. At this time, it is uncertain how much of which day will be needed.

We are not alone in facing the future of a church that is yet to be revealed. It has ever been thus; only now is it for us more starkly evident. Across the Episcopal Church, all of these challenges are being experienced and the corresponding opportunities being explored. In weekly Zoom conversations with the bishops of the fourteen dioceses of the Province of the Midwest (Province V), as a member of the Presiding Bishop's Council of Advice, on wider church task forces and committees, and in the countless conversations with lay and clergy leaders that I and our staff colleagues engage in every week, we are finding generous companionship in sharing insights, resources, and encouragement. Throughout all of God's creation, from the sub-atomic to the intergalactic, loss always leads to newness. We can have confidence that this is a time when our vocation to be Christian comes alive in ways many of us have neither experienced nor ever expected. That indeed is the stuff of new life, what the resurrection of Jesus promises us, and that for which each of us is created in God's imagining.

I was reminded recently of Winston Churchill's Mansion House speech in November of 1942, after British forces had defeated Rommel, driving the German troops out of Egypt. In our battle against the coronavirus and its consequences, his words seem apt:

Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.

Let us hope that this end of the beginning will lead us, in patience, humility, and courage, to the newness God dreams for us and God's church.

It is a singular privilege to be in this together with you.

With gratitude and affection,

- *The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr.*
Bishop of Ohio



OUTREACH TEAM UPDATES

McKinley Update: The McKinley Community Outreach Center remains open, with the following changes:

- **There are no taxable distributions at this time.**
- **Food Pantry:** McKinley is not sure at this time whether or not pantry will be open as usual for the month of May. They have a very small team (just five people) to serve. I'm sure they will provide further information.
- **Hot Meals:** There will be **no hot meals being served during the month of May.**
- **Medical Supplies:** Available by urgent request only.
- **Guests will be served outside the building.**

Blessing Bags Update: Items for the Blessing Bags are being accepted and can be placed in the large basket on the coffee table in the Library. I understand we are accumulating many items. Thank you all so much for your generosity.

Staying Connected: The Vestry is calling and texting parishioners to stay connected during this difficult time. Cards also continue to be sent to those who need a "get well wish" or a "congratulations" for a special day. We all have our own ways of lending a hand to those who are in need right now including remembering them in prayer.

Outreach Meetings: As you know at this time all in-person meetings have been cancelled until further notice. We had a good turnout and a good meeting for our Zoom meeting on April 14. Thank you for taking the time to attend. Our next Zoom meeting will be on Tuesday, May 5 at 7:00 p.m.

May God bless us all with good health and safety.

- *Kathy Hill and Kathy Ivey*
Outreach Co-Chairs

EVANGELISM UPDATES

Evangelism held a short Zoom meeting where we discussed if there were ways we could help more people join our services on Zoom. We want everyone to keep in contact with each other. Everyone has been doing a good job so far of calling other parishioners or sending notes or cards of encouragement and has had good responses.

Once we are able to return to services in the church, we would like to have masks available to anyone attending that does not have one. Also make sure we have hand sanitizer and wipes readily available for use in the church.

The Willoughby Open Market opens May 18 but will only be open to food vendors for drive-through only. They will let us know at the end of May or beginning of June about the June plans.

- *Peggy Burkacki*



STUDY GROUP UPDATE

INSPIRED: Loving the Bible Again by Rachel Held Evans, an Episcopalian, is the next book for the Wednesday Morning Study Group. Rachel was raised as an uncritical Evangelical. But eventually she started asking questions. If the Bible isn't a science book or an instruction manual, then what is it? What do people mean when they say the Bible is inspired? Rachel wrestles through the process of doubting and debating Scriptures mysteries. After marrying her husband Dan, Rachel became an Episcopalian. Unfortunately for us, she got an infection during Holy Week 2019. She died 3 weeks later on May 4th, just after turning 37, leaving behind her husband and two little children. So, this is her last book. We will start discussing it April 29. Contact me if you would like a copy.

- *Sue Mancino*



KIDS CORNER

Sadly, no Sunday worship also means no Sunday School. But in order to stay connected with our youngest parishioners we have been mailing out copies of the Sunday Paper Junior, which we use in Sunday School class, to all our Sunday School students. We will continue sending these out weekly until Sunday School returns.

- *Debbie Zimmerman and the Sunday School Team*

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Thanks to all of you who are mailing in your weekly or monthly pledges since we are unable to gather on Sunday mornings. The first quarterly giving statements for the year went out recently. We understand that some of you may be facing unexpected financial challenges and may need to reduce or delay your contributions for the time being. But keep in mind that Grace still needs the financial support of those who can provide it. If mailing a check is inconvenient, you can set up a recurring automatic payment with your bank or donate electronically through the church website. For information about these options, please contact Dave Zimmerman or Mother Rose Anne. Stay safe and know you are in our prayers.

- *Dave Zimmerman*

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights from the April 18 Vestry Meeting:

Finance Committee: The committee approved fixing the drains/foundation. That proposal has been submitted to the Vestry for approval. Mary Miragliotta has raised some questions about the bid based on her experience in property management. Mary offered to get bids from contractors she works with professionally. Mother Rose Anne suggested that if the bids can be collected before the next Vestry meeting, an email vote be used to allow the work to go forward.

COVID-19 and Worship: Mother Rose Anne intends to do 10 am services, alternating between Morning Prayer and Eucharist, using Zoom streaming to FB live.

Policy – Safeguarding God’s Children: Dave Ivey will meet with Debra Zimmerman and Cathy Nash to review our policy page by page. He will report back with results of their review for the April 25 Vestry Check-In, to determine how it or our church processes will need changed to be approved.

Vestry Liaison responsibility: Ray Sphatt will be the Liaison for the Long Range Planning committee.

Senior Warden’s Report: The architect has not submitted plans to the city, due to health and the pandemic issues. He is finishing the drawings for the duct work. He will send the drawings and join us on the Check-In meeting April 25 to discuss. It was suggested that the Long Range Planning Committee be invited to the next Vestry check-in and have him present to the group. Mother Rose Ann will send the invitations. This will get the project ‘restarted.’ There was also much discussion of other projects, and how to address them at this point.

Junior Warden’s Report

- **Banners/Signs:** Buildings and Grounds discussed options but no final decision was reached. Mary moved we do not pursue the idea of hanging the canvas sign on the brick sign. Ray Sphatt seconded the motion, which then passed by acclamation. Ray moved we purchase a 4 x 8 banner, and a professionally installed stand allowing other signs to be purchased and displayed throughout the year, not to exceed a total of \$3,000, plus/or minus 10%. Mary seconded the motion. The motion carried by acclamation.
- **Sanitizing building before opening post COVID-19:** Mother Rose Anne is planning to contact our usual cleaner about this. Dave Ivey recommended that we get a ‘scope of work’ quote from them to ensure the sanitization is thorough.
- **Firewood:** Remains available for pickup at the rectory. There is a person who has said he’ll bring a truck and trailer to take the wood, once the ground is dry.
- **Lighting in nave:** Cathy emailed Greg Mackey about getting quotes for adding LED parking for nave and parking lot.
- **Sound/live streaming system:** Chris Burke is working on getting quotes for a better sound

system in the Nave that will also support an ongoing service broadcast.

- *Downstairs entrance door:* In process.
- *Storage Shed repair:* Delayed until the weather is more suitable.
- *Lawn treatment for weeds:* Recommended by Buildings and Grounds. Will confer with Grace Woods landscaper about getting quotes.

Rector's Report

- *Seminarian Tenure:* Noah will probably be leaving us around the end of May.
- *150th Anniversary 2020:* The date for our Celebration Dinner is now October 9. The venue is still St. Noel's Banquet Center.
- *Mutual Ministry Review:* On hold. The Rev. Albert Jennings will facilitate.
- *Vestry Retreat:* On hold. The Rev. Ann Kidder will facilitate.
- *Vestry Tenure:* A check of the bylaws confirms that Thora and Ray have two-year terms.

Evangelism: The team discussed what we'll do when we can meet for worship again: masks, hand sanitizers, cleaning crews for downstairs etc. Also, we will not set up at the Willoughby Outdoor Market this summer, and this year's Bike Blessing is cancelled.

Outreach: The team is discussing ways to stay connected to people. Cards were sent to Breckenridge and Grace Woods.

Worship

- The broken altar candles and torches are repaired, thanks to Dennis Brothers.
- Our Lenten Program, Signs of Life, was completed via Zoom.
- Scott will be joining the service on Sunday to add music.

Pastoral Care Team: Provided updates from Vestry phone calls.

Next meetings:

- Vestry will continue weekly check-ins on Saturdays.
- Scheduled vestry meeting is May 17, 2020 but may be moved if needed depending on stay-at-home status.

Save the NEW Date!



Please join us at special dinner to
celebrate the 150th Anniversary of
Grace Episcopal Church

Rescheduled for

Friday, October 9
6-10 pm at
St. Noel's Banquet Center
35200 Chardon Rd
Willoughby Hills, OH 44094

Further updates to follow.

Grace Episcopal Church

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OR CURRENT
RESIDENT

READINGS FOR THE DAY

May 3
The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10
Psalm 23

May 10
The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

May 17
The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21
Psalm 66:7-18

May 24
The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11
Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

May 31
The Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 20:19-23
Psalm 104:25-35, 37