

The *PACE* is published by

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"Like us on Facebook"

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

Children's Christian Education

Sunday School

Team teaching by:

Bobbie Davis
Phil Davis
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
Wednesday, March 17, 2021



The *Pace* of Grace

March 2021

From the Rector:



This month, March 2021, marks a year since we have worshiped in person in our building. It has been a year without our familiar and reliable routines and schedules. I have come to believe that we are in the wilderness; the wilderness wrought by a virus over which we had no control.

We have been wandering through a desert of physical distancing, mask wearing, and extensive hand washing. Who knew that a bubble was anything other than a way to bring joy and wonder to children (and adults) when blown through a wand?

We find ourselves in the wilderness of Lent as we begin this second year of wandering through gathering by way of technology. We have wandered through a year of liturgical seasons and with the help of Zoom, email, snail mail, the telephone and, thanks be to God, we are still here as an active community. We think we have the end in sight—the vaccines have arrived and this gives me hope that we can eventually return to a life of less restriction and a spiritual life that includes greeting each other in person. Maybe even sharing handshakes and hugs!

However, I feel I am getting ahead of myself. It would appear that getting an appointment to obtain the vaccine is a full-time job and not for the faint of heart! This is a time for conscious restraint in our wanderings and behavioral choices. Vaccination is not a free pass to abandon caution and we need to continue to carefully evaluate how we will worship in this time of potential freedom. My experience as a nurse has my brain shouting, "Danger, Will Robinson – Danger!" (There I go giving my age away again!) I believe we are at a point that abandoning safety measures now will cause a viral rebound with disastrous results, plunging us back into the thick of shut downs and lock outs, illness and death—the very things we want so desperately to avoid. The Bishop and the clergy of the Diocese continue to ponder when and how to open to in-person worship and we find there is as of yet no clear answer. As difficult as it is to consider, I do not anticipate in-person worship this Holy Week or Easter.

It appears to me that our wandering will continue for a while longer; hopefully not too long. I long for a return to "normal" and I am sure you all do as well. As we live into this Lent, in our desert, often alone with our

Continued inside

Officers and Rector

Elizabeth Estep, *Senior Warden*

Cathy Nash, *Junior Warden*

Harry Dodds, *Treasurer*

Kathy Hill, *Clerk*

The Rev. Rose Anne Lonsway,
Rector

Inside this *Pace*

Lent is Upon us! (Below)

This & That: Outreach Team Updates, Evangelism Updates, Worship Updates,
Vestry Highlights

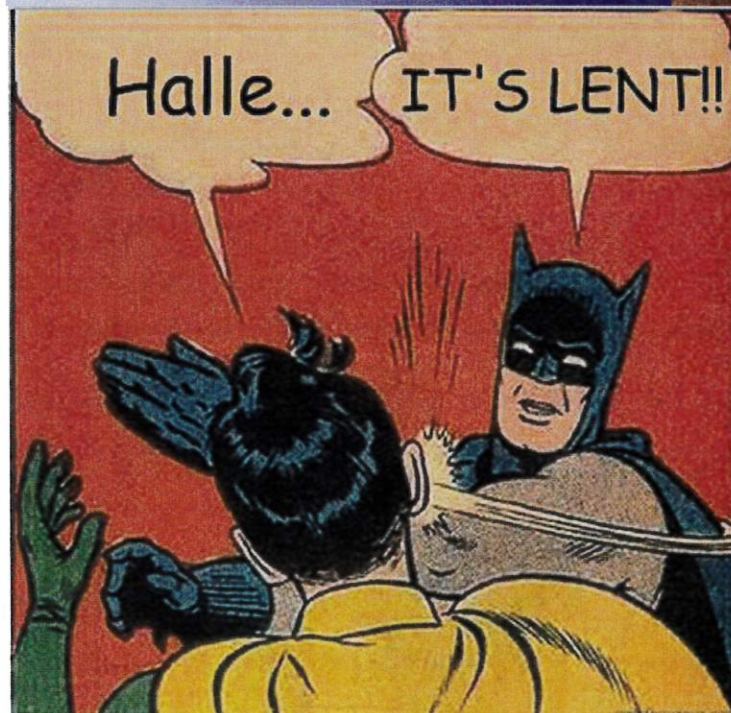
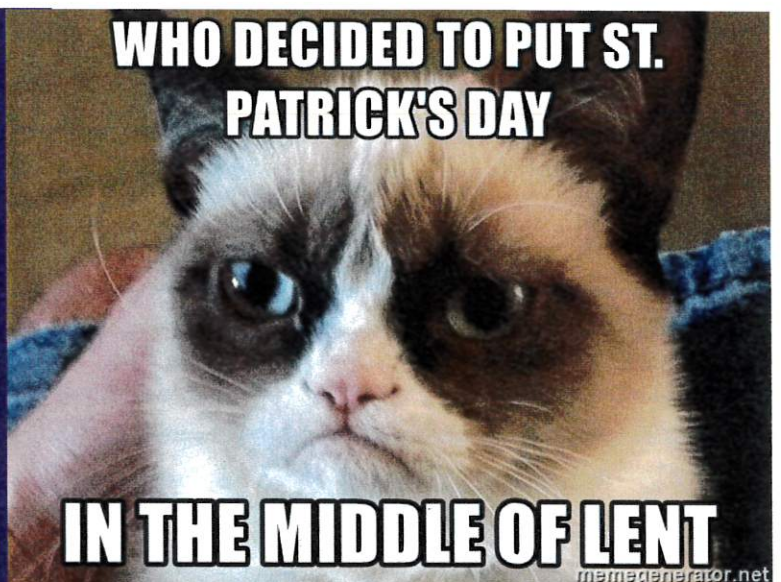
Grace Makes a Difference

Insert: March Calendar/Volunteer Schedule

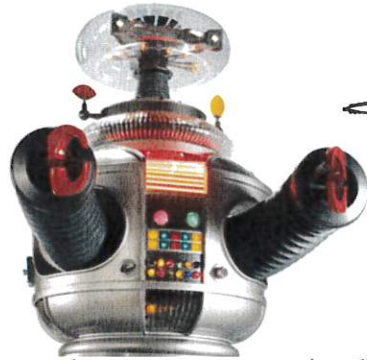
Lessons / Readings

The season of Lent has arrived

Prepare for Easter with prayer, study, fasting ... and memes.



From the Rector, continued



Danger, Will Robinson!

Do NOT abandon

COVID safety measures!

longings, desires and prayers we recognize that we have experienced bumps and difficult moments. I am finding that the concept of “Covid Fatigue” is very real, especially among those who cannot be electronically connected, or those who by living arrangements or ill health are even more separated than the general public. Some are feeling the stress and strain to the point of sorrow, feeling like this will never end. I heard a statistic as I am writing this that in the last year, 4 in 10 adults are experiencing anxiety or depressive disorder. I recognize that I struggle with sadness at times and I find myself frowning without realizing I am doing it. If you have observed my frown, please forgive it. It is not intentional.

We are carrying some heavy loads right now and it is very possible that our coping mechanisms are worn thin. It is difficult to maintain a positive, upbeat manner when we are in the wilderness of isolation, worry, despair. While we wander our COVID desert, there is good news to be found—the good news that with God’s help we have held it together so far and with God’s help we will continue to love and support one another as best we can under the circumstances. Along with our Lenten introspection we can find joy in the blessings bestowed by our loving God, and they are many!

- *M. Rose Anne+*

OUTREACH TEAM UPDATES from Kathy Hill and the Outreach Team

Holiday Outreach: This year the Giving Tree was covered with 186 items, including hats, gloves, scarves, and pet supplies. Most of these items were divided among the four elementary schools (Edison, Grant, Longfellow and Jefferson) and distributed to students as needed. The pet supplies were taken to the Lake County Animal Shelter.

McKinley Update: We were blessed to have been able to contribute \$10,000 to the McKinley Community Outreach Center again in 2020. Grace parishioners contributed 195 items to the pantry. McKinley served 6,063 people (an average of 505 people per month). They distributed 60 boxes of food to senior citizens each month. An average of 20 people were served with durable medical equipment each month. McKinley continues to distribute pantry and taxable items via curbside.

Friends of Recovery: Kathy Ivey reported that because of COVID-19, all meetings and meals remain suspended. A new staff member has been hired. They are working on the third house, for women and children. Kathy will reach out to Friends of Recovery to see if we can assist in some way with this house. Grace Foundation donated \$525 to Friends of Recovery in 2020.

Project Hope: A total of 56 paper products items were donated and delivered to Project Hope in 2020.

Scouts BSA: Walt Iliff reported that the Scouts are having a fundraiser selling clothes by the pound. Walt recommended that we give them the many bags of clothing that have been donated for the rummage sale. He also thought we might be able to have an outdoor furniture sale.

Next meeting: Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

EVANGELISM TEAM UPDATES from Peggy Burkacki and the Evangelism Team

Forbes House: Needs for Forbes House were discussed. Peggy resumed taking items to Forbes House on the second Tuesday of the month. At this time their greatest needs are pantry items, laundry detergents, disinfecting sprays and wipes, and paper towels.

Church Next: Suggestions were given for topics from the Church Next Library for study groups to be given to Mother Rose Anne.

Bike Blessing: Hopefully the virus will be under better control and we will be able to have a Bike Blessing outdoors this year (hopefully May 23). Peggy will talk to Mother Rose Anne about the possibility, and what restrictions may be involved.

Outdoor Market: Peggy will also continue checking with the Willoughby Outdoor Market to see when they will open and their plans for COVID-19 restrictions. We will discuss this at our March meeting.

Christmas Cards: It was decided that this year we will include with our gifts to the 12-step groups a Christmas Card with service times, and follow up with invitations to events over the next year.

Next Meeting: Please join us for our March 2 meeting at 6:00 pm. Everyone is always welcome!

WORSHIP UPDATE from Kathy Hill and the Worship Committee

Altar Guild: Additional aumbry candles need to be ordered.

Sunday School: Our kids continue to receive weekly mailings.

Grace Notes Choir: Participants from around the Diocese recorded four hymns as part of a virtual choir for the Lenten season. These hymns are available for congregations to download and use in their own online services throughout the Lenten season. Scott made the information available to our choir.

Review of services and events: Online services continue to go well. Mother Rose Anne is trying to get a better view of the Eucharist by moving the laptop closer to the altar.

Upcoming Services:

- **Ash Wednesday:** Per the Bishop, distribution of ashes was not permitted this year. We each were able to impose our own ashes during the service. Instructions were provided on how to prepare the ashes. There were two virtual services, one at 11:00 a.m. and one at 7:00 p.m. Both were spiritual Eucharist, the 7:00 pm with music and song.

- *Lenten Study*: We will offer a Lenten Study series this year, but as of *Pace* deadline the content had not been determined.
- *Palm Sunday*: No palms will be distributed this year.
- *Holy Week*: Spoken services nightly during Holy Week are yet to be determined. Stations of the Cross will be held via Zoom. We are looking into doing a Maundy Thursday vigil, remotely. There will be a Good Friday service at 7:00 pm.
- *Easter*: Our Easter Sunday service is yet to be determined.

Next meeting: Our next meeting will be held March 11 at 6:00 pm.

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS *from the February 7 and February 21 Vestry Meetings*

Highlights from February 7 meeting:

New Vestry Members: New members Elizabeth Estep, Jean Ockuly and David Webster were welcomed to the Vestry. Kristen Ludvik was welcomed at the previous meeting, having been appointed by the Vestry to fill a vacancy.

Leadership Roles: The following persons were selected to leadership positions for 2021 by vote according to Roberts Rules of Order:

- Harry Dodds reinstated as Treasurer.
- Kathy Hill elected Clerk of the Vestry
- Cathy Nash continues as Junior Warden.
- Elizabeth Estep elected Senior Warden.

Meeting day and time: After discussion, it was agreed to meet on Sundays in 2021. Further discussion of the frequency of meetings and addressing the calling of parishioners was deferred to the next Vestry meeting.

Highlights from February 21 meeting:

Treasurer's Report and Finance Reports:

- An estimated \$50,000 may be left to pay to Bolton-Pratt for the church renovations. In addition, there will be costs for furnishings to finish off the new areas.
- Treasurer Harry Dodds indicated that we will conduct our own audit again this year. An independent audit is needed only every three years.

Renovation Update: Owner's Representative Andy Simons was not present, but Mother Rose Anne reported that we are waiting for our Occupancy Permit. Work on our "punch list" is nearly finished and chairs are being moved into the gathering space. Work needs to be done on the vents so that they are flush with the ceiling.

Meeting frequency and times: A motion was approved to hold a Vestry check-in meeting the first Sunday of each month at 12:00 p.m. and regular Vestry meetings to continue on the third Sunday of each month.

Calls to parishioners: Since it was decided that we want to keep the calling program going, a motion was approved to establish and chair a sub-team of parishioners to make regular phone calls to fellow parishioners to ensure that everyone is called on a regular basis. Vestry members may be included in this committee if they so choose. The Senior Warden will chair this initiative. Thora Scott, Jean Ockuly and Cathy Nash volunteered to be on the sub-team. This opportunity will be made available to the entire parish.

Junior Warden's Report:

- 72 Degrees is a new company we hired to check the church furnaces and air conditioning and do routine maintenance twice a year.
- Campbell Plumbing replaced the sump pump at the rectory. They also checked the garage floor where water had been flooding the floor. The drain cover had disintegrated and there were pieces of metal in the drain making it very difficult to pump out the water. This issue will be monitored for now.

Foundation Report: At the January Foundation meeting, \$1,000 was distributed as follows: \$250 to Hannah's Home; \$500 to Salvation Army; \$250 to Doctors Without Borders. The next Foundation meeting will be April 25.

Rector's Report:

- Winter Convocation was held virtually February 7-14. Workshops were offered each evening of that week. Bishop Hollingsworth offered two pre-recorded sermons, Sunday February 7 and 14.
- The Diocese is offering technological education for churches regarding virtual worship. There is a potential for a \$500 grant. David Ivey is our Grace representative and is attending the training for this project.

ChurchNext update: Elizabeth needs someone to take the lead on the educational aspects of ChurchNext. She will continue to handle the technical side.

Stewardship: The 2021 campaign has been wrapped up.

Evangelism and Outreach: See Updates elsewhere in this *Pace*.

Pastoral Care Team: Our Pastoral Care Team is in need of a new leader. Marilyn Taylor has resigned. Cathy Nash volunteered to be team member.

Other Business:

- New Vestry members who have not yet received the Safe Guarding God's Children training will need to contact Mark for the link.
- A motion was approved to establish a by-laws review committee to review and rewrite the bylaws. Any proposed changes are to be prepared to be voted on by next year. The Senior Warden will chair.

Next meetings: The Vestry will hold its next check-in on March 7. The next full Vestry meeting will be March 21. Both meetings will be held at noon.

Grace Makes a Difference in Our Community

Here are just a few of the many thank-you notes we receive from those who benefit from the generosity of Grace Episcopal Church and its members.



January 31, 2021

Dear Grace Episcopal Church,

Your generous gift of \$10,000.00 was humbly and graciously received by our guests in their time of need. On behalf of the family, we thank you and wish you a healthy and Happy New Year!

In 2020, an average of 505 people received assistance each month from our Food Pantry, held curbside since the onset of the Covid- 19 Pandemic.

People were also able to benefit from pet food, Senior Boxes, taxable items (toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, household cleaner, laundry soap, etc.). To make this possible, 7,282 volunteer hours were logged.

We are looking forward to soon (as Covid 19 ramps down) people in need right here in our communities, the rest of the year to them.

None of this would be possible without your generosity. We are fighting to make ends meet, be it because of unemployment or in their lives.

Thank you for supporting the ministry.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Beth Morgan'.

Beth Morgan, Director
McKinley Community Outreach Center



P.O. Box 702 • Painesville, OH 44077



Tel: 440-357-7321 • Fax: 440-392-0012

Re: Forbes House donation

Dear Harry:

Thank you for valuing our service to the community. We deeply appreciate your generous monetary donation of \$275.00 received on January 21, 2021. Our entire team, survivors and the families we serve appreciate your thoughtful generosity.

Advocates at Forbes House are encouraging and empowering individuals and families every day to end the cycle of domestic violence. We could not offer safety, comfort, care, shelter or support if we did not have yours. Thank you for believing in us and the mission of Forbes House.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kathy D. Strancar'.

Kathy D. Strancar
Executive Director

*Blessed by your support.
Thank you from our
Team and survivors.*



READINGS FOR THE DAY

March 7
The Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20:1-17
1 Corinthians 1:18-25
John 2:13-22
Psalm 19

March 14
The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21:4-9
Ephesians 2:1-10
John 3:14-21
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

March 21
The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34
Hebrews 5:5-10
John 12:20-33
Psalm 51:1-13

March 28
Sunday of the Passion
Palm Sunday

The Liturgy of the Palms
Mark 11:1-11
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

The Liturgy of the Word
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Philippians 2:5-11
Mark 14:1-15:47
Psalm 31:9-16