

**GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
315 Wayne Street  
Sandusky, OH 44870

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Sandusky, OH  
44870  
PERMIT NO. 32

*Amazing Grace*

**February 2018**



**~ Mission Statement ~**

*"In light of our confidence that 'God loves you. No exceptions',  
Grace Episcopal Church strives to be a welcoming community,  
inviting everyone to learn, serve, and share in Christ's love."*



The Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry, Presiding Bishop  
The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr., Bishop, Diocese of Ohio  
The Rev. Jan Smith Wood, Rector

**SERVICES**

**Tuesday: 5:30pm**  
**Sunday: 8am and 10am**  
**5:30pm (starting February 18<sup>th</sup>)**



**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** Monday through Friday, 8am - 3pm

**RECTOR'S DAYS :** Tuesday through Sunday

For pastoral concerns after hours, please call Jan at 419-515-0233.

**CONTACT US**

Telephone:	419-625-6919
Website:	gracesandusky.org
E-Mail:	office@gracesandusky.org
Jan Smith Wood, Rector	jan@gracesandusky.org
Debbie Chase, Parish Administrator	office@gracesandusky.org
Randy Ruthsatz, Organist/Choirmaster	rarcpa@sbcglobal.net

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The Grace Thrift Shop is located at  
301 E. Market St.

Hours:  
Tues. - Thurs.: 11:30 am - 4:00 pm  
Friday: 11:30 am - 6:00 pm  
Saturday: 10am - 1pm  
Closed: Sunday - Monday  
Phone: 419-626-5453



Ash Wednesday is February 14<sup>th</sup>.  
Easter Day is April 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Think about that for a second.

## Pastor's Page

We purposefully contemplate mortality and courage, sacrifice and truth-in-action, God's presence and holy absence on Valentine's Day.

We celebrate the most important holy day in our Christian faith on April Fools' Day.

God's unique presence to humanity in Jesus Christ, began in love and lived in love. That love went to death through the cross and into life. Love did that. Love does that. Love that will not die. Love that loves us even in our brokenness - perhaps especially in our brokenness.

Valentine's Day. Ash Wednesday. How do the two converse in your life? Where does Love abide? How is Love made known?

As for Easter being on April Fools' Day, perhaps that is one of the deepest realities of genuine Christian life. From our earliest days, Christians have been looked at askance when truly following Christ. In his own lifetime, neighbors and family thought Jesus a fool. St. Paul reminds us that the way of Christ is foolishness to those who do not believe. Holy Fools. People who believe that love wins. We know what it is to hope in the face of grief and fear. We are confident that what we see is NOT what we get. We know that there is another Way and it is the Way of love, compassion and reconciliation.

This Lent, let us practice foolishness together. Walking the way of love. Giving, and forgiving, without counting the cost. Engaging. Repenting. Returning. Fools for the Love of Christ.



## News from the Pews

Congratulations to Steve and Kitty Smith on the birth of their new grandson (*and second grandchild*), Milo Kai-Ming Smith, who was born on Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. His parents, Dale Smith and Barbara Lum are very excited to welcome their firstborn into the world.

### **WHAT'S YOUR LENTEN INTENTION?**

Frequently, Lent is a time when we give up or take on practices that help prepare mind, body, and soul for Holy Week and Easter. Christians have historically engaged in prayer, fasting, and study.

Lent is 40 days long, exclusive of Sundays. These 40 days remind us of many journeys and re-makings. The 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness after his baptism. The 40 years the Israelites (under the leadership of Moses, Aaron and Miriam) lived in the wilderness before entering the Promised Land. The 40 weeks gestation it takes to make a human being. 40 is a sacred number and leads to rebirth of many kinds. Lent is perhaps our most significant Christian journeying: we move from seeking signs of Christ, God-with-us, all around us (Epiphany) to the Great Sign of God's Love with the Resurrection (Easter). Renewal doesn't just happen. We have to make room for it. Open our eyes. Prepare a space. Wait and watch. Let go of that which clouds our vision. Take on that which can tune our hearts to resonate with divine love. What do you choose this year?

We will be offering these community possibilities and hope they will entice you into a faithful Lent.

**Ash Wednesday:** February 14<sup>th</sup> - Our prayerbook offers an incredibly beautiful liturgy for Ash Wednesday. Come and enter into the mystery of God's infinite love for we who are mere "dust." 12noon or 7 o'clock in the evening.



**Loaves & Fishes: Sunday Supper Church:** Sunday evenings at 5:30. We'll gather in the Mary Simpson Room for a simple potluck supper, table worship, prayers, and scripture exploration of the "seven last words" of Christ. What are they? What did they mean? What do they mean for us? Food for mind, body, and spirit on these Lenten nights beginning on Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. Bring a covered dish to share, if you can - bring yourself, no matter what. Sunday worship unlike any other.

**The Good Book Club:** A national project by Episcopalians all around the church - even overseas! Begins on February 4<sup>th</sup> and continues to Pentecost. You can read this at home. You can talk about it on Sunday mornings with friends between the services. There are online helps and great resources. Tired of reading words all week? It is possible to listen to the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles online. Bible Gateway has a section of "audio bibles" - many languages and translations! We also have a CD set in our library of the NRSV translation of the Bible that you could borrow.

## Shrove Tuesday Hilarity

Shrove Tuesday, just before the rigors of Lent begin, is a time for indulgences, hilarity, comfort foods, and tiny temptations. Time to "use up" all those delicacies associated with feasting and partying in anticipation of the dietary rigors of the Lenten fast.

We're trying something new this year - bring your own favorite indulgence to share. Pazckis? Creamy rich macaroni and cheese? Goopy pasta dishes? Sweet, sweet baklava? Whatever makes it a 'Fat Tuesday' for you! We'll enjoy one another's company. Eat delish. And otherwise clear the decks for the rigors of a faithful Lent. 5:30-6:30pm in the Mary Simpson Room.



### FEBRUARY "DINING WITH GRACE"

We will be meeting to eat together at Shorehouse Tavern, 306 W. Water Street on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm.

Never been there? Check out their website <http://shorehousetavern.com/> for more information and to see their menu.

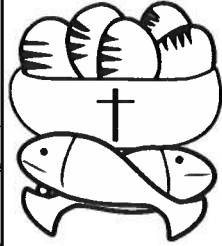


Please join us for a fun evening of conversation and good food. RSVP to Marcia Fordham by Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> either by phone (419-626-1800) or email (mfordham.70@outlook.com)

*Hope to see you there!*

Thank you, Marcia, for being our organizer again this month.

### **LOAVES & FISHES: SUNDAY SUPPER CHURCH?**



Described elsewhere in this newsletter, Sunday Supper Church is worship in another mode. It's church in full. Sunday mornings don't work? Come to Sunday Supper Church. Worship once every Sunday in Lent: at 8 o'clock in the morning in the chapel; at 10 o'clock in the morning in the church; at 5:30 in the evening in the Mary Simpson Room. Try one of each every Sunday. See what happens.



### **ADULT EDUCATION AT GRACE**

We have three levels of commitment for this important adult work of aligning the faith of our childhood with our adult realities and experiences. Each is organized to honor adult learners, who bring a great deal of wisdom to bear upon the topic, are responsible for their own learning goals, and want to connect new knowledge with experience and life wisdom.



**Adult  
Education**

Weekly on Sunday mornings - come when you can and no advance preparation required: Sunday morning Bible study called "**Faith at the Crossroads**" begins at 9 o'clock and ends at 9:30. Everything needed is provided in class that day. Commitment? Minimal.

Monthly on Thursday evening - come if you've been able to read the book (or at least part of it). **First Thursday Book Group** meets one evening each month, 7-8pm. Books are identified and provided in advance (until costs become prohibitive, Grace provides the books for any who wants to participate). Commitment? Significant.

Weekly on Tuesday evening - **Education for Ministry** is a powerful and life-changing course of study in Scripture, Church History, and Theology. Enrollment is once a year for a 32-week course of study. Theological Reflection is a cornerstone and hallmark of "EfM." For those who want to engage deeply with faith, current events, and life experiences. Commitment? Rigorous.



### **YEARLY GIVING STATEMENT**

2017 Giving Statements were mailed in January. If you did not get, or if you find an error, or have a questions about your statement, please call the Church Office at (419) 625-6919.

### **COMING UP IN MARCH**

- THURSDAY, March 1<sup>st</sup> - Book Group, 7pm
- SUNDAY, March 11<sup>th</sup> - Outreach Committee meeting after 10am service
- THURSDAY, March 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> - Evangelism Matters Conference, Cleveland Heights
- THURSDAY, March 15<sup>th</sup> - "Dining with Grace" - Location TBD
- SATURDAY, March 17<sup>th</sup> - Outreach Community FREE Meal, 4:30pm - 5:30pm
- WEDNESDAY, March 21<sup>st</sup> - Choir practice resumes, 7pm
- SATURDAY, March 24<sup>th</sup> - Outreach Community FREE Meal, 4:30pm - 5:30pm
- SUNDAY, March 25<sup>th</sup> - Palm Sunday
- THURSDAY, March 29<sup>th</sup> - Maundy Thursday
- FRIDAY, March 30<sup>th</sup> - Good Friday
- SATURDAY, March 31<sup>st</sup> - Easter Vigil
- SUNDAY, April 1<sup>st</sup> - Easter



Holy Week



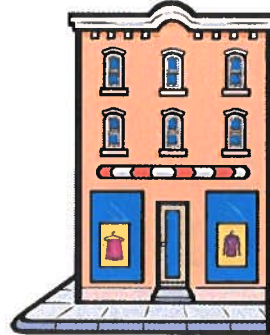
## **THRIFT SHOP SALES THIS MONTH**

All **YELLOW** tag items are 50% off in February.

All **ORANGE** tag clothing items are \$1 a bag from February 1<sup>st</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup>.

Stop in and see! Check out the sales!

***NEW ITEMS ADDED WEEKLY***



**The Thrift Shop will be open from 3:30-5pm  
on Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> so that the  
Diocesan Convocation guests can come and shop.  
Have you been meaning to come and see what's going on there?  
Here's a unique opportunity to check it out!  
*Come on down.***

The deadline to submit information  
for the March newsletter is Thursday,  
February 15<sup>th</sup>.



We've begun including new neighbors in our monthly newsletter mailings. We need to prepare almost 1,000 newsletters for bulk mailing (our regular mailing list, plus three months of new neighbors). For our February newsletter we are again asking for volunteers to help with assembly. We will be preparing the mailing Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you can lend a hand (even an hour or two is helpful), please come to the Church Office at 9 o'clock (or anytime before noon). If you have any questions, please contact Debbie at 419-625-6919 or [office@gracesandusky.org](mailto:office@gracesandusky.org)

**Thank You for Your Gift to Grace Episcopal Church**

In memory of  
***Carol Moyer***  
Moyer Family - Carol Moyer Estate



### **"FAITH AT THE CROSSROADS - THE GOOD BOOK CLUB"**



Beginning on February 4<sup>th</sup>, on Sunday mornings at 9 o'clock, we will engage in Bible Study of the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. Our entire church is undertaking this "Good Book Club" (as described elsewhere in this newsletter). For 30 minutes (9-9:30), we will talk about what we're discovering. Read what you can. Come when you can. The conversation and companionship is bound to inspire you to keep up the good book work (or start up again!).

### **OUTREACH**

Our Community Meals this month are scheduled for Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up sheets are posted if you can help the evening of the meals or if you can donate fresh fruit or a dessert. Never helped at a meal? Thinking about starting? Questions? Talk with Jan.



Thank you to all who help make these meals a success.

### **LENTEN OUTREACH** **HEIFER INTERNATIONAL**



For communities living in poverty throughout the world, Heifer International provides animals, seeds, clean water, education, and other services. During February and March we will be helping these lifesaving efforts with donations from our church community. Announcements will be made and a table will be set up in the Mary Simpson Room during Coffee Hour every Sunday.

If you would like more information about Heifer International please visit their website at <https://www.heifer.org/>

***Our Outreach Ministry is successful  
thanks to your continued  
generosity and support!***

**Kathryn Roesch  
celebrated her 92<sup>nd</sup>  
birthday on  
January 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**Happy Birthday,  
Kathryn!**

**And many more...**



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PROTECT AND SERVE**

Ted Bertsch	Luke Lipomi
David Brownell	Marcus Mettert
Chris Cheek	Vincent Parenti-Herner
Phil Frost	Matthew Poeschl
Adam Hagelberger	Kevin Poyer
Joel Hagy	Sean Poyer
Craig Lambert	Dr. Amy Reese
Vance Lambert	Cameren Scholl
Brian Michael Laws	Matt Trautman

**Please pray for those who have died, especially**

Donna Marie Miller (*December 22, 2017*)  
Jeanne Neff (*December 30, 2017*)

Almighty God, with whom still live the spirits of those who die in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful are in joy and felicity: We give you heartfelt thanks for the good examples of all your servants, who, having finished their course in faith, now find rest and refreshment. May we, with all who have died in the true faith of your holy Name, have perfect fulfillment and bliss in your eternal and everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



*BCP, Pg. 503*

**We are starting a new common prayer practice this year.  
We'll be adding the Anglican Cycle of Prayer  
and the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer to our monthly prayer lists.**

**February 4, 2018**

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for

- Dioceses in Africa: Anglican Church of Burundi ; Arochukwu/Ohafia (Aba, Nigeria); Aru (Congo); Asaba (Bendel, Nigeria); Asante-Mampong (Ghana, West Africa)
- Dioceses in The Americas: Athabasca (Rupert's Land, Canada); Atlanta (IV, The Episcopal Church)

In the Diocese of Ohio, pray for Retired Clergy.

The Rev. Webster Maughan  
The Rev. Nancy W. Rich  
The Rev. Jeffery M. Richards, Supply at St. Andrew's Church, Akron  
The Rev. Leon E. Richey  
The Rev. Nancy L. Roth  
The Rev. David S. Sipes  
The Rev. Dr. Carey E. Sloan III, AOJN  
The Rev. Eugene E. Smercina  
The Rev. M. Elden Smith  
The Rev. Dr. Erwin M. Smuda, Interim Rector, St. Paul's, Canton  
The Rev. George M. Tarsis  
The Rev. Roger L. Tiffany  
The Rev. William F. Tompkin, Deacon  
The Rev. John L. Trumble Jr.  
The Rev. Robert Walcott  
The Rev. Robert C. Weaver  
The Rev. Nicholson B. White  
The Rev. James H. Wichman, Deacon, Retired; Fire Dept. Chaplain  
The Rev. John W. Wigle  
The Rev. Nancy H. Wittig; Interim Rector, All Saints, Parma

**February 11, 2018**

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for

- Dioceses in Africa: Attooch (Upper Nile, South Sudan); Aweil (Bahr El Ghazal, South Sudan); Aweil-Abyei Area, and Awerial (Bahr El Ghazal, South Sudan); Awgu-Aninri, and Awka (Niger, Nigeria); Awori and Badagry (Lagos, Nigeria)
- Dioceses in The Americas: Anglican Church of Canada
- Dioceses in Oceania: Auckland (Aotearoa NZ & Polynesia)

*Cont'd*

**February 11, 2018**

In the Diocese of Ohio, pray for Our Bishops and Diocesan Staff.

The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth Jr., Bishop of Ohio  
The Rt. Rev. Arthur B. Williams Jr., Assisting Bishop  
The Rt. Rev. William D. Persell, Assisting Bishop  
The Rev. Vincent E. Black  
Ms. Eva J. Cole  
The Rev. Margaret D'Anieri  
The Rev. Percy Grant  
Ms. Laura R. Hnat  
Ms. Janine Johnson  
Ms. Brenda Koenig  
Ms. Betty Kondrich  
Ms. Susan M. Leishman  
Ms. Jessica Miller  
Ms. Katie Ong-Landini  
Mr. William A. Powel, III  
The Rev. A. Bradford Purdom III  
Ms. Jessica Rocha  
Ms. Rita Rozell  
Ms. Mary Ann Semple  
Ms. Antoinette Taylor  
The Rev. Dr. Brian K. Wilbert  
Ms. Claudia Wilson



**February 18, 2018**

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for

- Dioceses in Africa: The Church of the Province of Central Africa -Bari (Kaduna, Nigeria)
- Dioceses in Asia: Barisal (Bangladesh); Barrackpore (North India)
- Dioceses in Europe: Bangor (Wales)
- Dioceses in Oceania: Ballarat (Victoria, Australia); Banks & Torres (Melanesia)

In the Diocese of Ohio, pray for the Central East Mission Area.

Trinity Church, Alliance,  
St. Mark's Church, Canton  
St. Paul's Church, Canton  
Trinity Church, Coshocton

*Cont'd*

**February 25, 2018**

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for

- Dioceses in Africa: Bauchi (Jos, Nigeria); Benin (Bendel, Nigeria)
- Dioceses in The Americas: Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America; Belize (West Indies)
- Dioceses in Europe: Bath & Wells (Canterbury, England); Bath & Wells-Taunton (Canterbury, England)
- Dioceses in Oceania: Bathurst (New South Wales, Australia); Bendigo (Victoria, Australia)

In the Diocese of Ohio, pray for the Central East Mission Area.

St. Timothy's Church, Massillon  
Trinity Church, New Philadelphia  
Church of Our Saviour, Salem  
New Life Episcopal Church, Uniontown

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**In the North Central Mission Area,  
we pray for Church of the Redeemer, Lorain**

O merciful and gracious God,  
who truly was our help in ages past  
and will be our help in the age to come,  
we thank you for guiding the people  
of the Church of the Redeemer  
to serve you by serving the lost  
and the least of the City of Lorain.  
May we always be humble,  
seeking to see your face in our neighbors  
who come to be fed in body and spirit.  
Continue to inspire us in our ministry  
and give us hope that we may share  
that hope with others,  
through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,  
to whom be all honor and glory.  
Amen.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED  
OF COMFORT OR HEALING**

Alaa	Jillian	Mike
Barbara	Jim & Teresa	Nancy
Ben	JoAnn & Paul	Nathan
Beverly & David	Joea & Neill	Patti
Bruce	Joyce	Patty
Char & Don	Jude	Paul
Charlie	Julie	Paul & Bobbie Jean
Chris	Karen	Peggy
Christina	Kate	Phyllis
Cindy	Kathy	Rachelle
Clyde & Paula	Kaytee	Richard
Connie	Kristin	Rose & Tina
Dan & Sue	Krystal	Ruth
Danika	Kyra	Sherm & Hannah
David	Lexi	Skylar
Don & Lou	Liz	Steve & Kathy
Ellen	Lois	Susan
Fran	Lori	Teresa
Frank	Lynne	Teri
Glenna	Maralyn	Tom
Gloryann	Marcia & Family	Tracy
Hank	Mary Alice	Wayne
Herm	Mary Lu	Wendy
Janeann	Matthew	Wilanna
Janet	Megan	Yvonne
Jean	Mel & Mary	Alexander Lawson
Jeff	Michael	Family
Jennifer		

***If you, a family member, or a friend  
is in need of Pastoral Care, or is hospitalized,  
please call the Church Office at 419-625-6919.***



# Birthdays of the Month

2nd	Jan Bucholz	Courtney Chaney
4th	Casey Fox	Curtis Romp
5th	William Drackett	
9th	Leanna Krabill	
10th	Norma Homberger	Jonathan Krabill
	Brad Moyer	
13th	Kathleen Floyd	
14th	Matthew Geiger	
15th	Jim Schwiefert	
17th	Phil Frost	
19th	Kerri Ziegler	
23rd	Steven Rankin	
24th	Donna Andres	Katherine Rose Coffey
28th	Cole Morrow	
29th	Kay Knight	

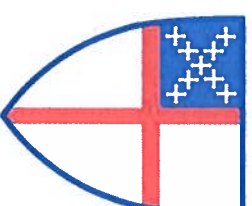
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*Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase;  
bless and guide them wherever they may be.  
Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when  
discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up when they fall;  
and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding  
abide all the days of their lives;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

***Our apologies if we missed your birthday.  
Please advise the church office of any changes or omissions.***



**God loves you.  
No exceptions.**



**The Episcopal Church Welcomes You.**