

GRACE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

735 W NEPESSING

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY

8:00am Holy Eucharist

9:15 Christian Ed (all ages)

10:00 am Holy Eucharist

WEEKDAYS MORNINGS

8:30am Morning Prayer

WEDNESDAYS—

12:15pm Holy Eucharist w/Fr. Boli

Followed by Bible Study &

Brown Bag Lunch

CLERGY

The Rev Wm Boli, Priest in Residence

(wwboli@charter.net)

PH: 810.664-2841

EM: gracechurchlapeer@sbcglobal.net

STAFF

Lori Schmidt, Admin. Assistant

Vicki McIntyre, Bookkeeper

Paul Allison, Sexton

Nick Ward, Music Director

OFFICE HOURS

Monday— 9:00a-4:00p

Tuesday-Thursday- 9:00a-1:00p

Friday—Closed

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GRACEFUL TIDINGS

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2009



Epiphany 2009

*For the Congregations of
the Episcopal Church*

Dear Brothers and
Sisters of Christ:

For almost a century, the Good Friday Offering has been a source of support, love and hope for the people of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. This year's 87th Good Friday Offering offers us the opportunity to be nourished by a deepened bond with the churches in the region that is so central to our faith. In my time as Presiding Bishop, I have been deeply moved by their stories of the pain that division brings to the lives of all in this Province of the Anglican Communion.

The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East was formed in 1841 with the purpose of forging friendships with the ancient churches and serving the expatriate communities in this area. The friendships made then have strengthened the work and witness of the entire Episcopal Church ever since. Since 1922, members of the Episcopal Church have given thanks for this extraordinary relationship through their generous giving to the Good Friday Offering. This offering expresses our own commitment to walk with the church of Jerusalem and the Middle East as they continue to work toward justice, reconciliation, and peace. Through

our support of these churches we are helping to realize God's vision of shalom.

More information on this offering is available online at www.episcopalchurch.org/gfo.

Again, please join with me in celebrating the work of the Good Friday Offering by generously sharing the gifts we have been given with our sisters and brothers in the Middle East. I remain

Your servant in Christ,
Katharine Jefferts Schori

Presiding Bishop &
Primate

VESTRY Meeting Highlights from January 14



Present: Doris Stevenson, Judy Downey, Lauraine Ferris, Jennie Spencer, Eldon Card, Nancy Wells, LaVern Warner **Absent:** Joyce Moore and Fr. Boli **Guests:** Lori Schmidt, Doris Rolland, Owen Henry, Vicki McIntyre, Dave Coon and Lynne Coulter.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Sr. Warden, Judy Downey.
Devotions were led by Doris Stevenson.

Sr. Warden Downey announced that Lori Coulter has submitted her resignation from the Vestry due to her work schedule and time constraints.

Minutes from December were reviewed, opening prayer was given by Nancy Wells. Voted to accept with correction. *Passed.*

Old Business: Discussion regarding the columbarium bids, motion to accept the columbarium bid from Armento as presented by Doris Rolland, Chair and her committee, determined best to meet our budget and needs as designated through the funds in Jim Nye and Canon Rev. Chou memorials not to exceed \$6,300, support. Roll call vote, passed unanimous. Doris presented a bid from Iron Barn for a gate leading to base-ment for \$650.00 installed. Motion to approve, support. Roll call vote, passed unanimous. Sr. Warden Downey expressed appreciation and thanks to all on committee.

New Business: Lynne Coulter, Vicki McIntyre and Dave Coon presented the proposed 2009 Budget. Moved to approve as presented, support. *Passed.* Vicki presented a request to consider the use of a payroll service from the Diocese. Motion to authorize, support. *Passed.* Lori presented two service agreements. Lapeer Team Work has increased their monthly charge with a list of responsibilities. Motion to accept, support. *Passed.* Sr. Warden Downey will meet with Sexton to go over the list. A service agreement with Porter & Heckman for 2009 heating and cooling service was presented. Motion to accept, support. *Passed.* Sr. Warden Downey indicated that Dutch & Janie Klotzner are looking to purchase a Wii bowling game for use at Grace. A bowling event will be scheduled. Lauraine and LaVern will organize another game night, Valentine Venture, for February 14th, more details to come.

Liaison Reports: Nancy Pearsall will be working with the Parish Life committee to organize funeral luncheons.

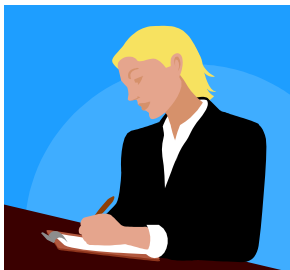
Finance Report: Motion to accept as presented, support. *Passed.* Vicki shared the year-end investment status.

Closing prayer given by Vicki McIntyre.
Motion to adjourn at 7:00, support. *Passed.*

Vestry then began work on Consultant assignment at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Schmidt
Administrative Assistant



This month was sooo cold, icy and snowy, yet most of us plowed through to attend worship services, hardy Episcopalians that we are! Thanks a bunch to Nancy Pearsall for accepting the responsibility of organizing all church luncheons. The first one she presided over was the funeral luncheon of Deloris Haase, mother of Garnet. The tables were set beautifully and the parish responded, as always, with generous helpings of the food we are famous for. There was enough food to serve the next day at the annual meeting.

Two new vestry members were elected this year, Dick West and Clyde Pearsall. There was special recognition to retiring vestry members, LaVern Warner, Joyce Moore and Jennie Spencer. Also recognized was Bob Baird, who served many years as the Parish Treasurer. Dave Coon has accepted this responsibility.

A brief Vestry meeting was held after the annual meeting for the purpose of electing officers for 2009. Judy Downey was re-elected as senior warden and Dick West was elected as Junior Warden. Lauraine Ferris was re-elected as Clerk of the Vestry. Vestry is planning a church dinner and game night on Valentine's day. Mark your calendar and bring a friend, or two, or three.

ECW is hosting a silent auction to be held on Sunday, February 15th. Set-up will be the two weeks prior, please bring in some special items to be auctioned.

I will be leaving for Florida on February 8th. My son is driving with me this year as my leg problems have handicapped me somewhat.

Keep me in your prayers. I'm hoping sun and water exercise will help.

"You all" are always in my thoughts and prayers. God Bless.

Judy Downey
Sr. Warden



Anyone interested in performing in a handbell choir? We have the bells in storage – so we just need people to ring them! If you have an interest, Dave Coon would like to talk to you. He is thinking about preparing something for Easter service. He can be reached at 810-797-4712.

Thank you to all the women and men who prepared dishes for, set up, served, and cleaned up after my mom's funeral luncheon. Your thoughtfulness and kindness helped my family and me during our time of sorrow more than words can express.

Yours in Christ, Garnet Haase"

WHO AM I? Meet the Members of Grace

(A column written to help church members know each other better.)

By Doris Rolland

I was born in Reed City, Michigan and raised in Bid Rapids. I served in the U.S. Navy three years during the Vietnam conflict in Gun Fighter Control—the big guns on the ship. Was mustered out in '65 and enrolled at Ferris State.

Then I joined the Mecosta County Sheriff Department. After becoming active there in forming a union, I began looking for a state police job. Instead, I went to General Motors Fischer Body plant #1 in security in Flint. When it closed, I was transferred to the Buick division as a sergeant. General Motors sold the security division to Pinkerton, so, I went with them as a Chief.

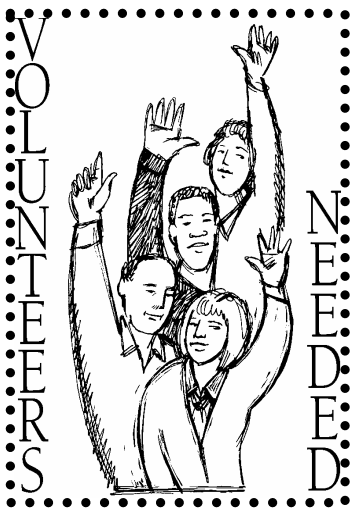
Buick then called me back to General Motors at Buick City job placement. When it closed in 1999, I transferred to Buick plant #10 which made transmissions. There I was promoted to 'Manufacturing Planner'. Having 'been around the horn', I was called a "SURVIVOR". In 2005, I retired.

An avid runner all my life, I ran the Crim in Flint several times. And, nine times ran a hundred mile race on behalf of cancer on the other side of the state. Each year I raised about \$2,000. We ran in Bloomingdale along the shore to Muskegon and ended in Grand Rapids staying overnight at Hope College.

My wife and I have been married 30 years and enjoy three daughters. We bought property in Lapeer in '84 looking to country living. I have been an Episcopalian for years. We visited Grace church and liked it. So, we joined Grace around 1987 having decided to overlook the trials and tribulation period of Grace, and more importantly, to focus on worshipping God. After all, "What do we go to church for?"

Who am I?

Answer on Page 10



As you can see on the schedule we are in need of volunteers to be trained as LEM's (Lay Eucharistic Ministers). Fr. Boli will be happy to meet with you to get involved in a very important part of the service. If you have an interest, please talk to Fr. Boli or let Lori in the office know.

	The Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany February 1 HOLY EUCHARIST	The Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany February 8 HOLY EUCHARIST	The Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany February 15 HOLY EUCHARIST	The Seventh Sunday After the Epiphany February 22 HOLY EUCHARIST
Altar Guild	Sandra Chapman and Jean Coon			
Altar Flowers	Clyde & Nancy Pearsall	Harold & Virginia Cook	Lorraine Kelch	Morna Glancy
Sanctuary Candle	Margaret Hodgson	Ted & Harriet Burder	Clyde & Nancy Pearsall	Charlie Coutcher
Vestry Lockup				
8:00AM SERVICE				
Ushers/Greeters	Bob Coulter & Jack Hutton			
LEM	Eldon Card	Nancy Wells	Eldon Card	Nancy Wells
Lector	Lori Schmidt	Nancy Wells	Lori Schmidt	Tracey House
Acolyte	Eldon Card	Nancy Wells	Eldon Card	Nancy Wells
Hospitality Host	Lorraine Kelch, Allen & Tracey			
10:00AM SERVICE				
Ushers/Greeters	Clyde & Nancy Pearsall			
LEM	Jennie Spencer	Jennie Spencer	Jennie Spencer	Jennie Spencer
Lector 1*	Nancy Pearsall	Peg Supernault	Vicki McIntyre	Craig Arnold
Lector 2**	Jean Coon	Bob Thomas	Barb Scharping	Sandy Arnold
Acolytes	Jessica Snipes	Julie Reamer	Josh Spencer	Nicky Bagadinski
	Christine Williams	Sean Snuske	Amy Webster	Steve Bagadinski
	Jessie Darnall	Caryn Snuske	Vicki Fiebelkorn	Jennie Spencer
Hospitality Hosts	Craig & Sandy Arnold	NEEDED	Dick & Darlene West	NEEDED

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 7 Taryn Marino
- 13 Margery Hutton
- 15 Virginia Cook
- 21 Morna Glancy
Midge Baker
Cathleen Arnold
- 22 Harold Cook
David Coon
- 24 Judy Downey
- 25 Nancy Pearsall



**Birthdays
& Anniversaries**

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Mike & Peg Supernault
- 14 Ted & Harriet Burder
- 15 Clyde & Nancy Pearsall

TRANSFERS IN

FUNERAL/MEMORIAL
1/17 Deloris Haase

BAPTISMS
1/18 Adrianna Phouvone
Skye Marshall

WEDDINGS

FEBRUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

What is happening at Grace...



Notes for the Bulletin Board

Keep your eyes peeled on the inside wall Bulletin Board in the hall. Your name may be there! The bulletin board will serve as just one more vehicle to help church members know each other better.

Also, we're adding a SOUND OFF area for you to express yourself to others regarding church. You need not sign your name.

Doris Rolland



Do you want to bowl? Have a physical restriction that keeps you from joining a bowling league? Find out about Wii Bowling on Sundays (see monthly calendar for dates or call the office at 664-2841 ~ of course this comes with a Michigan warning: WEATHER PERMITTING), alternating with the league bowling at Gerlach's. Dutch and Janie Klotzner have generously offered the use of their

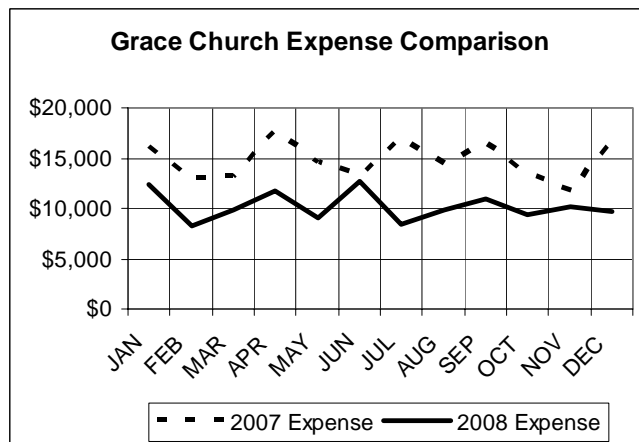
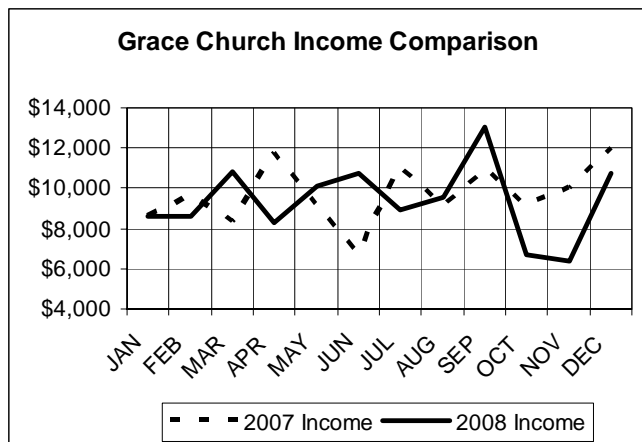
bowling game, with some restrictions, if asked.

Great upper body exercise! ~ Bring the kids/grandkids! ~ Bring the neighbors!



DECEMBER FINANCIALS

Pledge offerings:	\$ 7,337.71
Total revenue:	\$ 10,736.71
Total expenses:	\$ 9,617.19
Income-Expense:	\$ 1,567.00
Year to date deficit:	(\$ 9,789.84)
Total transferred from LCBT to cover deficit:	\$5,000.00
Total assets:	\$222,709.34



“How can we be better stewards?” by Garnet Haase

I don't need some Pennsylvania groundhog telling me whether or not winter will last another six weeks. I have a groundhog of my own for that. It lives on the far side of my pond. Actually, she claims my entire yard as her own. There are tunnels and mounds of dirt all over.

Now I have a couple of choices. Either I can try to get rid of the groundhog or I can learn to live with my groundhog and use a roller to level out the mounds. I know which I'll do. I'm not a groundhog killer. Besides the fact I'm an animal lover, I figure that groundhog had first dibs.

Who knows how long she's raised her ground piglets on this parcel of land? I have no idea how many generations of groundhogs have lived here, what traditions they have, what heritage. It may seem strange to think of critters having heritage and traditions, but I'm sure the animal world has them.

They teach their young. They pass on genetic traits. They stay in the same area year after year. Animals aren't so different from us, but often times when we begin to encroach on them, we think it's the groundhogs that should adjust.

We tend to see ourselves as number one and act like the universe circles around us. Our needs, our convenience, our desires, our comfort are more important than anyone else's or anything else's, but that's not the case. We're part of a community. Here at Grace we're part of a community of believers. Many of you are also part of the Lapeer community. We have families and friends. We belong to clubs and activity groups.

Unfortunately, we often forget that our community also includes the natural world that God created — the animals, the land, the air, the sea. We start feeling they're here for our pleasure, our needs, our domination. But we are stewards of God's creation, not dictators over it.

We've been given a sacred duty to care for those things that need protection, especially from humanity. The natural world takes care of itself pretty nicely when we leave it alone, but we mess with it and throw things out of balance. Species of animals become extinct at our hand. Rivers catch fire. Fish go belly-up. Beaches are closed because sewage is dumped into our waterways. People have more and more breathing problems because the air is filled with pollutants. Wetlands that are home to all sorts of wildlife are destroyed, so some human can put up another three quarter of a million dollar home on that site.

We don't realize the repercussions of our actions, of our self-centered indifference or we choose to ignore them. It's easier that way. Let our children and grandchildren deal with our messes. But that's not what God would have us do.

As stewards, we must protect those who can't protect themselves. We must care for the weak, the homeless, the widow, the orphan, the hungry. In our country, women and children are the most impoverished and need the aid of those with greater resources and more clout. So what can we do to preserve our world?

It doesn't matter if we're working to save the wooded areas around Lapeer or the rainforests of South America. We need to take action. We can send flocks of geese or a goat or a cow to a developing nation with modest donations or we can work in soup kitchens, but we must do what we can to feed the hungry. God warns us to care for his world and all who inhabit it.

I don't need a perfect lawn. I don't have to kill a groundhog so when I look out the window there's nothing but luxurious grass. I can use a roller and play games with the groundhog. “You dig it up and I'll flatten it out.” It will keep us busy for a long time to come and we'll be connected, at least in a small way. And that's what God wants for us. He wants us connected to him, to one another, to our environment and to all the creatures who share it with us.

Let's think about that as we drive to work and look at the trees and rivers and sky that we pass by or under. Let's think about the people surrounding us in the rush hour traffic and consider how we might share God's love and care with them. How might we make their lives and our world better? How can we be more faithful stewards? How many more weeks of winter did that groundhog say there are going to be?

Yours in Christ,
Garnet Haase

Columbarium Committee Update

At its meeting January 14th the Vestry was presented a summary of two proposals for the purchase of a starter set of niches for the columbaria, one from the firm of Eichkof, another from Armento. They approved the purchase of twenty niches from Armento. Included in the purchase were the hardware, shipping and installation costs. The finish will be in a bronze, raised grapevine starting with a root at the bottom, vines in the middle and a cap at the top. It will be @ 75" in height with a 15" base and @ 16" in width. Name plates will be included which Armento can engrave as needed and refinish after engraving to help prevent oxidation. Installation target is 12 to 14 weeks.

The Vestry also approved the purchase of an iron gate for the stairwell. It will be simple as directed by the vote of the church members – ½" solid vertical bars, 4" apart with a top border of circles and an arched top with simple design in the arc. It will stand about 4 ½ feet high and open into the room according to code. It will be finished in a black baked on satin, powder finish which will require little maintenance. The gate should be installed within 2-3 weeks.

Charlie Coutcher has completed three beautiful wall hangings of crosses for the wall.

The committee is meeting its time target but much work remains to be done. More will be reported later.

Eldon Card, Joyce Moore, Jennie Spencer, Charlie Coutcher, Dave Webster, Bob Thomas and Doris Rolland.

Doris Rolland
Chairperson

Flint River Valley Convocation Notes

The January Convocation meeting was held at St. Andrew's in Flint. The first part of the meeting was held in the Parish Hall where they were preparing for their weekly soup kitchen. We moved to the Sanctuary to conduct business. The meeting rotation was changed and accepted to allow for bad weather.

The Mission Council continues to evaluate the structure of the Diocese.

There was a decision to hold a Convocation Leadership Dinner on Thursday, May 7th at St. Jude's in Fenton. Further information is coming.

We wish to thank you for allowing us to represent Grace Episcopal Church at Convocation.

Lynne Coulter & Charlie Coutcher
FRVC Representatives

Do you...

Quilt, Knit, Crochet, Sew, Needlepoint or do any other craft that is transportable?

Do you...Enjoy the company of friends, Enjoy a little chatter, Enjoy learning something new? Enjoy a little help with projects?

Guess What!!! So do we!!! So we get together the second and the fourth Wednesday of the month in the Parish Hall to work, snack, learn, complete projects, start new ones, enjoy companionship and maybe to just chat; Between 9 am & 4 pm.

If you would care to join us. Come on Down!!! Bring the tools of your craft, a snack or two, your willingness to join, and see what you can accomplish. You can come anytime during the day, you do not need to stay any longer than you want to. If you just want to come down to chat, we would enjoy seeing you.
The Graceful Chatty Crafters.

THANK YOU! I want to express my sincere appreciation to our wonderful ladies and gentlemen of the church for their help with the funeral luncheon recently for Deloris Haase. When asked to take over the job of organizing funeral luncheons, I was both humbled and terrified. My fears were quickly taken away as I called people and asked for help. Not one person told me they were too busy to help in some way. I am so proud of the way we come together as a church family when called to duty. To me you are "Angels in Aprons". I could not do this without the wonderful support and help of those who came graciously to my aid. I so appreciate your tireless work. I want these luncheons to be lovely celebrations for the family and friends of the departed. Thank you for helping me do this. I feel blessed to know all of you.

Sincerely,

Nancy Pearsall



Come join the fun with your special Valentine on Saturday, February 14 in the parish hall beginning with dinner at 5:30 followed by game time.

**Menu is lasagna, bread, salad, dessert and drink.
(donations accepted)**

You may bring your own games or play what we bring. There will be a few surprises!!!

WHO AM I? Meet the Members of Grace answer:
Harold Schneider

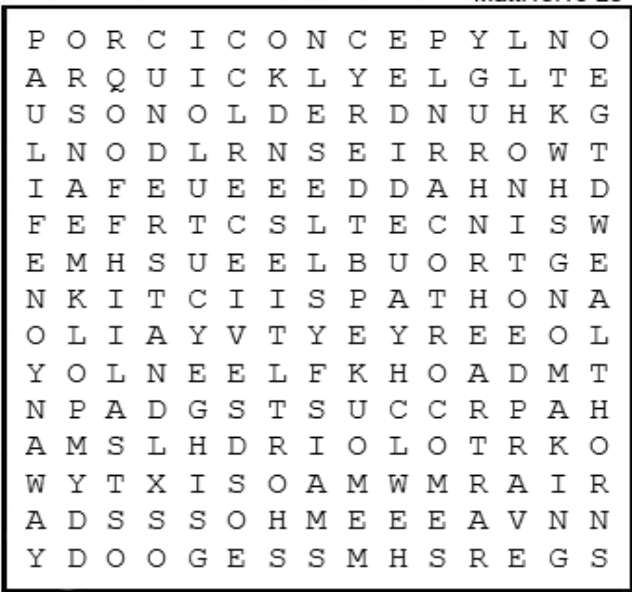
Bible Wordsearch

Parable of the Sower

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.

Puzzle #160

Matt.13:16-23



- | | |
|---------|-------------|
| AMONG | PATH |
| ANYONE | PERSECUTION |
| AWAY | PLACES |
| CHOK | PRODUCES |
| COMES | QUICKLY |
| CROP | RECEIVES |
| EVIL | ROCKY |
| FELL | ROOT |
| GOOD | SEED |
| HEARS | SHORT |
| HEART | SINCE |
| HIS | SIXTY |
| HUNDRED | SNATCHES |
| KINGDOM | SOIL |
| LASTS | SOWER |
| LIFE | THIRTY |
| LISTEN | THORNS |
| MAKING | TIMES |
| MAN | TROUBLE |
| MEANS | UNDERSTAND |
| ONCE | UNFRUITFUL |
| ONE | WEALTH |
| ONLY | WORD |
| PARABLE | WORRIES |
| | YIELDING |

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

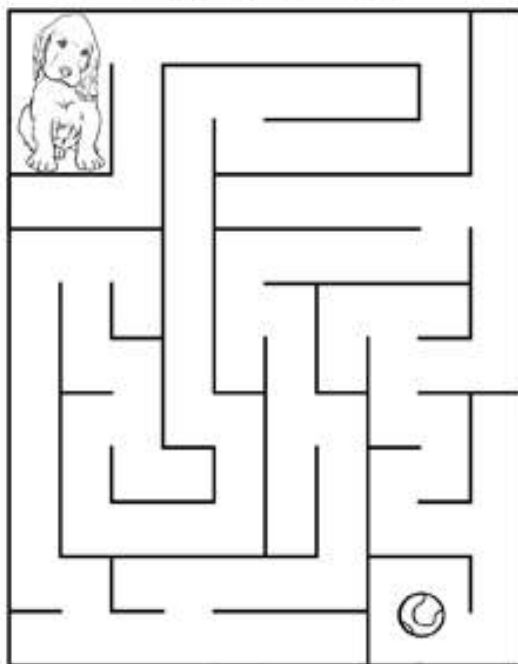


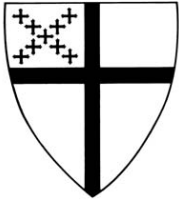
Happy Valentine's Day


Kid's Corner

A-MAZE-iNG ANiMALS

Help the puppy find the ball.





GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 735 WEST NEPESSING
 LAPEER MICHIGAN 48446

Faithful people of Christ growing and serving through God's Grace

Change Service Requested

Grace Episcopal Church of Lapeer

735 West Nepessing Street
 Lapeer, MI 48446
 Phone: 810-664-2841 ■ Fax: 810-664-7380
 E-mail: gracechurchlapeer@sbcglobal.net
 Web site: www.gracechurchlapeer.org
 Office Hours: Monday – 9:00am – 4:00pm
 Tuesday - Thursday—9:00 am—1:00 pm
 Friday—CLOSED

A parish of The Diocese of Eastern Michigan

The Rt. Rev. S. Todd Ousley, Bishop
The Rev. William Boli, Priest-in-Residence

	Vestry	Phone	Liaison Areas
Judy Downey	Senior Warden	810-338-1161	Stewardship
Richard West	Junior Warden	810-664-8482	Building & Grounds
Lauraine Ferris	Clerk of the Vestry	810-664-1063	Parish Life
Eldon Card	Vestry Member	810-245-6000	Administration
Clyde Pearsall	Vestry Member	810-653-8006	
Jennie Spencer	Vestry Member	810-688-3174	Formation/Education
Doris Stevenson	Vestry Member	248-909-0121	Marketing/Advertising
Nancy Wells	Vestry Member	810-664-9793	Outreach
David Coon	Treasurer	810-797-4712	
	Staff		
Nick Ward	Organist		
Paul Allison	Sexton		
Lori Schmidt	Administrative Assistant		
Vicki McIntyre	Bookkeeper		