

GRACE EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

735 W NEPESSING

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

WEDNESDAYS—

12:15pm Holy Eucharist w/Rev. Sue

Followed by Bible Study &

Brown Bag Lunch

CLERGY

The Rev. Susan C. Rich, Priest

[revsuerich@yahoo.com](mailto:revsuerich@yahoo.com)

Cell: 810-706-0654

PH: 810.664-2841

EM: [gracechurchlapeer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gracechurchlapeer@sbcglobal.net)

STAFF

Lori Schmidt, Admin. Assistant

Kathy Levitt, Custodian

Vicki McIntyre, Bookkeeper

Nick Ward, Music Director

OFFICE HOURS

Monday & Wednesday— 9:00a-4:00p

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

Friday—Closed

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# GRACEFUL TIDINGS

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 5

JULY 2011

## *Reflections from Rev. Sue*

Dear Grace Community,

Today is my second full day in Eagle Butte, South Dakota on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation. It is Father's Day and I had the privilege of worshipping in two different faith communities. During this weekend is something called the Niobrara Convocation which is similar to our diocesan convention but for Native American churches in both North and South Dakota. Each year a different reservation hosts it. Because many people attend this event there were only two churches that had people attending worship.

At 10:00am we worshipped at St. John's here in Eagle Butte. Rev. Nancy Steele celebrated and Rev. Mike Houle preached. There is a Eucharistic prayer that was created a few years ago that honors our cultures that Mother Nancy used. This is a singing congregation and we sang out of the Lakota Hymnal with one hymn out of The Hymnal 1982 (for those who don't read Lakota).

After worship and visiting concluded we left for St. Peter's, Thunder Butte which is in the western-most part of the reservation for Holy Eucharist at 1:00pm. The drive was beautiful with many rolling hills, herds of horses, cows and bulls. Half of the trip was on dirt roads. What surprised us when we arrived was that this particular congregation has not

had any worship service since last fall.

Apparently what happens is that the priest who supplies the six different churches is on the reservation one Sunday a month and one weekday a month but he doesn't get to each congregation. Theoretically what is to occur is that lay worship leaders will lead Morning Prayer but St. Peter's doesn't have anyone licensed and no one has been out from other churches to lead worship. The faithful members have set up and taken down decorations for Christmas and Easter without having gathered for these two pivotal Christian celebrations. We will celebrate Holy Eucharist there both Sundays we're here.

Rev. Phil Seitz and I shared leadership during this service in a way neither of us had done before. We alternated the prayers, Phil began the sermon and I finished it. We alternated paragraphs of the Native American Eucharistic Prayer. It was a real honor to provide the Holy Meal for a part of God's - a part of our Christian - family that has been hungry for so long. Afterwards they fed us with a wonderful, Episcopal potluck and we had a chance to visit and get to know one another.

On our drive back to Eagle Butte we drove around the town of Dupree which was hit by a tornado last year. There are quite a few buildings that have been repaired but there is still much evidence of the tornado's damage in plain view.

Tomorrow will begin Vacation Bible School in Eagle Butte in the morning and in White Horse in the afternoon. Construction projects which started yesterday will continue throughout the week. I'll be doing construction in the morning and VBS in the afternoon.

Prayers for the Cheyenne River Episcopal Mission are greatly appreciated.

In Christ's love,

Rev. Sue

# VESTRY Meeting Highlights from June 7



**Present:** Nancy Wells, Richard West, Clyde Pearsall, Lauraine Ferris, Doris Stevenson and Rev. Sue Rich      **Excused:** Harold Schneider    **Guests:**

Schmidt

Opening prayer was led by Clyde Pearsall and meeting called to order at

6:35 p.m.

Motion made to accept May 12 meeting minutes as presented. *Passed.*

**Old Business:** Held discussion of Letter of Agreement with Rev. Sue. She has received template from Diocese and will go over with Lauraine Ferris, Clerk of Vestry to check details – then send to Molly at Diocese to review before going to Bishop and rest of Vestry for signature. Meeting held with Lori to discuss changes.

**Finance Report:** Lori presented May financial report. Questions from last month were addressed and changes in presentation will be considered to make report easier to understand. Motion to approve finance report as presented. *Passed.* Rev. Sue reported that the Townsend Fund is with T.D. Ameritrade – last month was not sure who was handling the funds.

**Priest's Comments:** Rev. Sue reported that the Wed. evening End of Life sessions went well. She revised the planning funeral format used and has it available for parishioners to pick up at church office. Rev. Sue shared vacation schedule and has the supply priest schedule through August. Will be leaving next Wednesday for the Diocese Mission Trip to South Dakota for two weeks.

There will not be a vestry meeting held in July.

**Stewardship Campaign:** The Rev. Tracie Loffhagen, Priest at All Saints Episcopal Church in Marysville, presented some suggestions on how to run successful planning for parishes. Grace vestry will be working with her on developing our own process for the upcoming year.

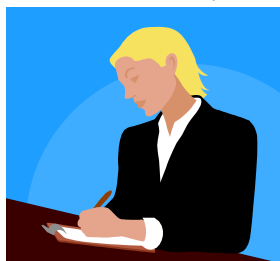
Closing prayer was led by Nancy Wells - meeting adjourned 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lori Schmidt*

Lori Schmidt  
Administrative Assistant

FYI...There will not be a Vestry meeting for the month of July.



## SENIOR WARDEN Report

The June Vestry was held on Tuesday, June 7, with guest speaker The Rev. Tracey Loffhagen from All Saint's in Marysville who spoke about Stewardship. She was very informative and will be returning to work with us on ideas for a Stewardship program.

How wonderful it was to see everyone in red for Pentecost on Sunday, June 12!

June 16, the yard sale was held in the Parish Hall. What great treasures could be found! There was such a large selection of items, everyone could surely find something they just "couldn't live without"!

Please mark you calendars, July 10th immediately following the Service we will have our quarterly Open Forum. Please, if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to bring them up at that time, or speak with a Vestry member anytime.

Many of us are gearing up for the ECW project at the Poker Palace on July 14, 15, 16, 17. Judy Downey had two training sessions and we are ready to go! This is a good way for us to financially help the Church.

There will not be a regularly scheduled Vestry meeting this month. The next meeting will be August 10th.

Enjoy Summer!

Nancy Wells, Senior Warden

### HOSTS NEEDED!

Sign up sheets are available in the Parish Hall for July – December. Please take time to sign up today! If you don't sign up you may get a call from Sandy Chapman.



**The Office and Thrift Shop will be closed  
 July 4, 2011  
 in observance of  
 Independence Day.  
 The office will be closed on  
 Tuesday, July 5th also.**

## Food for Families Report—

What a terrific group of workers we have giving of themselves each week!!! Dutch and I were in need of some time off, to celebrate our granddaughters graduation, with family and friends, during the month of May and early June. We asked for help from our very capable group and boy did they come through. We'd just like to say 'Thanks so very much – to all of you'. We had a wonderful time off and are back ready and enthusiastic, about the coming months of feeding those in need, in our community. Under Lauraine's tutelage they served Chicken Parmesan, Fried Chicken, Mac 'n cheese, Ham with scalloped potatoes, Beef/venison stroganoff, and Chicken a la king, all with accompanying vegetables, salads, desserts and what have you to complete some great meals. They also prepared 25 lunches each week and had the food prepared and ready for pick up by the LACADA representative. WELL DONE!

Janie and Dutch



Congratulations to Kerry & Jennie Spencer on the birth of their granddaughter, Brooklyn Spencer, born on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Also to Uncle Josh! Parents are Jason and Stella Spencer.

God's blessing to all!

## Looking for Nominations to Diocesan Convention 2011

On behalf of the Clerk of Nominations for our Diocesan Convention, I am asking your assistance in recruiting nominees from your convocations and churches for the following positions:

- 1) **Commission on Ministry** Every year, elect one clergy and one lay member for a three-year term.
- 2) **Standing Committee – Lay** Four lay persons elected from at least four (4) nominees, one nominee selected by the Convocation Council in each Convocation preceding the Annual Convention by at least sixty (60) days.
- 3) **Trustees** Each Convocation Council shall nominate at least one (1) person for each vacancy. Every year, elect two persons for a four-year term.

Barb Meikle, Secretary of Convention

If you feel the call for getting involved at the Diocese level—Lori has nomination forms in the office. **Please remember that the nominees for Trustees should be submitted through the Convocation Council** in a timely manner, so they can be forwarded to the Diocese by August 1, 2011. All other nomination forms can be forwarded directly to the Secretary of Convention. The date of the convention will be October 21-22 and held at the Double Tree Hotel in Bay City.

|                     | The Third Sunday after Pentecost<br>July 3<br>HOLY EUCHARIST | The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost<br>July 10<br>HOLY EUCHARIST | The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost<br>July 17<br>HOLY EUCHARIST | The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost<br>July 24<br>MORNING PRAYER | The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost<br>July 31<br>HOLY EUCHARIST |
|---------------------|--|--|---|---|---|
| Clergy Serving      | The Rev. Nancy Steele  | The Rev. Sue Rich  | The Rev. Nancy Steele   |   | The Rev. Heather Barta  |
| Altar Guild         | Jennie Spencer, LeeAnna Snipes, Jessica & Miranda Snipes     |  |   |   |   |
| Altar Flowers       | Don & Nancy Wells  | Dick & Darlene West  | <b>Needed</b>   | Mary Kay Mason  | <b>Needed</b>   |
| Sanctuary Candle    | <b>Needed</b>  | Vicki McIntyre   | Dick & Darlene West   | Charlie Coutcher  | Lorraine Kelch  |
| Vestry Lockup       | Dick West  |  |   |   |   |
| <b>9:00 SERVICE</b> |  |  |   |   |   |
| Ushers/Greeters     | Dave & Jean Coon   |  |   |   |   |
| LEM                 | Kerry Spencer  | Nancy Wells  | Judy Downey   | Nancy Wells   | Jennie Spencer  |
| Lector 1*           | Barb Scharping   | Bob Thomas   | Craig Arnold  | Wilda Hopkins   | Mary Kay Mason  |
| Lector 2**          | Judy Downey  | Jean Coon  | Sandy Arnold  | Nancy Wells   | Kerry Spencer   |
| Acolytes            | Jennie Spencer   | Devin House  | Josh Spencer  | Nick Bagadinski   | Josh Spencer  |
|                     | Jessica Snipes   | Hayden House   |   | Steve Bagadinski  |   |
|                     |  |  |   | Jennie Spencer  |   |
| Hospitality Hosts   |  |  |   |   |   |

**JULY BIRTHDAYS**

- 4 Dave Webster
- 7 Lynne Coulter
- 17 Ted Burder
- 30 Abi Warner  
Sandy Arnold
- 31 Barb Scharping

**JULY ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1 Jack & Marge Hutton
- 6 Don & Nancy Wells
- 11 Craig & Sandy Arnold
- 28 John & Kathy Levitt
- 31 James & Bernita Hawes

**TRANSFERS IN**

**FUNERAL/MEMORIAL**

**BAPTISMS**

**WEDDINGS**

- 8 Andrew & Michelle Weakley
- 15 Nick & Leilani Ward



**Birthdays  
& Anniversaries**

# ECW (Episcopal Church Women) News...

E.C.W. is the Episcopal Church Women, one of our missions is to raise money to help needy programs in the community and to help the finances of our home church. We hold several fund raising event to that end during the year and they all take a lot of time and effort. The congregation is always willing to donate items for yard sales, food for funeral luncheons, etc. But, we would mostly appreciate more volunteers to work the events; i.e. bazaar, fashion show and yard sale, just an hour or two would really be great. Check the parish hall for the sign-up sheets or do come to our relaxed, usually short, meetings on the second Sunday after the service.

Final totals are in from the past few events—for a detailed budget report, a copy is posted on the bulletin board for you to review. The net income from the Scrapbook Daze was \$567.88, the Hawaiian Luau Fashion Show netted \$438.40 (with an additional potential profit for 2012 of \$250-300 with the major decorations on hand) and the most recent yard sale profit was \$705.03, up \$239.28 from last year! Thanks to all who donated the many items and helped set-up, sell, and clean-up any of these events. The Poker Palace event has the volunteers in place and will keep you informed of the results.

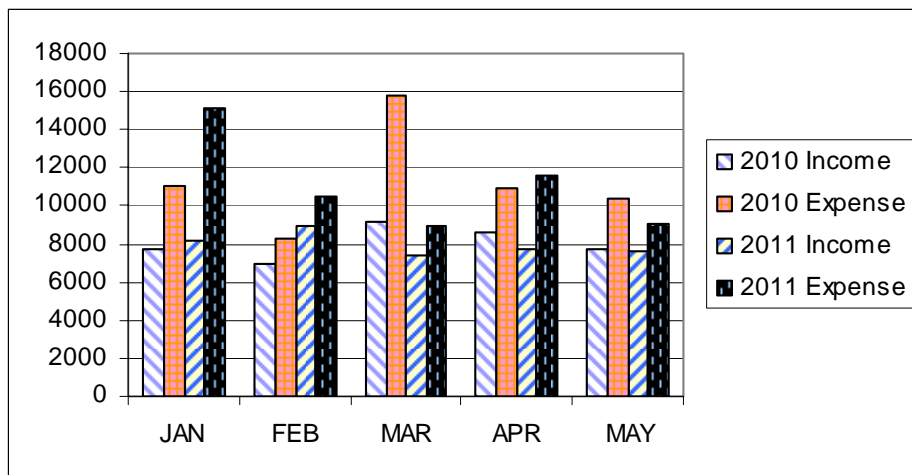
Have a great summer and get rested for the Lapeer Days Egg Roll Sale in August!

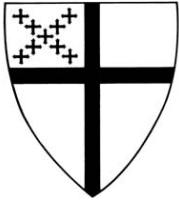
Barb Scharping  
ECW President

## MAY FINANCIALS



|   |                      |                   |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|
| Pledge offerings this month:            | \$ 5,362.00          |                   |
| Transferred from LCBT to cover deficit: | \$                   | (\$13,000.00 YTD) |
| Total month revenue:                    | \$ 7,624.39          |                   |
| Total month expenses:                   | \$ 9,087.08          |                   |
| Income-Expense:                         | (\$ 1,462.69)        |                   |
| Year to date deficit:                   | (\$ 2,367.31)        |                   |
| Total assets:                           | <b>\$ 131,594.55</b> |                   |





GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
 735 WEST NEPESSING  
 LAPEER MICHIGAN 48446

**Change Service Requested**

*Faithful people of Christ growing and serving through God's Grace.  
 Nursery available during 9:00 service.*

*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](mailto:gracechurchlapeer@sbcglobal.net)  
 Web site: [www.gracechurchlapeer.org](http://www.gracechurchlapeer.org)  
 Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday— 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. Susan C Rich, Priest**

|                  | Vestry                   | Phone             | Liaison Areas                      |
|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Nancy Wells      | Senior Warden            | 810-664-9793      | Outreach/Worship                   |
| Dick West        | Junior Warden            | 810-664-8482      | Building & Grounds/<br>Hospitality |
| Lauraine Ferris  | Clerk of the Vestry      | 810-664-1063      | Parish Life/Altar                  |
| Clyde Pearsall   | Vestry Member            | 810-653-8006      | Formation/Education                |
| Harold Schneider | Vestry Member            | 810-664-1398      | Administration                     |
| Doris Stevenson  | Vestry Member            | 248-909-0121      | Marketing/Advertising              |
| David Coon       | Treasurer                | 810-797-4712      |                                    |
|                  | Staff                    |                   | Sacramentalists                    |
| Nick Ward        | Organist                 | Rev. Ann Norton   | St. John the Baptist               |
| Lori Schmidt     | Administrative Assistant | Rev. Sarah Parks  | Otter Lake                         |
| Kathy Levitt     | Custodian                | Rev. Nancy Steele | St. John's, Dryden                 |
| Vicki McIntyre   | Bookkeeper               |                   |                                    |