

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

Cell: 810-706-0654

PH: 810.664-2841

EM: 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 6

JUNE 2011

Reflections from Rev. Sue

Dear Grace Community,

As I create this letter it is very wet outside which reminds me how the people of Joplin, Missouri are dealing with so much more than our several inches of rain. It's hard to wrap my brain around the amount of total destruction and loss of life that community is facing. It seems like more and more natural disasters keep occurring.

But what also keeps making itself known is the great care and generosity we have for one another. Within minutes of the tornado striking Joplin neighbors were helping one another. Rescue support from numerous states arrived to participate in the process of finding people and getting them the assistance needed. I even saw one clip of a family's dog being rescued.

There is great need, which I know is an understatement, and we can be a part of the solution. Joplin is in the Diocese of West Missouri where former St. Paul's Flint rector, Marty Field, is now the bishop. Please pray for the people of Joplin. A letter

from Bishop Field is posted on the West Missouri website at www.diowestmo.org with information about where to send donations.

Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD) has been in contact with the Episcopal Diocese of West Missouri, and is providing assistance in the aftermath of this disaster. Funds will be used to provide food, gas cards and temporary shelter for those in need.

Please pray for all those impacted by the tornado, especially families who are grieving, and for the rescue workers and all those who are helping the community to recover. To support disaster response in Joplin and other communities in the US, please donate to the USA Disaster Response Fund. ERD's website is www.er-d.org.

Another area of the country which is also in need is the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation. The Cheyenne River Episcopal Mission has ten churches of which only six are open. The first of four trips (three summers ago) included meeting Mother Marian who was the priest

responsible for all ten congregations. After that first year she took a leave of absence and discerned to do ministry elsewhere. The bishop of South Dakota refuses to assign anyone there permanently because it is too big a task for one person.

Currently there is a retired priest in his 80's (remind you of anyone?) who lives 250 miles away and comes in one Sunday and one Wednesday a month. A group of 18 from the Diocese of Eastern Michigan will be driving out from June 16-28. I will be one of four priests going out to provide Sunday Holy Eucharist for each of the six congregations the two Sundays we're out there. We will also participate in Vacation Bible Schools in two communities and building rehab projects in Eagle Butte.

Continued on page 2

VESTRY Highlights from May 12



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

Opening prayer was led by Doris Stevenson and meeting called to order at 6:27 p.m.

Motion made by Dick West, seconded by Harold Schneider to accept April 13 meeting minutes as presented. *Passed*

Old Business: Rev. Sue reported on the Townsend Fund committee meeting held on May 11. Bob Thomas told the history of the fund and emphasized that this group is an advisory board to the vestry. At present the interest goes to the general fund quarterly. Rev. Sue will let us know by email the amount. The use of the fund can be changed later but it shouldn't be used until other money is drawn down. We put off discussion of our Letter of Agreement with Rev. Sue to closed session at the end of the meeting.

Finance Report: Lori gave Nancy brief comments to make in her absence. Motion to approve finance report as presented made by Dick, seconded by Clyde. *Passed*

Priest's Comments: Rev. Sue reported that the Wed. evening End of Life sessions are going well. There were 17 the first week and 26/ 29 the second week. During Holy Week she was able to see all home parishioners. The Pastoral Care team has begun its visiting. Lauraine added that the process will be tweaked as needed and the EV schedule still needs to be done. Concerning the diocesan mission trip in June, Rev. Sue reported that they will be able to conduct two VBS sessions an increase from last year. Harold is still trying to get a trailer for them to use.

We went to closed session to discuss the Letter of Agreement with Rev. Sue.

Closing prayer was led by Harold Schneider - meeting adjourned 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauraine Ferris

Lauraine Ferris

Clerk of the Vestry

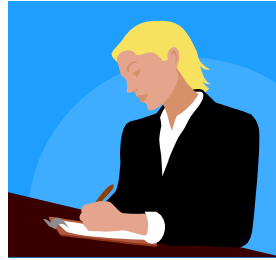
Continued from page 1

The cost of the trip totals over \$25,000 and each participant is asked to raise \$250-\$300 for gas, food and lodging. Any donation to the cause is greatly appreciated. You may write a check to Grace with a note in the memo "SD mission trip" or you may send a check to the diocesan office (924 N. Niagara, Saginaw, MI 48602) made out to "The Diocese of Eastern Michigan" with "SD mission trip" in the memo. If you prefer to provide supplies for the VBS you may bring them to Grace and I will pick them up.

The more we experience great need, the more we can look for and see God's abundance shining through for all to see. May God bless those who are suffering, those who are helping and those who are praying.

In Christ's love,

SENIOR WARDEN Report



What a busy time here at Grace during the month of May!

We have completed the four End of Life Series programs held each Wednesday evening. Average attendance was 20-25. Most of the reviews were very positive. Possibly in the fall we may try another type of program, to continue getting our name out in the community. Please speak to any Vestry member or Rev. Sue with suggestions.

The Vestry has, also, been working very hard during May. Stay tuned for more information.

The Pastoral Team is in place and going well. Thank you, Lauraine.

Any of you that were able to attend the Hawaiian Luau know the fun that was had by all. I understand it was a sellout, which speaks loudly for our Fashion Show reputation over the years. Now, the ECW is getting ready for the Yard Sale, June 16. Thank you ECW for all you do!

Sunday, June 5th is dedicated to Graduates, if you know of anyone that will be graduating, please let Lori know so we can get them on the list to be honored.

The Worship Committee is meeting this week and will be planning for Pentecost. One thing is a given, we'll all be in red!

Enjoy the summer!

Nancy Wells, Senior Warden



June 16, 2011 9-4 p.m.

Doing your spring cleaning? We will be having a yard sale in the parish hall and will be happy to take your treasures from you. Anyone interested in donating items can put them in the parish hall – near the Columbarium entrance, or bring them in before Wednesday, June 15th. **Set-up will be on Wednesday – so if you are able to help – come on in!** Volunteers will be needed to work two hour shifts. **Sign up sheets are in the parish hall!**

Food for Families Report—

Janie & Dutch have taken the month of May off—enjoying our “wonderful” May weather I’m sure. We have served 218 meals and 100 lunches. The meals have been chicken parmesan with spaghetti, fried chicken with macaroni and cheese, ham with scalloped potatoes, and stroganoff. We have had wonderful donations from the American Legion, Mr. Noll’s orchard and the ECW Fashion Show which have been enjoyed by all. Thank you to all who volunteer. Your efforts are appreciated by our guests who give many compliments on the dinners they receive each week.



Sunday, June 5th

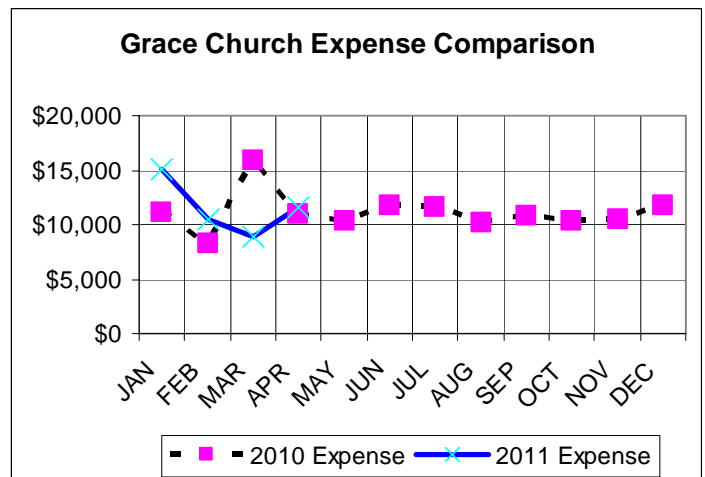
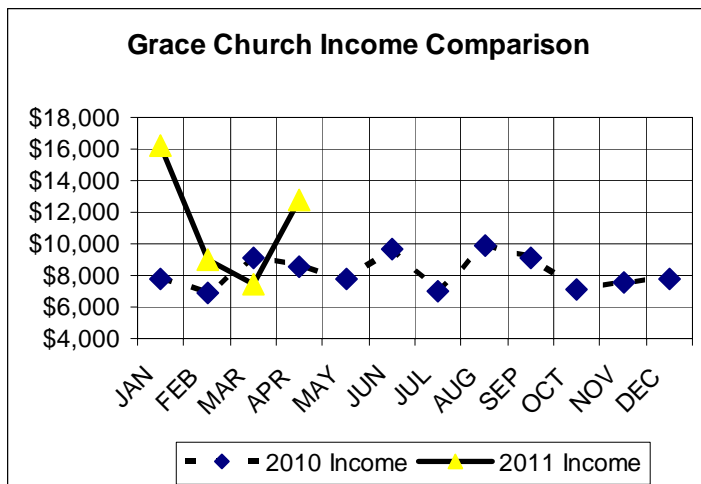
Grace Episcopal Church will honor our graduates. If you have a family member that is graduating from high school, college or trade school, please call the office as soon as possible.

(i.e. member, parent, grandparent, aunt/uncle etc.)



APRIL FINANCIALS

| | | |
|---|----------------------|------------------|
| Pledge offerings: | \$ 4,496.00 | |
| Transferred from LCBT to cover deficit: | \$ 5,000.00 | (\$13,000 ~ YTD) |
| Total month revenue: | | \$ 12,751.38 |
| Total month expenses: | | \$ 11,620.96 |
| Income-Expense: | | \$ 1,130.42 |
| Year to date deficit: | (\$904.62) | |
| Total assets: | \$ 131,984.31 | |



| | The Seventh Sunday of Easter June 5 HOLY EUCHARIST | The Day of Pentecost June 12 HOLY EUCHARIST | The First Sunday after Pentecost June 19 MORNING PRAYER | The Second Sunday after Pentecost June 26 HOLY EUCHARIST |
|---------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Clergy Serving | The Rev. Sue Rich | The Rev. Nancy Steele | | The Rev. Ann Norton |
| Altar Guild | Sandra Chapman and Jean Coon | | | |
| Altar Flowers | Craig & Sandy Arnold | Wilda Hopkins | Harold & Virginia Cook | Burns & Doris Rolland |
| Sanctuary Candle | Charlie Couter | Bill & Lori Schmidt | NEEDED | NEEDED |
| Vestry Lockup | Nancy Wells | | | |
| 9:00 SERVICE | | | | |
| Ushers/Greeters | Craig & Sandy Arnold | | | |
| LEM | Kerry Spencer | Nancy Wells | Judy Downey | Nancy Wells |
| Lector 1* | Barb Scharping | Robert Thomas | Wilda Hopkins | Craig Arnold |
| Lector 2** | Jean Coon | Nancy Wells | Dave Webster | Sandy Arnold |
| Acolytes | Jessica Snipes | Devin House | Josh Spencer | Nicky Bagadinski |
| | Jennie Spencer | Hayden House | Amy Webster | Steve Bagadinski |
| | | | | Jennie Spencer |
| Hospitality Hosts | Graduate Sunday | Craig & Sandy Arnold | Jim & Bernita Hawes | NEEDED |

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Miranda Snipes
- 7 Hayden House
- 8 Fillmore Thomas
Josh Spencer
- 12 Michael Snipes
- 15 Joe Coon
- 17 Randye Clarkson
- 24 Paul Ferris
- 28 Garnet Haase

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 13 Harold & Judy Chown
- 15 Harold & Virginia Cook
- 19 Dave & Jean Coon
- 27 Dutch & Janie Klotzner
Burns & Doris Rolland
Bruce & Barb Scharping

TRANSFERS IN

FUNERAL/MEMORIAL

BAPTISMS/CONFIRMATION

WEDDINGS



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Have a safe and fun summer vacation.



ECW (Episcopal Church Women) News...

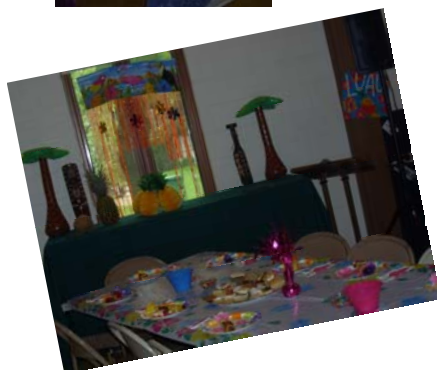
It's Spring cleaning time and a quick and easy way to get rid of the clutter you gathered over the never ending winter is to load up your car and give it to the yard sale, you will have a tidy house and Grace will benefit! Dick and Darlene West are in charge, so if you need any assistance give them a call at 664-8422. Help is always needed at these fundraisers so look for the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make the Luau such a happy event, next year we will be ready with our hula dancing! The profit was \$438.07 and the prize winners were —Roses from Burke's Flowers went to Barb Cook, EG Nick's \$25 certificate went to Denise Eckersley, the Clark \$20 Gas Card was won by Dahna Loeding, Farmhouse \$15 gift certificate went to Virginia Cook and the Thrift Shop Unique Bowl went to Jean Adams. Be sure to thank the community leaders for their support of our event.

Barb Scharping,
ECW President



**ECW
HAWAIIAN
LUAU
2011**



**Flint River Valley Convocation Meeting
Saturday, May 14, 2011**

Meeting was held at St. Paul's, Flint

Bible Study from John 10: 1-10 I am the Good Shepherd

Book study of The Great Emergence.

Minutes from FRVC were reviewed from 4/09/2011 – Approved

Treasurers report was reviewed by Nancy Steele – Approved

Dean's Report – None

President's Report – Jon Steele – There is a resolution to talk about reorganizing the Dioceses as the Dioceses is not sustainable the way it is. There will be changes coming, but no specific things could be mentioned at this point.

Julie, intern director from CEC, spoke about state of health of organization. Because there is no director CEC lost grants for summer program. They are dipping into reserves to continue as there programs are greatly needed in community: such as literacy programs. They will need helps with grants or it may be hard to go on past October 2011.

Convocation Eucharist picnic will be held September 17 at Christ Church in Owosso at 1:00 pm. Ask each congregation how many attending so they can plan on food (Hamburgers/hotdogs). Table service will be provided, dish to pass is expected.

Dioceses Convention is 10/21-22 in Bay City. Any resolutions must be presented to Charles Parker by August 21st. Nominations for Ministry, Standing Committee, and trustees are being taken.

Camp Chick Work Weekend is May 27-30th

Eagle Butte Mission Trip (June 16-28)– Christian Outreach to the Cheyenne River Episcopal Mission in South Dakota - FRVC donated \$2,000 towards trip. Outreach consists of worship, vacation bible school, construction and repairs to buildings. Additional donations would be appreciated to defray personal costs. Excellent donation that stays within our borders.

**Respectfully submitted by
Sandra K. Arnold**



It's Poker Palace sign up time!

Please sign up to work one or two shifts at the Poker Palace during our two weeks of four day shifts each time ~ July 14-17 and August 3-6. After church on June 12th and 19th we will do a training session. Please plan to attend. Please indicate if you can be the captain on a shift. We will carpool from the church each time. **No one** will be walking in or out at night alone! We need lots of help, the money we make as profit allows us to do outreach ministries. Any questions, call Judy Downey at 810-338-6200. Sign up sheets will be in the parish hall for you to select your schedule.

“Right Place...Right Time” by Garnet Haase

A few years ago, I stood on my deck and was amazed by all the constellations and planets I could see. As I gazed at the western sky a meteor shot from the south to the north. I hadn't seen a “shooting star” in years. It blazed into view, streaked across the sky and burned out after a few seconds. If I hadn't been at that place at that time, I would have missed the beauty and wonder of the flaming meteor.

Earlier in the evening deer nonchalantly walked through the yard before returning to the woods. In the morning I watched a muskrat swim the length of the pond. I could have missed getting to experience all these special events but the Lord blessed me with good timing that day. Why?

Have you ever wondered why you found yourself in a particular place at a certain time? Maybe you walked out of a store just in time to see a long lost friend entering. You'd been thinking about your friend for a long time and meaning to call but hadn't gotten to it yet. Unexpectedly, you had the chance to get caught up on what had been happening and you learned your friend had recently been diagnosed with cancer and would appreciate your prayers. If you hadn't been coming out of that door at that moment you might have missed the opportunity to visit with your friend and be a messenger of God's love and hope.

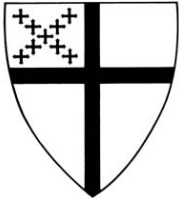
God doesn't move us around like puppets on strings but he does have impeccable timing and he speaks with us throughout each day, guiding us, encouraging us. The problem is that we are often so busy running from task to task, from appointment to appointment, from event to event with the kids screaming, the radio blaring, the television droning, our thoughts racing that we miss what our Lord is trying to share with us.

We'd hear the Holy Spirit speaking to us more clearly and more often if we made a greater effort to quiet our minds, pare down our schedules and turn off our televisions, while increasing the time we spend in prayer and Bible study.

Let's not lose sight of the special things in our lives. Let's focus on our Lord so we can be in the right place at the right time to see those shooting stars and have words of encouragement for someone who needs them at that moment.

Yours in Christ,

Garnet Haase



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

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E-mail: gracechurchlapeer@sbcglobal.net
Web site: 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/ 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 | | | |