

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

(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 10

OCTOBER 2009

The Whale

A female humpback whale had become entangled in a spider web of crab traps and lines. She was weighted down by hundreds of pounds of traps that caused her to struggle to stay afloat. She also had hundreds of yards of line rope wrapped around her body, her tail, her torso, a line tugging in her mouth.

A fisherman spotted her just east of the Faralon Islands (outside the Golden Gate) and radioed for help. Within a few hours, the rescue team arrived and determined that she was so badly off, the only way to save her was to dive in and untangle her - a very dangerous proposition. One slap of the tail could

kill a rescuer.

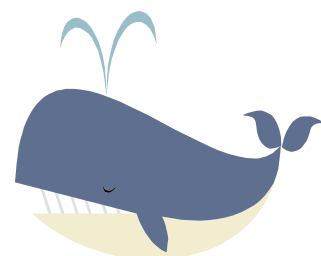
They worked for hours with curved knives and eventually freed her. When she was free, the divers say she swam in what seemed like joyous circles. She then came back to each and every diver, one at a time, nudged them, and pushed gently, thanking them.

Some said it was the most incredibly beautiful experience of their lives. The guy who cut the rope out of her mouth says her eye was following him the whole time, and he will never be the same.

May you, and all those you love, be so fortunate ... To be surrounded by people who will help you get untangled from

the things that are binding you. And, may you always know the joy of giving and receiving gratitude.

I pass this on to you, my friend, in the same spirit. Life is short ... forgive quickly, kiss slowly, love truly, laugh uncontrollably..... ..and never regret anything that made you smile...



VESTRY Meeting Highlights from September 9

Present: Dick West, Eldon Card, Lauraine Ferris, Nancy Wells, Judy Downey, Doris Stevenson, Clyde Pearsall and Fr. Boli

Guests: Lori Schmidt, Doris Rolland and Joyce Moore

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Sr. Warden, Judy Downey who led devotions.

Minutes from the August 12, 2009 Vestry meeting were approved as written. *Approved.*

Convocation Report: The meeting hasn't happened as of this meeting.

Old Business: Doris Rolland distributed a draft of the paperwork that will be used to record the columbarium for the vestry members to review. A final version will be presented once any changes/suggestions are approved by the committee. Nancy Wells informed members that photos will be taken on two Sundays for the directory. Subcommittees from the Parish meeting with Rev. Mark Engle, consultant are meeting and will be prepared to present at the October meeting. Dick West reported that the old frig is gone and he gave update on maintenance contract with Porter Heckman and other bids received. Motion made to change to Holland Heating for a maintenance contract for 2009-2010, supported. Roll call vote, *approved.* They will come in to program the thermostats which will help with heating costs. Sexton position has been filled for the time being for up to ten hours per week.

New Business: Convention Delegates—received interest from Eldon Card and Lauraine Ferris to attend the convention in Port Huron on October 23-24. Motion to appoint Eldon and Lauraine as delegates to the convention, supported. *Approved.* Lauraine Ferris, Clerk of Vestry will notify the Diocese of the additions.

Finance Report: Motion to accept as presented, supported. *Approved.* Lori indicated that the audit was submitted and the budget will be discussed in the next month or so. ECW audit recommendations will be followed as presented.

Liaison Reports:

Parish Life—getting ready for brunch

Stewardship—committee formed and has been meeting

Advertising—will get information out regarding upcoming Bazaar

Outreach—Thrift Shop receiving lots of stuff—FFF can use more volunteers in the morning

Priest's Comments: All seems okay—attendance is slipping—need to all work on recruiting new members. If notice someone is present for a bit—give them a call.

Other business: Expressed concern of having the Sunday service outside—motion to move it indoors parish hall, supported. *Approved.* It will still be casual and the brunch will follow.

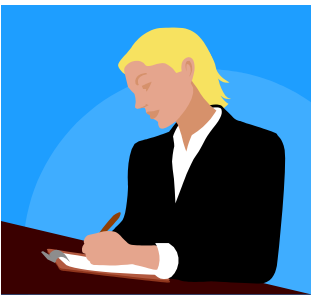
Closing prayer led by Lauraine Ferris. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Schmidt

Administrative Assistant

SENIOR WARDEN Report



Egg rolls enjoyed by hundreds of faithful customers thru the years.

As time speeds by, the date is already set for the holiday luncheon and bazaar on November 7th. Only with God’s help can so few accomplish so much each year at Grace.

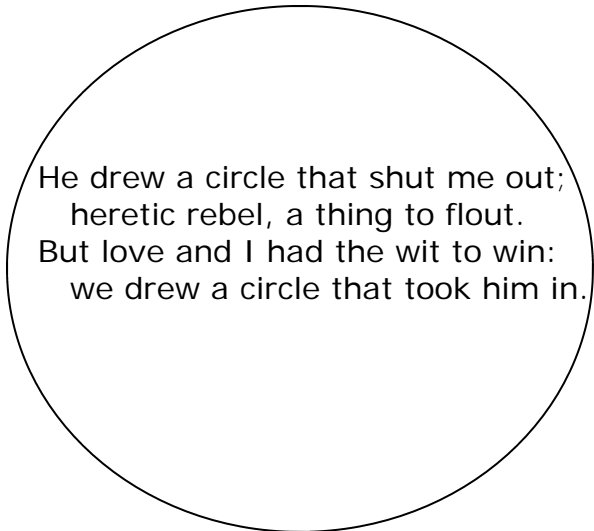
Many thanks to Doris Rolland and the Columbarium committee. They have created this spiritual resting place that is furnished in such good taste. The community helpers that aided in making this “a place of God’s presence”, also deserves many thanks.

On behalf of Lapeer Area Goodfellows, I am asking for non-perishable foods to be given to needy families in the Lapeer County School District at Christmas time. Lori Schmidt also helps, so any donations could be given to Lori or myself. A monetary donation would also be welcome, food would be purchased and placed in food baskets, which area volunteers deliver to families that have signed up for food and clothing vouchers.

Our prayers have been answered, Paul is doing well and now has a scooter to get around. Many thanks to Tracey and Allen for keeping the church neat and clean. Thanks to Dick West and Joe Coon for the yard maintenance.

Last, but in no way least, our ever dependable preparers and servers on “Food for Families” Tuesdays, God will reward you in heaven. We are proud of your service to the less fortunate.

Judy Downey
Sr. Warden



He drew a circle that shut me out;
heretic rebel, a thing to flout.
But love and I had the wit to win:
we drew a circle that took him in.

Used by Fr. Boli
Written by Edward Markham

WHO AM I? What I Believe.

(A report to help Grace church members know each other better.)

By Doris Rolland

I was born in Lapeer and attended elementary, middle and high school here. I went to college, married, have two children, one boy, one girl, and am devoted to my children. I live next door to where I grew up, and I come from a long line of relatives who were ministers.

I teach at the same school my mother use to work in. I teach middle school, which takes up most of my time. My subjects are keyboarding and modernized tech. What is that, you ask. Simply put, the students design something on the computer, then make it, and then test it to see if it works. For example: a rocket. They design it, make it and then go outside to see if it flies. I love teaching middle school kids. I believe, more than anything, that they are so much fun and never dull.

I like to travel and have been to Hawaii several times where part of my family live. I'm an outdoor woman and enjoy hiking, camping, kayaking, bicycling, tae-quando, dancing and swimming.

I believe in moral standards and live by them.

Lani Eastman



Blessings of the Animals by Kevin E. Mackin, O.F.M.

As autumn arrives, people in various places may notice something odd. A procession of animals, everything from dogs and cats to hamsters and even horses, is led to churches for a special ceremony called the Blessing of Pets. This custom is conducted in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures.

Francis, whose feast day is October 4th, loved the larks flying about his hilltop town. He and his early brothers, staying in a small hovel, allowed themselves to be displaced by a donkey. Francis wrote a Canticle of the Creatures, an ode to God's living things. "All praise to you, Oh Lord, for all these brother and sister creatures."

We will celebrate the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi on Sunday, October 11th at Grace Church! Please bring your pets on leashes or in cages, especially if they are prone to wander.

	The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 4 HOLY EUCHARIST	The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 11 HOLY EUCHARIST	The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 18 HOLY EUCHARIST	The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost October 25 HOLY EUCHARIST
Altar Guild	Sandra Chapman & Jean Coon			
Altar Flowers	Lorraine Kelch	Craig & Sandy Arnold	Bill & Lori Schmidt	Clyde & Nancy Pearsall
Sanctuary Candle	Charlie Coutcher	Abi Warner	Vicki McIntyre	Twila Mercer
Vestry Lockup	Lauraine Ferris			
8:00AM SERVICE				
Ushers/Greeters	Bob Coulter & Jack Hutton & Don Wells			
LEM	Eldon Card	Nancy Wells	Eldon Card	Nancy Wells
Lector	Charlie Coutcher	Mary Kay Mason	Lori Schmidt	Nancy Wells
Acolyte	Eldon Card	Nancy Wells	Eldon Card	Nancy Wells
Hospitality Host	Abi Warner			
10:00AM SERVICE				
Ushers/Greeters	Eldon & Vonnie Card			
LEM	Jennie Spencer	Kerry Spencer	Wilda Hopkins	Kerry Spencer
Lector 1*	Jean Coon	Robert Thomas	Kerry Spencer	Sandy Arnold
Lector 2**	Barb Scharping	Nancy Pearsall	Wilda Hopkins	Craig Arnold
Acolytes	Jessica Snipes	Sean Snuske	Josh Spencer	Nicky Bagadinski
		Caryn Snuske	Amy Webster	Steve Bagadinski
				Jennie Spencer
Hospitality Hosts	Craig & Sandy Arnold	Harold & Virginia Cook	Steve & Maria Bagadinski	Clyde & Nancy Pearsall

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 8 Doris Stevenson
- 28 Lauraine Ferris
- 29 Robert Baird
Delores Lamphier
Devin House
- 30 Joan Schwartz



Birthdays & Anniversaries

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Let the office know if you have an anniversary this month.

TRANSFERS IN

FUNERAL/MEMORIAL

BAPTISMS
10/25 Jayden Hunt

WEDDINGS

OCTOBER 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

Flint River Valley Convocation Highlights

✚ The Diocese just adopted a mandatory church pension and health rule effective January 2010. It will join churches in the same fund and is expected to lower cost while maintaining benefits.

✚ Nancy Steele of Corunna will be the convocation nominee for standing committee.

✚ Nominations are open for the Bishop's Christian Service Award. Last year, Lorraine Kelch won it from Grace. Directed primarily for unsung volunteers, the deadline is October 3rd.

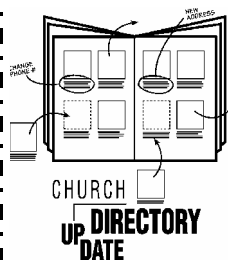
✚ Dean Bedford will soon send out the convocation annual request for grants form due December 3rd. Grace Church did not receive one last year. So far this year \$47,750 was awarded churches in our convocation. The balance for the fiscal year is \$18,415.00. Details are in the church office.

✚ The convocation church reports were given. Grand Blanc's St. Christopher's have lost the fundraising of \$30,000 with the closing of the Buick Open. Owosso used the State Poker Game for a fundraiser and recommends it highly.

Doris Rolland,
Convocation Representative

Reminder!

Parish Pictorial Directory



Pictures will be taken between services and immediately following the 10:00 service on Sunday, October 4th. If you didn't get yours taken September 27th and will not be available on the 4th—please contact Lori at the office or Charlie at 810-736-5747 to make arrangements. We would love to have everyone in this updated directory. Special thanks to Charlie Cutcher and Nancy Wells for getting this project

“Snap, crackle and pop” by Garnet Haase

October reminds me of Rice Crispies. It has snap, crackle and pop. Dazzling golds, fluorescent oranges and flaming scarlets pop out from the sky’s brilliant blue backdrop. Fallen leaves crackle beneath our feet and skitter across our lawns. Tart juicy apples snap when we bite into them. Autumn vibrates with life. Nature has one last fling before temperatures drop, animals hibernate and snow flies.

Trees will soon be black lace against gray. Things will seem dead and dreary, but let’s not be deceived by outward appearances. There’s plenty of life in those sleeping bears and trees. The same is true for us. Sometimes we feel lifeless. We get depressed and down hearted and have trouble getting off the couch. We drift from room to room, from project to project, from relationship to relationship. We drag through each day wondering what happened to us. Where is our enthusiasm? Where is our energy? We may be spiritually and emotionally asleep. Our sap may be flowing slowly, but we’re still alive and where there’s life there’s hope.

Maybe we’ve lost some hair or gone gray. Maybe we have health problems that drain our energy. Maybe we’ve lost a loved one to death or a broken relationship. Maybe we’re having trouble setting goals. Maybe we’re unsure of what God wants us to be and do. That’s all right. These things happen to all of us from time to time.

Like the bare tree limbs, we may not seem lively, but we must not be fooled. Birds and squirrels still take shelter and find food in leafless trees. They may not be colorful, but those trees continue serving. Our Lord wants us serving too. There may not be much snap, crackle and pop in our lives at the moment, but let’s remember that even soggy Rice Crispies can keep a hungry person from starving.

Yours in Christ,
Garnet Haase

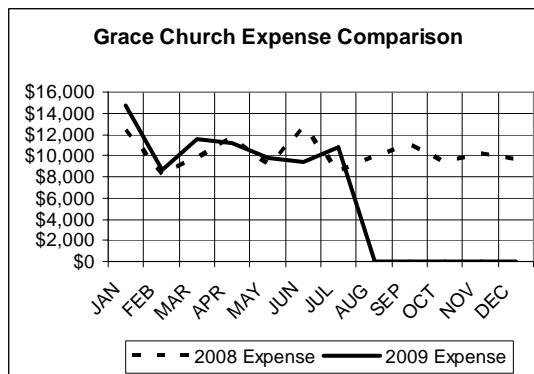
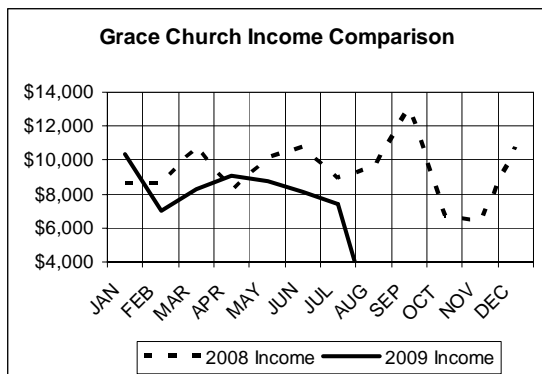


The Flint River Valley Convocation is accepting nominations for the Bishop Leidel Christian Service Awards. Last year our own Lorraine Kelch was recognized for her dedicated and committed service to the Thrift Shop and a variety of other “behind the scenes” activities she does for Grace Church. Each congregation is allowed one nomination. Please submit letters of nomination to Lori in the office by October 1st, she can forward the nominee to Dean Bedford, President of FRVC. You can put them in the office library mailbox, email to gracechurchlapeer@sbcglobal.net or put in the offering plate.



AUGUST FINANCIALS

Pledge offerings:	\$ 5,399.23
Total revenue:	\$ 7,381.08
Total expenses:	\$ 10,753.05
Income-Expense:	(\$ 3,371.97)
Year to date deficit:	(\$ 16,330.17)
Total transferred from LCBT to cover deficit:	\$15,000.00
Total assets:	\$157,366.93



ECW (Episcopal Church Women) News...

There was no ECW meeting in September, we were all recovering from egg rolls. (By the way, the final profit total was \$6,254.03! Hard work sure paid off.) There will be a meeting on Sunday, October 4th following the 10:00 service to make plans for the Bazaar to be held on November 7th. As always, events take a lot of work but many hands make everything easier. Sign up sheets will magically appear in the parish hall for pies for the dessert and oodles of cookies for the cookie walk, always a popular event. We will be looking for crafts, gift filled baskets, and cakes, jelly/jams, etc for a baked goods table. Lorraine Kelch will have the white elephant sale downstairs, if you have anything of that sort (no white elephant please!) Lorraine would be glad to see you. We always need kitchen help. Please volunteer anywhere you are able.

Barb Scharping
ECW President



SAVE THE DATE...

Saturday, November 7, 2009

9 am - 2 pm

Luncheon served 11:00-1:30

Crafts, cookie walk, white elephant sale, door prizes.

Mark your calendar to bake cookies and pies for the luncheon.

Will be selling baskets - like last year, so start thinking what you want to fill your basket with.

Raffle tickets will be available soon.

Bible Wordsearch

Luke 18:1-8

Wordsearch 169

The Widow and the Judge

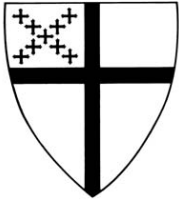
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I	O	I	I	E	T	R	W	R	S	S	E	N	O	U
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- adversary
- always
- bothering
- bring
- cared
- certain
- chosen
- coming
- cry
- day
- disciples
- earth
- eventually
- faith
- feared
- finally
- find
- give
- Jesus
- judge
- justice
- kept
- listen
- Lord
- men
- neither
- night
- nor
- off
- ones
- plea
- pray
- putting
- quickly
- refused
- says
- show
- son
- tell
- time
- told
- town
- unjust
- wear
- widow
- will

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

Psalm 23





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 10:00 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
 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

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