

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@gmail.com

Cell: 810-706-0654

PH: 810.664-2841

Office Schedule:

Wednesday 9-11:30 am

Alternate Tuesday 2-5 pm

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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by Garnet Haase

GRACEFUL TIDINGS

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2011

Reflections from Rev. Sue

Dear Grace Community,

Thank you to everyone who participated in making our Egg Roll Booth at Lapeer Days such a success. Once again Grace Church was buzzing all week long as preparations for the big event got under way.

The list of people who participated is too long to thank each and every person by name but I do want to recognize a few people whose presence all weekend helped to keep things running smoothly.

- Jennie and Kerry Spencer did a great job coordinating the whole week.
- Doris Stevenson – money collector and message taker.
- Charlie Coutcher & Lynne Coulter – managers of the indoor service operation.
- Della Hammond – money manager.

Thank you to all: ECW, purchasers of supplies, carriers of heavy items, those who set up and took down the booth, food and sauce preparers, kitchen and parish hall preparers, “holy” egg rollers, cooks, runners from

the kitchen to the holy roller table, dish washers, Mule runners, money takers and counters, booth workers, food handlers, parade participants, egg roll purchasers, supporters through prayer, cleaners of the kitchen and parish hall, and all who supported this effort in any way.

In addition to our big project of making and selling egg rolls, I have been reflecting on how ministry has been going since I began serving with you a year and a half ago. It’s always good to review what’s been going well and what things need some tweaking.

Beginning in September I’m going to be experimenting with my schedule. I will post a calendar with this schedule (subject to change as events emerge) in a prominent place for you to see. Generally speaking, I will have office hours at Grace on Wednesdays from 9am-11:30am and every other Tuesday from 2pm-5pm. I will be available for visits or meetings Wednesday afternoons from 2pm-5pm and most Tuesdays from 9am-2pm or noon-2pm. Of course, I’m available by

cell phone (810-706-0654) should you need to speak with me.

Another change you may have noticed is that in the Sunday bulletin, the following question is being posed: “Where have you seen God today?” Your vestry and I are hoping that as we ask this question we will begin to pay (more) attention to God’s presence around us each day and that as we notice God more we will be uplifted and desire to share with others in a way that will uplift us all.

Hopefully these changes will be a benefit to all of us! It is a joy to be serving alongside you in ministry and I am honored to be traveling this journey of life with you.

In Christ’s love,

Rev. Sue



Vestry Highlights August 10

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

Opening prayer was led by Lauraine Ferris and meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Motion made to accept June 7th meeting minutes as presented. *Passed.*

Old Business: Letter of Agreement discussion held. A motion was made by Dick to continue the current Letter of Agreement with Rev. Sue at half-time. Seconded by Harold. Voted on, *passed.* Stewardship update – no more information was shared at this time.

New Business: Lori shared that on Monday, 8/8/11 she found when entering the kitchen, the fridge was making strange noise, and the temperature was very hot – service call made and repair done. Discussion held regarding freezer usage for Food for Families – concern about utility cost and the length of food storage. Motion was made to unplug two freezers after egg rolls for the convenience of lowering utility bills, supported. *Voted on, passed.* Lori presented the Diocese Convention registration request to cover cost of four delegates and one clergy. Motion was made to pay \$175 registration fee, supported. Voted on, *passed.*

Finance Report: Lori presented June and July financial reports. New graph format easier to understand. Have transferred \$5,000 in June and \$8,000 in July – total of \$26,000 to date. August looks like won't have to transfer funds. Motion to approve finance reports as presented, support. Voted on, *passed.* Preliminary net totals from the Palace Poker fundraiser is \$2,900 and \$3,600. Will be looking at possibly three dates next year. Lori presented the Finance Committee 2010 Audit report – there were no recommendations for either account for this year. Motion to accept Audit report as presented, supported. Voted on, *passed.* Lori presented the 2012 Tithes Commitment letter – Motion to authorize, supported. Voted on, *passed.*

Priest's Comments: Rev. Sue reported that she is refreshed and glad to be back after three weeks vacation. She would like to prepare a calendar for the upcoming year to help parishioner and leaders look at the big picture. She will be working with Sr. Warden Nancy and Jr. Warden Dick developing a list of priorities of expectations and visions for Grace Church.

Closing prayer was led by Harold Schneider - meeting adjourned 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Schmidt

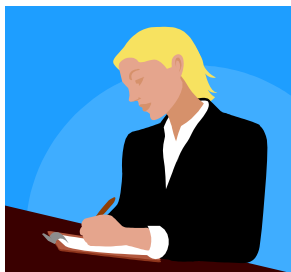
Lori Schmidt

Administrative Assistant

Did you See God Today?

When visiting Morna Glancy – she told me about sitting on the deck on a cloudy day – when talking to God, as she does frequently, she asked about having some sunshine. Moments later the clouds moved on and the warm sunshine was warming her face, she saw God that day!

I am still waiting for your experience of the wonders of God in your everyday lives to share!



SENIOR WARDEN Report

THANKS TO THE WONDERFUL GRACE CHURCH FAMILY AND FIRENDS!

We survived the Palace Poker & Egg Rolls! Everyone has done a lot of hard work for the past several weeks, we are weary, but it is gratifying to know how much the people in the community appreciate our hard work by supporting our egg roll sales.

What's next? The bazaar in November.

We are small in number, but strong as a Church Family.

Nancy Wells, Senior Warden

Please Note...

September 5, 2011

Church Office will be closed on Monday.



The Thrift Shop will be closed on Saturday & Monday.



Now that Summer is winding down and we will have everyone coming back for worship service, our coffee hour slots for September, October, November and December will need to be filled. Nothing fancy, maybe just donut holes would be plenty or whatever your little hearts desire.

So if you think you can do a Sunday, sign up ~ ask someone to help if necessary. See you at coffee hour ~ *Sandy Chapman*

Highlights from August 13, 2011
St. Jude's, Fenton

Treasurer's Report:

Report reflects payments made and receipts from Diocese through August. Payments for September can be covered by what we have already received. Motion to approve by Jack, supported by Frank. Approved.

President's Report:

Mission Council had short meeting - working on solving diocesan problems

Old Business:

Convocation Picnic – Saturday, September 17th – need a count for attendance by Monday, September 12th. Frank – 989-723-4843. E-mails: if you have not received or can't open minutes, agenda, or treasurer's report, let Joyce (minutes) or Rev. Nancy Steele (agenda and treasurer's report) know and we will mail you a copy.

New Business:

- 2010 financial review – used the same form that congregations use for internal audits, filled out with input from several members and sent to diocese with summary letter and recommendation to add Jack Mills as an additional signer on account. No other changes made.
- Global Mission Task Force: someone will be coming from Dominican Republic in September to explain our interactions with the Episcopal Church in the Dominican Republic.
- Standing Committee meets monthly – working on separating duties between the Standing Committee and the Diocesan Council. The Standing Committee will continue to do the duties traditional to that committee, and is working on defining what duties will define the job of the Diocesan Council.
- The closing of St. John's, St. John is scheduled for this Wednesday, August 17th at 6:30pm.
- Christian Service Awards – congregations need to get nominations into the FRVC by November 1st.
- Grant Requests – recipients need to report on last years receipts before being eligible to receive a grant for this year – the report for last year and request for this year need to be in by November 1st. The convocation will work on designing a form for recipients to use to make the necessary report for next year.

Parish Updates were shared.

The Rev. Nancy Steele continues to serve at Grace, Lapeer and St. John's, Dryden.

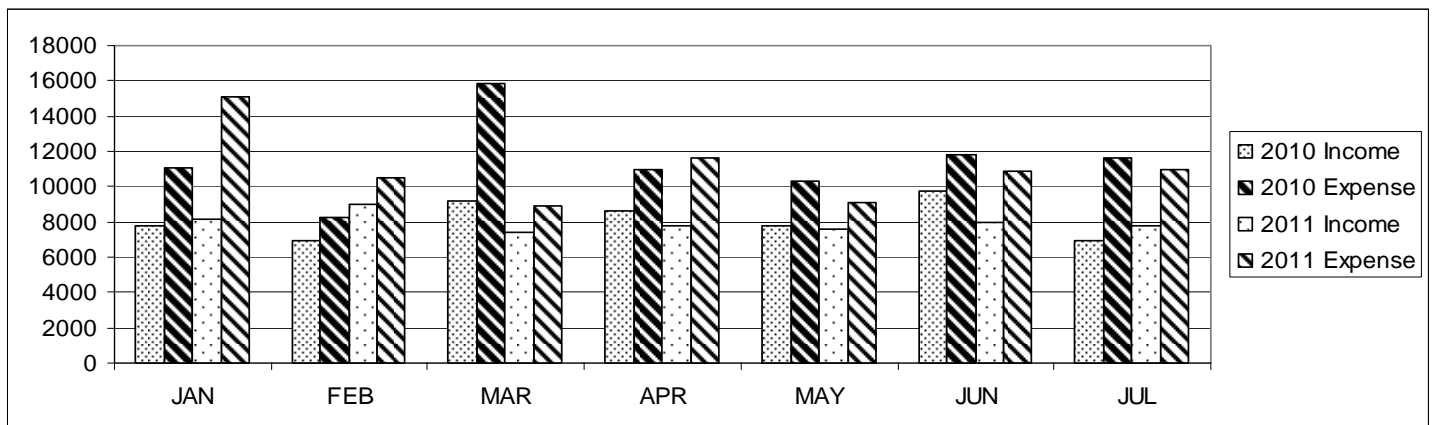
Keep in prayer: Judy Collier and family.

Motion was made to adjourn by Frank and supported by Jack. Meeting adjourned at 11:13 - Ended with The Lord's Prayer

JULY FINANCIALS



Pledge offerings:	\$ 5,215.00	
Transferred from LCBT to cover deficit:	\$ 8,000.00	(\$26,000 ~ YTD)
Total month revenue:	\$ 7,796.87	
Total month expenses:	\$ 10,944.02	
Income-Expense:	(\$ 3,147.15)	
Total assets:	\$ 124,273.31	



	The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost September 4 HOLY EUCHARIST	The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 11 HOLY EUCHARIST	The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 18 HOLY EUCHARIST	The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 25 HOLY EUCHARIST
Clergy Serving	The Rev. Ann Norton	The Rev. Sue Rich	The Rev. Sarah Parks	The Rev. Sue Rich
Altar Guild	Lauraine Ferris & Barb Scharping			
Altar Flowers	Ted & Harriet Burder	Clyde & Nancy Pearsall	Mary Kay Mason	Twila Mercer
Sanctuary Candle	Lorraine Kelch	Abi Warner	Charlie Coutcher	Burns & Doris Rolland
Vestry Lockup	Lauraine Ferris			
9:00 SERVICE				
Ushers/Greeters	Harold & Judy Chown			
LEM	Kerry Spencer	Nancy Wells	Judy Downey	Nancy Wells
Lector 1*	Barb Scharping	Robert Thomas	Mary Kay Mason	Craig Arnold
Lector 2**	Jean Coon	Kerry Spencer	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	Vicki McIntyre	Dave & Jean Coon	Dave & Cathy Webster	

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 7 Harold Schneider
- 14 LaVern Warner
- 17 Tracey House
- 22 Bill Valley
- 25 LeeAnna Snipes

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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

TRANSFERS IN

FUNERAL/MEMORIAL

- 8/6 John Shepherd
- 8/27 Jean Ebel

BAPTISMS/CONFIRMATION

WEDDINGS



September 6, 2011!

ECW (Episcopal Church Women) News...

Another year and another big success for egg rolls, what a hard working group of people there are here at Grace. Jennie & Kerry led the way and everyone chipped in one way or another and all with good humor. Thank-you! A special thanks to John & Kathy Levitt for the use of the mule again this year for running egg rolls and supplies to the booth—what a treasure.! Della is busy with the numbers and they are very impressive—she is waiting for some bills to be turned in for the final total, but it looks close to \$6,000!

Now we can relax for a couple of months. As you know we have to decide how we will allocate the money we made from our work at the Palace Poker and this will be on the agenda for the September ECW meeting, so if you have any thoughts on this, do plan to attend the September 11th meeting after the service.

Barb Scharping,
ECW President



A huge thanks to all who worked at the Palace Poker this month—we netted a profit of \$3436.25. Palace Poker 2012 dates are selected in October—let your vestry know or Judy Downey if you think 3 times would be feasible for us to do next year.

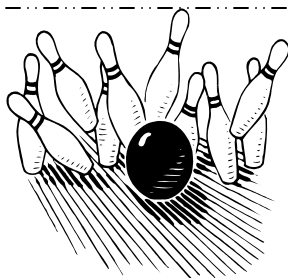
Judy Downey, Coordinator



CHOIR PRACTICE
RESUMES

September 8,
2011

Practice is changing to Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Need sopranos and anyone wanting to be part of the choir. Lots of fun and a great opportunity to share your gift of music. Talk to Nick Ward if interested.



We need bowlers for the church bowling league. We will bowl every other Sunday from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Gerlach's beginning September 18th.

Cost is \$10 per person each week. We will have 4 member teams, teams can be couples, families, friends, etc. Christ the King Lutheran Church has some teams ready to go! Contact the church office to sign up today!

Also can use cheerleaders!

LAPEER
DAYS 2011
EGG
ROLL
FUNDRAISER



Prep Work...



"Booth runners"



"Cookers"



Holy
Rollers!



Sales &
Service...



"Master Fryer"



Satisfied
Customers!!!

“Monsters” by Garnet Haase

I’m too tired to write this article. I worked all night and have to work again tonight. I should be in bed. My yawns are bigger than the Grand Canyon. Would I exaggerate? All I want to do is eat the homemade vegetable soup that’s cooking as we speak and go to bed. But I have this article to write and some other stuff I have to do before I can collapse.

There’s a point to all this whining. Okay, maybe there isn’t, but there’s supposed to be so I’ll make something up. All right here goes. There are times in our lives when we’re drained of all our physical, emotional, mental and even spiritual energy. All we want to do is crawl under the covers and wait for the monsters in our lives to go away and leave us alone.

Ah but alas, they tend to lurk. Our monsters take many forms. Financial problems, job loss, illness, death of loved ones, growing old alone, unhappy relationships, grass that refuses to stop growing, car troubles, are just a few of the things that go bump in the night and frighten us out of our peaceful sleep. And no amount of covers can protect us from the monsters in our lives.

Hiding only seems to work for a short time and then we have to face the things that frighten us or risk losing ourselves under all those blankets and quilts. It isn’t easy and it isn’t fun, but facing the spooky stuff in our lives is freeing. Too bad I couldn’t wait and think of all this scary stuff for the October newsletter. Oh well....

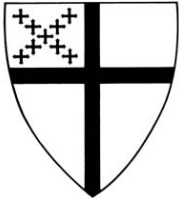
Our Lord wants us free from the monsters hiding under our beds and in our closets. He

wants us to crawl out from under our covers and face the things we think will eat us alive. See, God knows no amount of blankets can protect us from the challenges and heartaches of life. Only he can fully protect us as we walk through the valley of the shadow of death or look under our beds.

When we trust in our Lord’s protection and get up the courage to look under our beds, the worst we might find are some marauding dust rhinos and that sock we’ve been missing for the past three months.

Okay, my soup must be done by now and I’ve made up about as much as I’m able to in my semi-conscious state. So let’s trust in God and sleep peacefully ... starting now.

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

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 & 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			