

Grace Notes

Number 1 Volume 7

Grace Episcopal Church 15650 Reeck Rd. Southgate MI. 48195

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Happy New Year!

Grace Episcopal Church

2006 Vestry

The Rev. George L. Davinich (734) 285-0380
Rector's emergency phone (734) 395-4613
Sr. Warden: **Barbara Porath**
Jr. Warden: Bldg & Grounds **Jerry Pesci**
Treasurer: Caroline Grant
Communications: Pat Sova
Pastoral Care: Sharon Edmunds
email rector@gracesouthgate.org
Memorial Garden: Art Jones
Education: Suzanne Argenta
Betsy Meredith

Worship: Doug Pryor
Outreach Ministry: Sue Natale
Special Events: Sue Natale & Linda Armstrong

Rector's Report

January 2007

The month of December was jam-packed! Hopefully all of you will be able to relax a little now that the New Year is here. What is important is to start now planning for the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Sunday, January 28th. The regular worship service will conclude by 11:15, followed by a Potluck lunch, and then our business meeting will start at 11:45. There are a number of items that we will be voting on and discussing. Items that are of importance to start thinking about and working on prior to the meeting include:

- Vestry nominations
 - 3 Full term positions are open
 - 1 Part term position is open
- Downriver Deanery Representatives
- Delegates to Convention – October 2007
 - Alternates to Convention – October 2007
- Reports of Committees – due in advance of meeting

Lately there has been a plethora of information (mostly negative) concerning the future direction of the PECUSA (Episcopal Church USA) in the mainstream media, however all the facts aren't being represented. It is important that all the information gets out. My concern as pastor here at Grace is that we understand the situation, know the facts, and discuss it as a Christ centered community – not pressured by the media. Having said that I encourage all of you to stay current with all the happenings of the Church with the following sources of information:

- <http://www.anglicancommunion.org>
- <http://www.edomi.org/edomi2006/>
- <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/ens.htm>
- <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/>

The 1st site is the official web page of the Anglican Communion centered in England. The 2nd site is our own Diocesan website and has many links on it to relevant information. The 3rd site is the official news service of the Episcopal Church. If you go onto the site you can sign up for daily emails that give you the latest information about the church. The 4th site is the national website for the Episcopal Church in the USA. All of these sites are maintained daily and have useful resources for understanding current events, trends, and future plans. Please see me if you have any questions.

Pledge sheets were distributed in early December and are available at any time. Please help us plan our budget and expand our work for Christ in the world. Thank you.

On a personal note I'm tentatively planning a vacation with Mary beginning after the Annual Meeting, prior to the Lenten season. Before leaving arrangements for pastoral care and worship will be in place. George +

Grace Episcopal Church

15650 Reeck Road

Southgate, Michigan 48195

(734) 285-0380

December 2006

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

It is a pleasure to be here! After four months of service to the membership I've learned that Grace Church is family to its members in times of joy, crisis, and grief – and no one could ask for more. You care for each other by continuing the ministry of Christ as His hands and heart in this parish, the community, and the world.

I now need to shift to the business of Grace Church and planning for the future.

It is time for all of us to prayerfully consider how we will give to God what God has so richly given us. As a part of stewardship your tithes and offerings help keep the lights, heat and air on, to compensate its Rector and Choir Director / Musician, cover all other needs, in addition to supporting the work of the Church in the world.

Today you are receiving your pledge/promise cards and again you are asked to pray upon your giving.

At the same time, please also consider continuing or beginning contributions toward the Capital Fund so that we may continue to improve the physical plant of Grace Church. Since arriving here in August we together have installed new windows, doors, cement, awning, computer system, phone system, and printer. All were necessary, however there is more work to be done.

These cards will be offered to God the 1st Sunday in January. These cards are necessary for the Budget Committee to plan for 2007 and our collective future.

Prayerfully yours in Christ,

Rev. George Davinich

A Preparation for Giving

Stewardship is a serious matter for all of us. Please take the time to go through this “Preparation for Giving” exercise and refer to the *Percentage Table/Guide for Giving* below it before you begin to fill out your *Estimate of Giving Card*.

1. My/Our income is \$ _____ per _____. *(Take a moment to think about all the gifts and blessings that God has given you in your life.)*

2. My/Our present offering to Grace is _____. *(Take a moment to think about your response to all those gifts and blessings that God has given you.)*

3. My/Our present offering is _____ % of my/our income. The next percentage point higher is _____ %. *(Taking this step forward would be a “leap of faith.” Think about taking that step. Pray about it. Is this something you want to do?)*

4. Taking this “leap of faith,” my giving would be \$ _____ per _____. *(What would this mean in your life? Would it change anything?)*

5. A tithe (10%) of my/our income would be \$ _____ per _____. *(How would tithing enrich your life and your faith?)*

- 6. Now, take a moment to pray about your next step. Ask our Gracious and Generous God for guidance, and follow your heart. Then, complete your Estimate of Giving Card and sign it.**

Percentage Table/Guide for Giving

Percentage Giving (Proportionate)												
(Expressed in \$ commitment per week)												
Annual Income	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10% Tithe	11%	12%
15,000	2.88	5.77	8.65	11.54	14.40	17.31	20.19	23.08	25.96	28.85	31.73	34.62
20,000	3.85	7.69	11.54	15.38	19.23	23.08	26.92	30.77	34.62	38.46	42.31	46.15
25,000	4.81	9.62	14.42	19.23	24.00	28.85	33.65	38.46	43.27	48.08	52.88	57.69
30,000	5.77	11.54	17.31	23.08	28.85	34.62	40.38	46.15	51.92	57.69	63.46	69.23
35,000	6.73	13.46	20.19	26.92	33.65	40.38	47.12	53.85	60.58	67.31	74.04	80.77
40,000	7.69	15.38	23.08	30.77	38.46	46.15	53.85	61.54	69.23	76.92	84.62	92.31
45,000	8.65	17.31	25.96	34.62	43.27	51.92	60.58	69.23	77.88	86.54	95.19	103.85
50,000	9.62	19.23	28.85	38.46	48.08	57.69	67.31	76.92	86.54	96.15	105.77	115.38
55,000	10.58	21.15	31.73	42.31	52.88	63.46	74.04	84.62	95.19	105.77	116.35	126.92
60,000	11.54	23.08	34.62	46.15	57.69	69.23	80.77	92.31	103.85	115.38	126.92	138.46
70,000	13.46	26.92	40.38	53.85	67.31	80.77	94.23	107.69	121.15	134.62	148.08	161.54
80,000	15.38	30.77	46.15	61.54	76.92	92.31	107.69	123.08	138.46	153.85	169.23	184.62
90,000	17.31	34.62	51.92	69.23	86.54	103.85	121.15	138.46	155.77	173.08	190.38	207.69
100,000	19.23	38.46	57.69	76.92	96.15	115.38	134.62	153.85	173.08	192.31	211.54	230.77

Estimate of Giving for 2007

Our/My **TOTAL** estimated annual contribution/pledge to
Grace Church for 2007 will be \$ _____,

to be paid ___ weekly/ ___ monthly/ ___ quarterly/ ___ annually.

___ We/I would like envelopes this year. ___ We/I don't need envelopes.

Signature

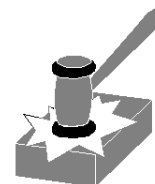
Date



Pastoral Care will meet on Jan. 11, 2007, at 6:00 pm at Olive Garden. Following dinner, we'll adjourn to Grace Hall to do our work. Everyone is welcome. Come for dinner or just to do the cards.



Our annual Pancake Breakfast/Chinese Auction will be Feb. 18 (the actual Chinese New Year!). I'm sure everyone has at least one item they either got for Christmas or sometime during the year that would be perfect for our auction. Remember - only unused items. They don't have to be new, but they do have to be unused. This is always a good time and the breakfast is yummy.



The Theta Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority is sponsoring a night of the Southgate Community Players' production of "**Noises Off.**" It will be on Feb. 15 at Davidson Junior High. Hors d'Oeuvres will be served at 7:30 and the play begins at 8:00. There will be a Silent Auction with all proceeds going to charity. Tickets are \$10.00 and may be purchased from Caroline or at the door. It's a fun night for a good cause so please support us. Thanks

Don't forget to get your reports in for
the Annual Parish Meeting January 28th.

Many of you were duly impressed by the Party Cheese Wreath I'd made for coffee hour a few weeks ago. Don't be too impressed; it wasn't an original recipe. But many, well-- some, well-- a couple of you requested the recipe. So here it is. *From Caroline Grant*

Party Cheese Wreath

- 2 pkg. (8 oz. ea.) cream cheese, softened
- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- 1 Tbsp. each chopped red bell pepper and finely chopped onion
- 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce (I was out so I used soy sauce instead)
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- Dash ground red pepper



Mix cream cheese and cheddar cheese with electric mixer on medium speed until well blended. Blend in remaining ingredients. Refrigerate several hours or overnight. Place drinking glass in center of serving platter. Drop round tablespoonsful of cheese mixture around glass, just touching outer edge of glass to form ring; smooth with spatula. Remove glass. Garnish with chopped fresh parsley and additional chopped red bell pepper. Serve with crackers and/or breadsticks. Makes 12 servings. Boy, I really stretched that, didn't I? ENJOY!!

Notable Quotes

from Fr. George
seen on church Billboards

It isn't the gift in your hand
But what you hold in your
heart.
Wise men still seek him

The Best Gift men ever got
was wrapped in a manger...

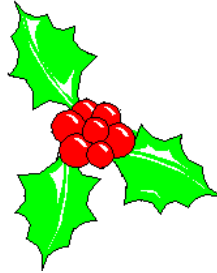
It wasn't the apple in the Tree –
The problem was the *pair* on the
ground

Why do we get warm and Fuzzy
December 25 – Don't the other
364 days matter?

In your Giving.... Give *Love*...
You are the only **JESUS** That Some
will ever meet...



The Month After Christmas,
 T'was the month after Christmas,
 and all through the house,
 Nothing would fit me, not even a blouse.
 the cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I'd
 taste, at the holiday parties had gone to
 my waist. When I got on the scales there
 arose such a number, I walked to the
 store, less a walk, more of a lumber.
 I'd remember the marvelous meals I'd
 prepared: the gravies, the sauces and
 beef nicely rared. The wine and the rum
 balls, the bread and the cheese and the
 way I'd never said, "No thank you, please."
 As I dressed myself in my husband's old shirt,
 and prepared once again to do battle with dirt...



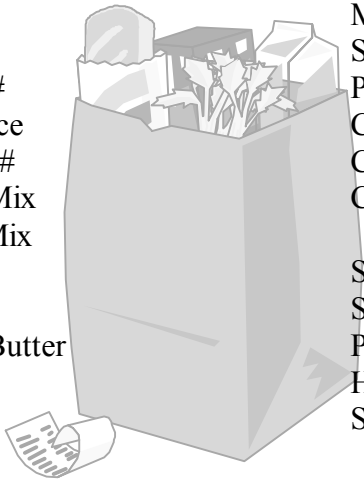
I said to myself, as only I can,
 "You can't spend a winter disguised like a man!"
 So away with the last of the sour cream dip,
 Get rid of the fruit cake, every cracker and chip,
 every last bit of food that I like must be banished,"
 'Till all the additional ounce have vanished.
 I won't have a cookie...not even a lick,
 I'll want only to chew on a long celery stick.
 I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread or pie,
 I'll much on a carrot and quietly cry.
 I'm hungry, I'm lonesome, and life is a bore...
 But isn't that what January is for?
 Unable to giggle, no longer a riot,
 Happy NEW YEAR TO ALL and to all a good diet!!!
 Anonymous

For our Food pantry

SUGGESTIONS FOR FOOD DONATIONS

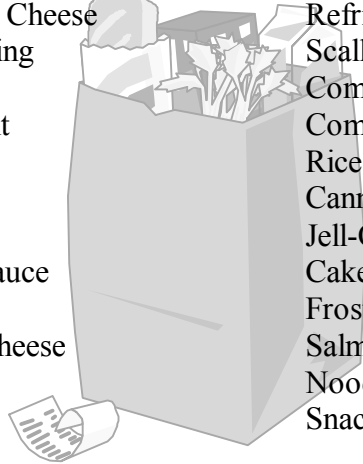
Complete Pancake Mix
 Syrup
 Cereal
 Sugar 2#
 Fruit Juice
 Coffee 1#
 Muffin Mix
 Cocoa Mix

Soup
 Peanut Butter
 Jelly
 Tuna



Canned Luncheon meat
 Macaroni & Cheese
 Salad Dressing
 Puddings
 Canned Fruit
 Crackers
 Cookies

Spaghetti Sauce
 Spaghetti
 Parmesan Cheese
 Hash
 Stew



Canned Ham – Non-
 Refrigerated
 Scalloped Potatoes
 Complete Pizza Mix
 Complete Oriental Dinners
 Rice
 Canned Vegetables
 Jell-O
 Cake Mix
 Frosting Mix
 Salmon
 Noodle Mix
 Snacks

Thank You
 from **Community Service Committee**
 Our Parish Pantry feeds hungry families in our area.



*old cell phones used
 for Battered women*



*beverage
 tabs for local
 schools*

*eyeglasses for the
 Lions Club*



Grace Episcopal Church

8:00 & 10:00 am Lector and Eucharistic Minister Schedule

Date & Readings	Lector	EM I	EM II
Jan. 7th – Isaiah 43:1-7	Litwinski Boileau	Porath	Lough
Psalm 29			
Acts 8:14-17			
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22			
Jan. 14th – Isaiah 62:1-5	Baxter Sova	Putnam	Grant
Psalm 36:5-10			
1 Corinthians 12:1-11			
John 2:1-11			
Jan. 21st – Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	Davinich Jones	Lough	Pryor
Psalm 19			
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a			
Luke 4:14-21			
Jan. 28th - Jeremiah 1:4-10	J. Orr Burke	Grant	Porath
Psalm 71:1-6			
1 Corinthians 13:1-13			
Luke 4:21-30			

Lectors

Marion Baxter	Kathy Burke
Deb Litwinski	Art Jones
Betsy Meredith	Pat Sova
Jude & Robert Orr	Chris Boileau
Mary Davinich	Mary Davinich

Licensed Eucharistic Ministers

Caroline Grant	Barbara Porath
Colleen Lough	Pam Putnam
Doug Pryor	

* Return the Pledge Sheets as soon as possible – they are needed for establishing our 2007 budget.

* A note about hospitalizations; if you are hospitalized or know of someone in the parish that is – you need to let the parish office know – *hospitals do not make notifications to clergy.*

January 2007

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
All Sundays 8 & 10 am HE	1	2 Choir 6:30 AA 7:30	3 Ministry Retreat – Fr. George & Colleen Lough	4 Ministry Retreat – Fr. George & Colleen Lough	5 Ministry Retreat – Fr. George & Colleen Lough	6
7 Rainbow 6 pm	8	9 Rector COM evening	10 Pastoral Care	11 Rector Fresh Start – All Day	12	13 Celebration of Fr. Campbell St. Stephen's
14 PFLAG 4-6 pm	15	16 Rector – WSOT Planning Meetings	17 Outreach Ministries	18 Rector Clericus - Belleville	19	20
21 Vestry 11:30am Guitar Service at 10 am.	22 Rector WSOT BOD Meetings	23	24	25 Rector Mtg Ann Arbor	26	27
28 Annual Meeting 11:45 – 1 pm. Potluck at 11:15	29 Rector Vacation thru Feb 4th	30	31	2007		

* February Grace Notes deadline for information will be January 29, 2007
You can e-mail the editor at patsova@sova.net.