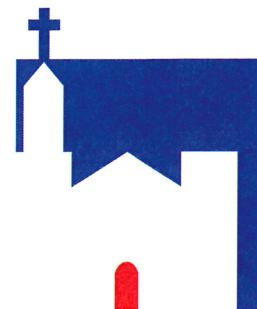


# Amazing Grace

## July 2025



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
315 Wayne Street  
Sandusky, OH 44870



### ~ Mission Statement ~

*"In light of our confidence that 'God loves you. No exceptions', Grace Episcopal Church strives to be a welcoming community, inviting everyone to learn, serve, and share in Christ's love."*

The Most Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop  
The Rev. Anne B. Jolly, Bishop, Diocese of Ohio

### MASS

Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday at 8:00 a.m.

Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

In-Person, livestreamed on Boxcast, and on Facebook

Daily Mass at 9am  
Wednesday and Thursday  
In-Person and on Facebook

Tuesday at 5:30pm  
In-Person and on Facebook

**All services are in the Chapel during our Church renovation**

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday, 8am - 3pm

### CONTACT US

Telephone	419-625-6919
Website	GraceSandusky.org
Church Office E-Mail	office@GraceSandusky.org
Fr. Seth Wymer, Rector	frseth@GraceSandusky.org
Randy Ruthsatz, Organist/Choirmaster	rarcpa@sbcglobal.net

### Parish Staff

Fr. Seth Wymer, Rector  
Randy Ruthsatz, Organist/Choirmaster  
Debbie Chase, Parish Administrator  
Susie Kuns, Housekeeper  
Bob Speers, Parish Historiographer

## **RECTOR'S REFLECTION - JULY 2025**

Even though it took awhile to get started, I think we can safely say that summer is officially here! While we are in the dog days of summer and vacations are in full swing, please remember that attending church is still very much a thing that we should do! I always appreciate it when those who attend other churches while away bring bulletins and literature they find and be able to talk about what the experience was like being a visitor in a church. It is a really good way to test what we are doing and see if there is anything we can do differently to be more effective. More than all of that – offering God the worship that is due God is a commandment, regardless of where that may take place!



Things at the church have been wonderfully busy. In June we:

- Went to St. Timothy's, Perrysburg on the 6<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Fr. Matt's Celebration of New Ministry
- Held a Newcomer's Dinner on the 8<sup>th</sup> – a huge THANK YOU to the Pifer's (Mark, Cathy, and Jeremy) for cooking the meal for our Newcomers'
- Celebrated Barb's ordination to the diaconate on the 14<sup>th</sup> at Trinity Cathedral
- Enjoyed Donuts with Dad on the 15<sup>th</sup>
- The Vestry gathered for retreat and business meetings on the 21<sup>st</sup> at Bellwether Farm
- Gathered the volunteers at the Thrift Shop for an appreciation luncheon on the 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Strutted with Pride at Shoreline Sandusky Pride on the 28<sup>th</sup> @ Shoreline Park
- We also welcomed Shantel Light on her first foray as a lay preacher, preaching at all the services that weekend where we talk about God's radical inclusion and our mirroring of that inclusion in our life

July will find us slightly less busy, but still doing the work of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the world! We will be reaching out to the community on July 4<sup>th</sup> during the city's celebration of our nation's independence. One important note for July is the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>: Sandusky is once again the host of the Ironman Competition. While a wonderful way to put Sandusky on the map and help local businesses, it is a nightmare for parking on Sunday mornings. With that foreknowledge we are hosting a single Mass on Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> at 6P in the Mary Simpson Room – it will be as informal as informal can be and just simple music (a blend of the Saturday evening and 8a Mass). Please plan ahead to make sure it is on your calendars as the bulk of downtown is blocked off on Sunday for the competition.

Looking ahead to August, the Vestry is holding a ministry/committee bazaar after the Masses on Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. During our retreat we realized we are now a medium-large Episcopal Church, and as such we cannot continue to function the way we always have. While it is a great problem to have, it is going to take all of us to pitch in where we feel called to continue to make Grace Church the amazing place it is without things slipping through the cracks. The groups and what their purpose is are listed below:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Purpose in the life of Grace Church</b>
Invite	Marketing and getting Grace's name out in the community
Formation	Children's Chapel and Adult Faith Formation
Worship	Music, Acolytes, Altar Guild, and Streaming
Outreach	Thrift Shop, Grants, Community Meals, Food Card Give-a-way, and Pantry
Properties	Church and Thrift Shop buildings and grounds
Parish Life	Gatherings of the parish, fun events, parties, and celebrations
Finance	Investments, Stewardship, and Budget
Welcome	Membership forms, orientation, and name tags
Inreach	Birthday cards, condolences, food (surgeries, deaths, and births)
Pride	LGBTQIA+ events and formation

~Cont'd~



The Vestry and I encourage you to think and pray as to where your passions may be and consider joining a group in helping Grace Church continue to thrive. We are called into this church at this time in this place – it will be amazing what the Holy Spirit does through the passionate working of a people of God, oriented to bring the message of love and mercy that Jesus Christ preaches to those who call the Firelands their home.

See you in church on Sunday,

Fr. Seth | Rector



I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our Lectors and Chalice Bearers. While we have been moved to the Chapel there has been A LOT of trial and error, and everyone has rolled with the punches – so *THANK YOU!*

**DID YOU?  
KNOW**

Did you know that if you are visiting Grace Church you can park in the Social Security parking lot on the weekends, weekday evenings and legal holidays? The Social Security office is located just one block down at 252 Wayne St., at the corner of Washington and Wayne. So... if you ever have a tough time finding a parking spot when coming to church on Tuesday evening, Saturday or Sunday, remember that the Social Security parking lot is close by.



Our next Euchre Night will be **Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>** starting at 5:00pm.

Bring a partner or just bring yourself (we'll find you a partner). Don't know how to play but want to learn? We will have a table and teachers there for you. The fun starts at 5:00pm in the Mary Simpson Room.

Pizza will be provided. Please sign up on the sheet outside the church office so that we can be sure we have enough for everyone.

If you want to bring your own "refreshment", you are most welcome to.

#### **MEN'S COFFEE CLATCH**



**Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
9:30am at Vita, 256 Columbus Ave.

Join Fr. Seth in a judgment free discussion of today's hot topics.

Just a reminder - The Church Office is closed on Mondays through August so that Debbie can use up some vacation time.

**CLOSED  
MONDAY**



Below are some important dates of events taking place here and in the Diocese in July.  
If you have any questions or would like further information, please reach out to Fr. Seth or Debbie in the Parish Office.

## Upcoming EVENTS

### Thursday, July 3rd

9:30a – Men's Coffee Clutch @ Vita  
6p-7p – Fr. Seth's After Hours Office Hour

### Saturday, July 5th

5:30p: Saturday Evening Mass

### Sunday, July 6th

8a: Mass  
9a Adult Faith Formation in the Meeting Room –  
The Secular Christ Season 3 EP 1  
10a Mass

### Tuesday, July 8th

9a Thrift Shop Steering Committee

### Thursday, July 10th

6p-7p – Fr. Seth's After Hours Office Hour

### Saturday, July 12th

5:30p – Saturday Evening Mass

### Sunday, July 13th

8a Mass  
9a Faith Formation in the Meeting Room – The  
Secular Christ Season 3 EP 2  
10a Mass  
1p – Daughters of the King Meeting - Grace

### Tuesday, July 15th

1:15p – Investment Committee Meeting – Guild Rm

### Wednesday, July 16th

5p – Kinship House Board Meeting

### Thursday, July 17th

6p-7p: Fr. Seth's After Hours Office Hour

### Saturday, July 19th

9a-noon: NCMAC Meeting (Bellevue)  
4:30p-5:30p 1st Community Meal in the Mary  
Simpson Room  
**6p Lone Mass for the weekend!!!!!! (Ironman  
competition Sunday morning)**

### Sunday, July 20th

**No Masses today!!!!**  
**5p – Euchre Night in the Mary Simpson Room**  
**(sign up sheet outside Debbie's Office. Grace**  
**will provide the pizza)**

### Thursday, July 24th

6p-7p: Fr. Seth's After Hours Office Hour

### Saturday, July 26th

11a Baptism of Noah Servin  
4:30p-5:30p in the MSR – Second Community Meal  
of the month  
5:30p Saturday Evening Mass

### Sunday, July 27th

8a Mass  
9a Faith Formation in the Meeting Room: The  
Secular Christ Season 3 EP 4  
10a Mass

### Thursday, July 31st

6p-7p: Fr. Seth's After Hours Office Hour

### IRONMAN EVENT SUNDAY SERVICE TIME CHANGE



A gentle reminder that there will be no **Sunday Services on July 20<sup>th</sup>** due to the Ironman Event taking place in downtown.

We will have one Service that weekend on  
**SATURDAY EVENING, JULY 19<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00P**  
**IN THE MARY SIMPSON ROOM.**



# Church Renovation

In this fifth installment we are witnessing the beginning of the church work. The week of June 2<sup>nd</sup> we welcomed the workers from Tusing on site as they began to cover and remove items for safe keeping (the tabernacle and the ambo [the eagle]). Once those items were secured some demo work began on the walls and parquet flooring.

The week of June 9<sup>th</sup> saw the pews removed from the church. The pews in the transepts will be returned in a slightly different formation, but the rest will come back and be returned to the right places after they receive some TLC.

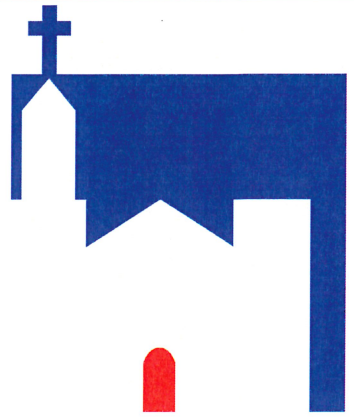
The week of June 16<sup>th</sup> the floor received some attention – all of the floor planking will be shot with new nails, the low places will receive some floor leveling compound, and there will be plywood planking laid over top of the entirety of the floor. Where there had been parquet flooring the workers will be using a floor sander to even out the floor, and the steps in the sanctuary will be sanded awaiting stain and varnish.

The week of June 23<sup>rd</sup> saw scaffolding rise for the electricians to rough in additional lighting that is being added for functional light for reading, and light to highlight the pulpit, ambo, and altar; as well as, the three large stained-glass windows.

The week of June 30<sup>th</sup> saw the completion of the electrical rough-ins, and the “tray” over the nave leveled out to accept lower profile air diffusers (vents), new lighting and refurbished chandeliers.

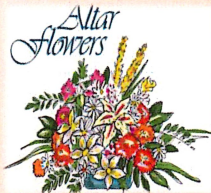
As always, if you have any questions or want to stop up before or after Mass on the weekend please know you are more than encouraged to do so!

Fr. Seth



## **FLOWER GIVING OPPORTUNITIES**

We have openings in our flower giving schedule for the following Sundays:



August 31 – 2 arrangements  
September 7 – 1 arrangement  
November 9 – 1 arrangement  
November 16 – 2 arrangements

If you would like to sponsor the Sunday altar flowers and have them be in memory, or in honor of a loved one, or to commemorate a special occasion, please contact Debbie in the Church Office at (419) 625-6919 or go to our website [www.GraceSandusky.org](http://www.GraceSandusky.org) to sign up. You are welcome to sponsor one or both arrangements. The cost of the flowers is approximately \$30.00 per arrangement and you are billed directly from Golden Rose Florists.



Congratulations to Lee and Mary Ellen (Grosco) Wieber! They are celebrating their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They were married on July 17, 1970, at Zion Lutheran Church, with Rev. Richard Bauerle (Zion) and Rev. Robert George(Grace) officiating.

Lee and Mary Ellen have three sons and seven grandchildren. Lee retired from KeyBank; Mary Ellen retired from Perkins Schools. They divide their time between their homes in Sandusky, OH and Naples, FL.



## AFTER HOURS OFFICE HOUR

On Thursdays in July,  
Fr. Seth has his after  
hours office hour at  
6pm at the church.



Stop by if you want to chat!

## COFFEE HOUR



Every Sunday, after our  
10 o'clock worship, we  
meet in the Mary  
Simpson Room for  
fellowship, coffee and  
sweet treats.

We couldn't do this without the help of  
those who host Coffee Hour.

We have a sign-up sheet on the bulletin  
board outside the office for anyone who  
wishes to bring in something to share and  
to host.



The deadline to submit  
information for the  
August newsletter is  
**Friday, July 25th.**

Love over hate

Love over indifference

Love over ignorance

Love over ego

Love over fear

Love over barriers

Love over borders

Love over and over

and over again



2 <sup>nd</sup>	Don Hibbard
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Karen Wennes
11 <sup>th</sup>	Errol Alexander
	Sharon Hudson
12 <sup>th</sup>	Mary Toney
13 <sup>th</sup>	Ruth Brown
17 <sup>th</sup>	Dusty Wear
18 <sup>th</sup>	Sue Cloak
21 <sup>st</sup>	Barby Gravengaard
24 <sup>th</sup>	Patty Pascoe
25 <sup>th</sup>	Mike Antkowiak
	Fr. Seth Wymer
30 <sup>th</sup>	Shantel Light

*Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase;  
bless and guide them wherever they may be.  
Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when  
discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up when they fall;  
and in their hearts may your peace  
which passes understanding,  
abide all the days of their lives;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

***Our apologies if we missed your birthday.  
Please advise the church office  
of any changes or omissions.***

**PARENTS:** We would like to know  
when your children's events are!  
Whether they are involved in sports,  
music, theater, or art, Fr. Seth would  
like to try and make it to some of their  
events and advertise them on our  
calendar for others!



Please email the office [office@gracesandusky.org](mailto:office@gracesandusky.org) with  
them or the link to where one might find them! Thank you  
in advance for including your parish family.





# Children's Chapel



Every 1st and  
3rd Sunday

For children  
Preschool  
through 3rd

We are in need of some help to lead Children's Chapel on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays of the month.

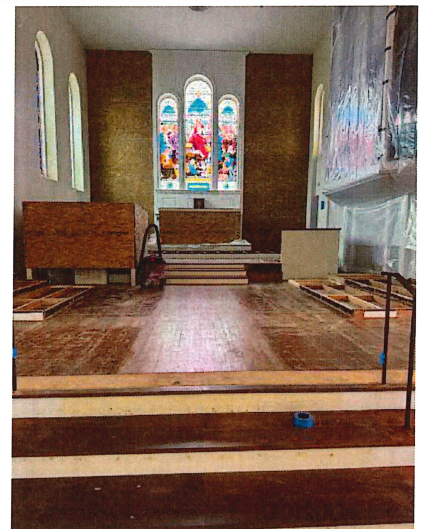
A love for Jesus and completion of Safe Church Training is all that is required.

If you have questions please speak with Fr Seth, Jenny Schoewe, or Judy Smith (the latter lead it on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month).

Volunteers  
needed



**Church  
Renovation  
in progress.** If you  
have any questions  
or want to stop up  
before or after Mass  
on the weekends,  
please know  
you are more than  
encouraged to do so!



## Grace Episcopal Thrift Shop

301 East Market Street • Sandusky, OH 44870

419-626-5453

**Hours: Tuesday-Friday: Noon-4pm**

**Saturday: 10am-1pm**

**Closed Sunday & Monday**

• Clothing, Decor and Housewares •

*All Proceeds Benefit Erie County Charities  
Our Store Is Staffed By Community Volunteers*



• Donations Accepted, In Season •



### PASTORAL CARE

If you know of someone in the congregation who is ill, homebound or in the hospital please let the parish office or Fr. Seth know so that he can visit them. Fr. Seth's contact information is: 740.624.5818 and [frseth@gracesandusky.org](mailto:frseth@gracesandusky.org)



### Community OUTREACH



Have you noticed on the church calendar or the sign on the front door that on the second Friday of each month we have a Food Card Giveaway at 9am? Have

you wondered what this is all about? Here's a little information on this quiet outreach that Grace Church has done since 2012.

Each month we give away 25 - \$25 gift cards to Aldi. Anyone with a Sandusky address is eligible for a card. We do limit these to three cards per person/household in a 12-month period. The people who get these cards can purchase anything they need (except for alcohol).

We have been giving out these cards for over 13 years. We began with gift certificates for Kreimes Cardinal, then, after they closed, we gave out cards to Save-A-Lot. We don't advertise that we do this. Word of mouth has been more than sufficient! It's become so well known in our community that I have a line at the door long before 9am when I start handing them out (and I'm usually done in 20 minutes!).



People are grateful for this little bit of help to get them through the month. We have a lot of people who have been coming for years. We are fortunate to be able to help so many people in our community in this way. If you have any questions about this outreach, please speak with me or Fr. Seth.

*Debbie Chase, Parish Administrator*

### COMMUNITY MEAL

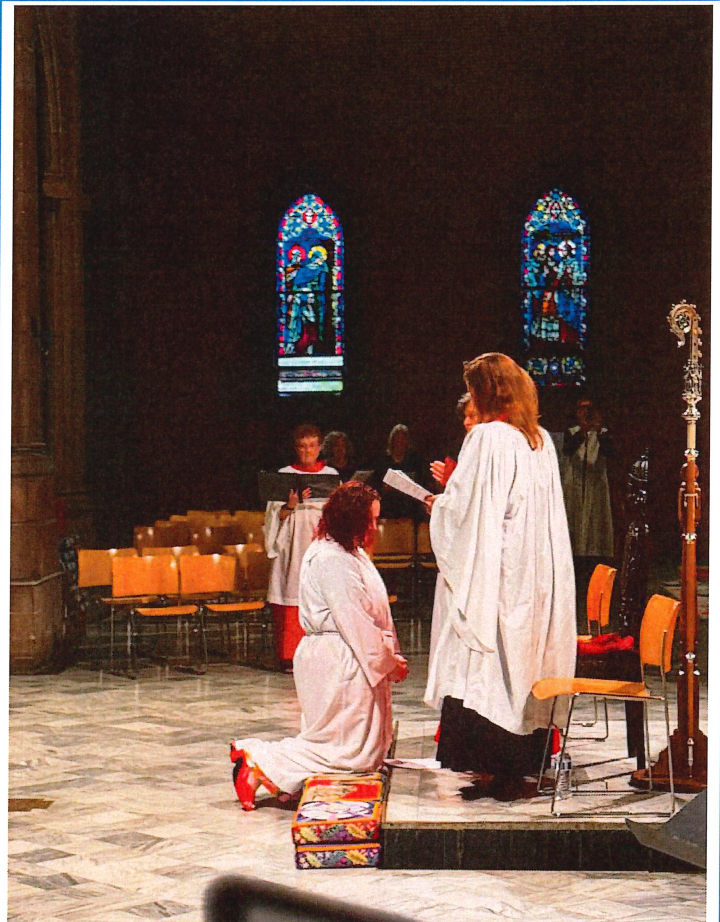


Our July Community Meal dates are **Saturday, the 19<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, the 26<sup>th</sup>**. We serve our meals in the Mary Simpson Room from 4:30 - 5:30 pm.

Donations of fresh fruit and desserts are always needed and appreciated. These donations help keep the cost of the meal down.

If you can help, items can be dropped off at the church the week before the meal(s) between 8am and 3pm or the Saturday of the meal after 3pm.

Interested in possibly being one of our cooks? Helpers? Questions? Please contact Lisa Fowler ([lisa.fowler@bex.net](mailto:lisa.fowler@bex.net))



Congratulations to our own postulant, Barb Reszko, on her ordination to the diaconate on June 18<sup>th</sup> at Trinity Cathedral!

We can't wait to see what the future holds for Barb as she continues her journey in ministry.



# Stuff the Bus

Stuff the Bus Erie County is a committee comprised of the Sandusky Mall, Sandusky Bay Kiwanis Foundation and VacationLand Federal Credit Union. This program is for any child in grades K-8 attending a school in Erie or Huron County in 2025. This is possible through the generous donations we receive each year from community partners. Grace Church is again a partner and collection site this year. **Last year over 850 backpacks were stuffed,** and they expect to meet or exceed the same need this year.



A box is be located in the lobby for donations.

**We are collecting items until August 4<sup>th</sup>**

Below is a list of supplies needed. *Items should be new.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Backpacks

(non-gender colors preferred, drawstrings acceptable, no wheels)

No. 2 Pencils

Crayola crayons (16-24 ct)

Crayola markers (watercolor, 8-10 pk)

Colored Pencils

Pens: black, blue & red

Highlighters

Glue sticks

Bottled glue

Rulers

Folders (2 pocket, solid colors)

Wide-ruled paper (loose leaf & spiral)

College-ruled paper (loose leaf & spiral)

Composition books

Scissors

Pink erasers

Pencil boxes and pencil pouches

3-ring binders

Fiskars scissors

Tax deductible monetary donations will also be accepted for backpacks and school supplies. Please make checks payable to United Way of Erie County (write "school supplies" on memo line). Mail checks to: VacationLand Federal Credit Union, Attn: Heather Gilchrist, 2911 Hayes Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870.



July 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1          Mid-Week Eucharist 5:30pm	2  Daily Eucharist 9 am      Choir Practice 7pm	3  Daily Eucharist 9 am  Men's Coffee - Vita 9:30am   After Hours Office Hour 6pm	4 Rector's Sabbath  Church Office Closed  	5       Evening Eucharist 5:30pm
6  Mass 8am Chapel  Adult Faith Formation 9am  Mass 10am Chapel Children's Chapel	7 Rector's Sabbath  Church Office Closed	8  Thrift Shop Steering Committee Mtg 9am   Mid-Week Eucharist 5:30pm	9  Daily Eucharist 9 am     Choir Practice 7pm	10  Daily Eucharist 9 am     After Hours Office Hour 6pm	11 Rector's Sabbath  Food card giveaway 9am	12       Evening Eucharist 5:30pm
13  Mass 8am Chapel  Adult Faith Formation 9am  Mass 10am Chapel DOK Meeting @ Grace 1pm	14 Rector's Sabbath  Church Office Closed	15  Finance Committee mtg 1:15pm   Mid-Week Eucharist 5:30pm	16  Daily Eucharist 9 am    Kinship Meeting 5pm  Choir Practice 7pm	17  Daily Eucharist 9 am    After Hours Office Hour 6pm	18 Rector's Sabbath	19  NCMAC Meeting Bellevue 9am   Community Meal 4:30p – 5:30p  Evening Eucharist 6:00pm
20  Ironman Event NO SUNDAY SERVICES   Euchre Night 5pm	21 Rector's Sabbath  Church Office Closed	22     Mid-Week Eucharist 5:30pm	23  Daily Eucharist 9 am    Choir Practice 7pm	24  Daily Eucharist 9 am    After Hours Office Hour 6pm	25 Rector's Sabbath	26     Community Meal 4:30p – 5:30p  Evening Eucharist 5:30pm
27  Mass 8am Chapel  Adult Faith Formation 9am  Mass 10am Chapel	28 Rector's Sabbath  Church Office Closed	29     Mid-Week Eucharist 5:30pm	30  Daily Eucharist 9 am    Choir Practice 7pm	31  Daily Eucharist 9 am   After Hours Office Hour 6pm		



## JULY RESPONSIBILITIES

	July 6 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	July 13 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	July 19 (Saturday-6pm) Sixth Sunday	July 27 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Ushers/Greeters	<b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b>
Lector/Chalice Bearer 8AM	Debbie Chase	Kitty Smith	-----	Mark Pifer
Lector/Chalice Bearer 10AM	Janet Poyer	Jim Hart	-----	Jeff Mettert
Lector/Chalice Bearer 5:30PM (Saturday)	Amy Fox	Ellen Mettert	Marcia Fordham	Amy Fox
Livestream			-----	
Altar Guild	Ellen Mettert	Mary Ellen Hart	Barby Gravengaard	Marcia Fordham
Coffee Hour	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	-----	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED OF COMFORT OR HEALING

Amelia	Jeff	Michael
Andrea	Jeff & Nancy	Mike, Shelly &
Barbara	Jenny, Dave,	Derrick
Bettie	& Tate	Nancy
Betty & Mike	JoAnn	Pauline
Bev	Joe	Richard, Lisa
Bob	Joea & Neill	& Missy
Caine & Owen	John	Ron & Alice
Carolynne	Judy & Jim	Ron & Rene
Cheryl	Karen	Ruth
Dawn	Kate	Sr. Rosemary
Doug & Beth	Kian	St. Barnabas
Dudley & Linda	Kris	Episcopal Church
Emily	Lauren	Steve
Emily & baby	Liz	Steve & Kathy
Erica	Marie	Sue
Ernie	Matthew	Vince
James	Mia	Wayne

***If you, a family member, or a friend is in need  
of Pastoral Care, or is hospitalized,  
please call the Church Office at 419-625-6919.***

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PROTECT AND SERVE

Ted Bertsch	Brian Michael Laws
Cameron Brace	Marcus Mettert
Chris Cheek	Kevin Poyer
Sam Freeman	Sean Poyer
Adam Hagelberger	Thomas Roesch
Joel Hagy	Cameren Scholl
James R. Hart, III	Jamison Shriver
Craig Lambert	Ayden Swinehart
Vance Lambert	Matt Trautman





**God loves you.  
No exceptions.**



**The Episcopal Church Welcomes You. [www.dohio.org](http://www.dohio.org)**