

Amazing Grace

October 2026



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 Rev. and the Rt. Honourable the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Sarah Mullally
The Most Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop
The Rev. Anne B. Jolly, Bishop, Diocese of Ohio

MASS TIMES

Saturday at 5:30pm

Sunday at 8:00am

Sunday at 10:00am
In-Person, Livestreamed
on Boxcast, and on Facebook

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

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

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
8am - 3pm

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Seth Wymer, Rector
Rev. Carol Fleming, Priest-in-Residence
Randy Ruthsatz, Organist/Choirmaster
Debbie Chase, Parish Administrator
Jeremy Pifer, Treasurer
Barbara Johnson, Staff Accountant
Susie Kuns, Housekeeper

CONTACT US

Telephone
Website
Church Office E-Mail
Fr. Seth Wymer, Rector
Randy Ruthsatz, Organist/Choirmaster
Treasurer/Staff Accountant

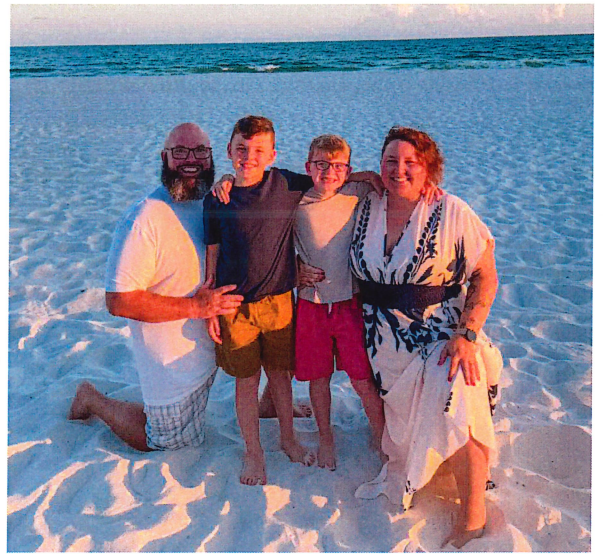
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RECTOR'S REFLECTION - OCTOBER 2026

It is really hard to believe that a week ago I was on vacation and now October is here! Time does some really funny stuff! I want to thank Karen Mork and Kitty Smith for keeping things moving along during Debbie's vacation and to Carol for covering for me while I was away – THANK YOU!

October is one of those months on the year that I yearn for – the weather is still comfortable here in the Firelands where in other places in the Midwest some folks have started turning on their furnaces. The other reason is that I married "Baby Halloween"! For those ladies that came to our home for the first painting thing we did here, you remember the house decorated like a mid-century funeral home with hats and candles hanging from the ceiling (Melissa goes all out both inside and outside of the house)! Since being here my most recent love of October has become the *Phantom of the Pipes*.



This chance to showcase our beautiful church, our talented musicians, and even invite some of those talented musicians who orbit our church circle (Charles Scroggy this year), and invite families, lovers of scary movie scores, and people who like hearing church instruments do something different. This year the free-will offering will be split between The Community Center and CASA (just in case you needed another reason to attend). It takes a number of people to make this event one of the pillars of the church: the Parish Life Committee decorates the church and the Mary Simpson Room, as well as, gets pumpkin donuts and apple cider to serve, our musicians (Randy and Brandon) rehearse on top of their normal duties, the members of the choir who add their talents (Bob Hartz, Kaleen Lawrence, Melissa Wymer, and even the clergy – our own Rev. Carol), the Invite Committee works to get the word out and creating an inviting atmosphere so everyone knows where to go. It is great to give something to the community and to have the community respond by really showing up is an amazing thing and something the church should feel called to do!

This month is also our Stewardship Season. This year we will hear from Marcia Fordham, Judy Smith, and Bernie Wilson as to what they love about Grace Church and what their hope for our future might look like. I love hearing these stories of people talking about what their faith means to them and how they encounter God here – it is a beautiful reminder (and great practice too) as to what this place means to others and hopefully to all of us! By now you hopefully received a letter from our Wardens highlighting last year and looking forward to what we may be able to accomplish this year thanks to your ongoing generosity.

And closest to the start of the month we will bless our four-legged children who love us unconditionally (our pets)! I heard it said before that God gives us pets as a reminder of how we're supposed to love one another. What an amazingly true and beautiful thought! Hopefully you won't look at your four-legged companion the same way again!

October will be busy and November will be the same – this is what it takes to be the church in the world. This is what it takes to be Jesus in the world!

See you in church on Sunday,

IMPORTANT

dates to remember

- 1st - @ 9:30a @ Vita: Men's Coffee Clutch
 - @ 6p in the Guild Room: Shared Grief
- 3rd - @ 9a Bay Area Soccer League @ Osborn Park
 - @ 5:30p in the Choir Stalls: Saturday Vigil Mass with the Blessing of Pets
- 4th - @ 8a in the Chapel: Mass with the Blessing of Pets
 - @ 10a in the Church: Mass and Children's Chapel and Blessing of Pets
- 7th - @ 7p in the Choir Room: Choir Rehearsal
- 9th - @ 9a Food Card Give-a-way
- 10th - @ 9a @ Osborn Park - Soccer Saturdays
 - @ 5:30p in the Choir Stalls: Saturday Vigil Mass
- 11th - @ 8a in the Chapel: Mass
 - @ 10a in the Church: Mass
 - @ 11:15a in the Guild Room: Outreach Committee Meeting
 - @ 1p @ Christ Church, Huron: DOK
- 14th - @ 7p in the Choir Room: Choir Rehearsal
- 15th - @ 6p in the Guild Room: Shared Grief
- 17th - @ 9a at Osborn Park - Soccer Saturdays
 - @ 10a @ St. Paul's Bellevue, NCMAC Meeting
 - @ 4:30p in the MSR: Community Meal
 - @ 5:30 in the Chapel: Saturday Vigil Mass
- 18th - @ 8a in the Chapel: Mass
 - @ 10a in the Church: Mass with Children's Chapel
- 20th - @ 1:15p in the Guild Room: Investment Committee Meeting
- 21st - @ 7p in the Choir Room: Choir Rehearsal
- 22nd - @ 6p-7p in the Church: Fr. Seth's After Hours Office Hour
- 24th - @ 9a @ Osborn Park - Soccer Saturdays
 - @ 5:30p in the Chapel: Saturday Vigil Mass with Stewardship Ingathering
 - @ 7p in the Church: Phantom of the Pipes
- 25th - @ 8a in the Chapel: Mass with Stewardship Ingathering
 - @ 10a in the Church: Mass with Stewardship Ingathering
 - @ 11:15a in the Meeting Room: Vestry Meeting
- 28th - @ 7p in the Choir Room: Choir Rehearsal
- 31st - @ 11a in Washington St. Park: Downtown Trick-or-Treat
 - @ 4:30p in the MSR: Second Community Meal of the Month

PHANTOM OF THE PIPES

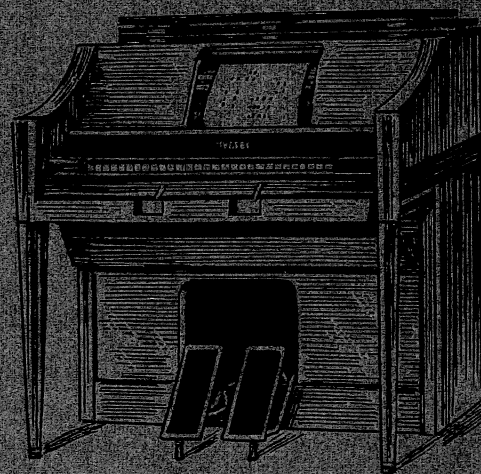


SAT. OCTOBER 24

7:00 PM

**GRACE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

**315 WAYNE STREET
SANDUSKY, OH**



MUSIC SELECTIONS FROM

Nightmare Before Christmas

Halloween Theme

Twilight Zone Theme

and more.....

**FREE WILL DONATIONS GO TO THE CENTER AND
CASA**



THANK YOU

To those who signed up in September and October for our time at the Bay Area Soccer League Fall Season at Osborn Park.

It is a great way to connect with young families and to meet them where they are and hear what they want from a church.

COMMUNITY MEAL

Our October Community Meal dates are **Saturday, the 17th and Saturday, the 31st**. We serve our meals in the Mary Simpson Room from 4:30 - 5:30 pm.



Donations of fresh fruit and desserts is 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 2pm 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 or 419-602-7969).

Outreach Grants

The 2026 Outreach Grants program began September 1st.

Applications may be obtained from our website www.gracesandusky.org or from the Church Office.

The deadline for submission is **Tuesday, October 6th**.

The Outreach Committee will meet **Sunday, October 11th** to review all applications received.



4 th	Melissa Wymer
7 th	Justin Butler
9 th	Kaleen Lawrence
14 th	Nancy Neiding
16 th	Buffy Walls
20 th	Barry Geiger
25 th	April McCormack
26 th	Ted Homberger
28 th	Polly Lynn

*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.***

Children's Chapel



Every 1st and 3rd Sunday

**For children
Preschool
through 3rd
grade**

SOCCER SATURDAYS SIGN-UP

On Saturdays in October, the Bay Area Soccer League has soccer games for the local children's leagues at Osborn Park. As part of our *Invite* group, we are going to be there on these game days to give out coffee, water, and snacks for the parents and kids. We'll also have literature about our church to set out. What we need from you – volunteers to help with these Saturday morning events. It will be only a few hours of your time (approx. 8:30-11am). A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the church office. If you have any questions, please speak with Becky Montague, Melissa Wymer, Fr. Seth, Debbie Chase, Kaleen Lawrence or Jewlia Jardon. This is a fun way for us to be present in our community.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED OF COMFORT OR HEALING

Amelia	Emily	Mary Ann
Amy	Emily & baby	Mary Ellen
Bea	Erica	Matthew
Bernadette	Ernie	Mia
Bev	Holly	Michael
Bob	Isaac	Mike, Shelly &
Bob & Martha	Jane	Derrick
Brinley	Jeff	Paula & Family
Caine	Jenny, Dave,	Pauline
Carolynne	& Tate	Rich
Cheryl	Jim	Ron & Alice
Connie	JoAnn	Ron & Rene
Colleen	Joe	Ruth
Dave	Joea & Neill	Shelby
Dawn	John	Steve
Doug, Beth &	Judy & Jim	Steve & Kathy
Owen	Karen	Ted & Carol
Dudley & Linda	Kian	Teresa
Elsie	Lauren	Tim

*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.*

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

MEN'S COFFEE

Thursday, October 1st at 9:30am
Vita, 256 Columbus Ave.

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



AFTER HOURS OFFICE HOUR



On Thursday, **October 8th** and
22nd Fr. Seth has his after hours
office hour at 6pm at the church.

Stop by if you want to chat!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PROTECT AND SERVE

Ted Bertsch	Kevin Poyer
Cameron Brace	Sean Poyer
Chris Cheek	Brandon Robinson
Sam Freeman	Thomas Roesch
Joel Hagy	Cameren Scholl
James R. Hart, III	Jamison Shriver
Craig Lambert	Matt Trautman
Vance Lambert	Ben Wesney
Brian Michael Laws	

THRIFT SHOP HELP WANTED

The Thrift Shop is always looking
for volunteers especially on Saturdays
(even one day a month would be helpful).

The hours are:

Tuesday - Friday, Noon - 4pm

Saturday, 10am - 1pm

If you are interested, or would like more
information about volunteering,
please contact Mary Toney (419-239-6644).

THE RISE OF THE CROSS: THE SYMBOL OF CHRISTIANITY FROM THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE AND BEYOND

On September 13th John Lawrence gave a wonderful presentation on the Rise of the Cross exhibition. He spoke about the symbolism of the cross and introduced us to the Reliquary Cross and its significance. John stated that he does not own these crosses, rather, he is God's current steward for the care of them. He spoke about how he became interested in these artifacts as well as the manuscripts and rare books that make up his extensive collection, and how they came to be in his possession. He hopes to share more of his collection with us in the future. Thank you to everyone who attended this presentation, and thank you to John for sharing this with us!



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED, ESPECIALLY

Paula Kay Bier (September 20, 2026)

Gracious God, nothing in death or life, in the world as it is or the world as it shall be, nothing in all creation can separate us from your love. We commend these our beloved ones into your loving care. Enfold them in the arms of your mercy. Bless them in their dying and their rising again in you. Bless those whose hearts are filled with sadness, that they too may know the hope of resurrection; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*



DO YOU HAVE ANY FAMILY NEWS TO SHARE?

A birth, baptism, wedding, special event, anniversary, have you moved?

Drop us a note
office@gracesandusky.org and we'll include it in our next newsletter.



DANIEL BOYLE

Organ Recital



On Sunday, September 20th we hosted Daniel Boyle for a wonderful organ recital.

His program included the works by Bach, Mendelssohn, Hollins, Fletcher, and Paul Fey, along with Sousa's iconic Stars and Stripes Forever.

Thank you, Dan, for a beautiful afternoon of music!



WE'RE ON FACEBOOK

Did you know that we have a Facebook page?
Check us out:

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceEpiscopalSandusky/>

The Thrift Shop also has a Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceSanduskyThriftShop/>

We stream the daily services and our Sunday 10am service.

Visit us and give us a thumbs up!



October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Daily Eucharist 9 am Men's Coffee Vita 9:30am Shared Grief 6pm	2 Rector's Sabbath	3 Soccer Saturday 8:30am Vigil Mass 5:30pm Blessing of the Pets
4 Mass 8am - Chapel Blessing of the Pets Mass 10am - Church Blessing of the Pets Children's Chapel	5 Rector's Sabbath Sandusky Choral Soc. Practice 7pm	6 Mid-Week Eucharist 5:30pm	7 Daily Eucharist 9 am Choir Practice 7pm	8 Daily Eucharist 9 am After Hours Office Hour 6pm	9 Rector's Sabbath Food card giveaway 9am	10 Soccer Saturday 8:30am Vigil Mass 5:30pm
11 Mass 8am - Chapel Mass 10am - Church Outreach Grant Meeting 11:15am DOK Mtg 1pm- Huron	12 Rector's Sabbath Sandusky Choral Soc. Practice 7pm	13 Thrift Shop Steering Committee mtg 9am Mid-Week Eucharist 5:30pm	14 Daily Eucharist 9 am Choir Practice 7pm	15 Daily Eucharist 9 am Shared Grief 6pm	16 Rector's Sabbath	17 Soccer Saturday 8:30am NCMAC mtg Bellevue Community Meal 4:30p - 5:30p Vigil Mass 5:30pm
18 Mass 8am - Chapel Mass 10am - Church Children's Chapel	19 Rector's Sabbath	20 Investment Committee Mtg 1:15pm Mid-Week Eucharist 5:30pm	21 Daily Eucharist 9 am Choir Practice 7pm	22 Daily Eucharist 9 am After Hours Office Hour 6pm	23 Rector's Sabbath	24 Soccer Saturday 8:30am Vigil Mass 5:30pm Stewardship Ingathering Phantom of the Pipes 7pm
25 Mass 8am - Chapel Stewardship Ingathering Mass 10am - Church Stewardship Ingathering Vestry Meeting 11:30am	26 Rector's Sabbath Sandusky Choral Soc. Practice 7pm	27 Mid-Week Eucharist 5:30pm	28 Daily Eucharist 9 am Choir Practice 7pm	29 Daily Eucharist 9 am Shared Grief 6pm	30 Rector's Sabbath	31 Soccer Saturday 8:30am Community Meal 4:30p - 5:30p Last Vigil Mass 5:30pm

OCTOBER RESPONSIBILITIES

	October 4 19th Sunday after Pentecost	October 11 20th Sunday after Pentecost	October 18 21st Sunday after Pentecost	October 25 22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Lector/Chalice Bearer 8AM	Debbie Chase	Kitty Smith	Mark Pifer	Debbie Chase
Lector/Chalice Bearer 10AM	LaVon Swinehart	Ellen Mettert	Becky Montague	Lorin Swinehart
Lector/Chalice Bearer 5:30PM (Sat.)	Marcia Fordham	Janet Poyer	Amy Fox	Marcia Fordham
Acolyte	Ellen Mettert	Arlo Wymer	Rick Doyan	Arlo Wymer
Livestream	Brandon Johnson	Dan Deming	Jeff Fowler	Jeff Fowler
Altar Guild	Judy Porterfield	Ellen Mettert	Barby Gravengaard	Mary Ellen Hart
Coffee Hour	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	LaVon and Lorin Swinehart	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED

NEW HEATING CONTROLS INSTALLED

One of the “behind-the-scenes” projects we had this year was to update the electronic side of our boilers. This is what regulates the temperature in the building. We have upgraded the system so that we can increase or decrease the temperature of any of the rooms as they are being used. I know this sounds like a lot of blah, blah, blah, but it is important to try to save energy as much as we can. The old control system was to the point where it was impossible to upgrade and we were wasting energy heating rooms that were empty most of the week.

We would like to thank Andy Gundlach, from Gundlach Sheet Metal Works and Dave Lenyo from Fresch Electric for all their hard work and expertise. They were here for over a month working on getting us ready for the winter ahead. Two very professional and knowledgeable guys to work with.



Every hour is always going to be

Coffee O'clock



Nothing says “Welcome” quite like an invitation to share a snack and enjoy a cup of coffee together after breaking bread at church.

Join Us as a Host

We are always looking for hosts for our coffee hour after our 10 am service.

This vital ministry significantly contributes to welcoming visitors and fostering our community spirit.

