

# *Amazing Grace*

## November 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. Honorable 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**

**Sunday at 8:00 a.m.**

**Sunday at 10:00 a.m.**

**In-Person, livestreamed on Boxcast,  
and on Facebook**



**Tuesday at 5:30pm**

**In-Person and on Facebook**



**Daily Mass at 9am**

**Wednesday - Friday**

**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

### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Friday, 8am - 3pm

### **CONTACT US**

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

419-625-6919  
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## **RECTOR'S REFLECTION - NOVEMBER 2026**

Usually I spend each month going through a run-down of what we did in October and what is coming up in November, then those themes get repeated throughout the Newsletter. This month I am going to try something different: Pick a topic and go through it and leave the calendar and "news" to the stand-alone parts that Debbie so ably weaves together.

I was recently having a conversation with another clergyperson and we were discussing the signs on the times. I asked him what he thought the singular failure of our times was/is. His response? We have forgotten what it means to be human. I challenged him that I felt that answer was too simple. He responded, "That's the problem, to be human is complex and we've let ourselves be simple." As I have been thinking about his response my flabbers are sufficiently gasted! He is 100% right!



I think, at times, we have forgotten that our person is a duality: we have a body and we have a soul. Watch the television, go to a doctor's office, read a magazine and one will see how many different pills one could be taking for any number of ailments (and for fun read the laundry list of side effects one could suffer). We are told to work out and keep our bodies in as fit a shape as we can (completely forgetting that round is in fact a shape). We now have the most effective forms of medicine and treatment than in the last 100 years combined in the last 5 years! And yet no commercials, advertisements, or clue of where to go or what to do when our souls are in need or pain.

We have doctors for every possible array of issues that could affect the body. We have doctors to help with mental health issues (although not nearly as specialized as the doctors who deal with our body). And doctors who help us learn. Where is the soul doctor? My friend Matt Heusel, lead singer of *The Trainjumpers* (an Appalachian soul band) would say it's the priest.

We have so focused on ourselves: Our looks, our physical health, our mental health; that we don't dare to wander about our spiritual health. We are so focused on us, that we forget our neighbor. A number of years ago I invited Cassie Davis, owner of *Gifts That Give Back* to come and preach at St. Paul's in Logan, OH. She had never preached to a church, but she "walked-the-walk". She gave an amazing message asking the question, "Who is our neighbor?" She answered herself in her sermon that it is "everyone". EVERYONE.

To be human at its core is to realize that we are made to be in relationship. We've been given a soul to be in communion with God and even the ways our bodies are made are meant to be in communion with one another. To be human is to be a part of something greater than ourselves, yet society has lied to us that we are the only thing that matters. Watching out and looking out for one another used to be a hallmark of society. From the moment humanity stopped wandering and stayed by the fire and invited others to stay by the fire we realized we're better together. This world view has been perverted over time, but more harshly in the last 10 years – a fact that both Nietzsche and Schopenhauer (philosophers who focused their thoughts on the strength and needs of one person was to be prized over the needs of the many) would be celebrating.

As a people of faith, we are called to be witnesses together to a world torn apart by strife and discord. We are called to first remind ourselves of who created us and how we were created, and what we were created for. Then we are called to live that life in a world that will think us strange and odd, and to be successful we will have to be okay with that. St. Pope John Paul II said that the Christian is called to live in the world but cannot be of the world. Why? Because society has put itself at odds with the Gospel and ultimately at odds with the purpose of our creation. My own synopsis of our catechism found in the *Book of Common Prayer* is this: That we are created to know God in this life, to share the Good News of the message of the Gospel in this life, so that we can share eternal life with God in the life hereafter.

That is what it means to me to be human, fully human; realizing we were created with a purpose more than ourselves, we were made to be in communion with God and with one another.

See you in church on Sunday,  
Fr. Seth | Rector



You're invited to a

# Diamond Craft

Join us for an afternoon of  
creativity, fun, and good company.

Nov 7th - 1-3 pm

Please bring some snacks;  
drinks will be provided

**A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board  
outside the offices**

# IMPORTANT

## dates to remember

- 31<sup>st</sup> @ 4:30p in the MSR: Second Community Meal of the Month  
 @ 5:30p in the Chapel: Saturday Vigil Mass with prayers for our beloved dead
- 1<sup>st</sup> @ 8a in the Chapel: Mass with prayers for our beloved dead  
 @ 10a in the Church: Mass with prayers for our beloved dead and those in our Columbarium  
 @ 11:15a in the Guild Room: Invite Committee Meeting
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Fr. Seth Out of the Office
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Fr. Seth Out of the Office
- 4<sup>th</sup> Fr. Seth Out of the Office  
 @ 7p in the Choir Room: Choir Rehearsal
- 5<sup>th</sup> Fr. Seth Out of the Office  
 @ 9:30a @ Vita: Men's Coffee
- 7<sup>th</sup> @ 1p in the MSR: Crafting with Carol: Diamond Art in the Afternoon
- 8<sup>th</sup> @ 8a in the Chapel: Mass  
 @ 10a in the Church: Mass  
 @ 4p @ Gideon Owen: Daughters of the King Dinner
- 10<sup>th</sup> @ 9a on Zoom: Thrift Shop Steering Committee Meeting  
 @ 10a in the Meeting Room: Budget Committee Meeting  
 @ 5:30p in the Chapel: Mass
- 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7p in the Choir Room: Choir Rehearsal
- 12<sup>th</sup> @ 6p in the Guild Room: Shared Grief
- 13<sup>th</sup> @ 9a: Food Card Giveaway
- 14<sup>th</sup> @ 11a @ Oakland Cemetery: Burial for Reid Junta
- 15<sup>th</sup> @ 8a in the Chapel: Mass  
 @ 10a in the Church: Mass with Children's Chapel
- 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7p in the Choir Room: Choir Rehearsal
- 19<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm: Dining with Grace, SYC  
 @ 6p in the Church: Fr. Seth's After Hours Office Hour
- 20<sup>th</sup> @ 1p @ Sawmill Creek Resort: Diocesan Convention  
**@ 6p in the MSR: Cookie Baking and Pizza**
- 21<sup>st</sup> @ 9a @ Sawmill Creek Resort: Diocesan Convention  
**@ 4:30p in the MSR: Lone Community Meal of the Month**
- 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 8a in the Chapel: Mass  
 @ 10a in the Church: Mass
- 24<sup>th</sup> @ 11a in the Church: Funeral Liturgy for Ann Russell (10a Visitation)  
 @ 5:30p in the Chapel: Mass
- 25<sup>th</sup> NO CHOIR REHEARSAL
- 26<sup>th</sup> Parish Offices Closed  
 @ 9a: Mass for Thanksgiving
- 27<sup>th</sup> @ 5p Set Up for Light-up Sandusky in Washington Park
- 29<sup>th</sup> @ 8a in the Chapel: Mass for the 1st Sunday of Advent  
 @ 10a in the Church: Mass for the 1st Sunday of Advent

### PRAYERS FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD IN NOVEMBER

During the month of November we pray for all of our beloved dead, and we ask their prayers to God on our behalf while we still struggle here.



As we have done in the past, we will have our Book of Remembrance out for you to add the names of family members or friends who have died, and we will remember them at all of our services during the month of November.

### HOLIDAY LIGHTING CEREMONY & SANTA'S ARRIVAL WASHINGTON PARK FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> FROM 6-8PM

We are going to be outside the North doors of the church passing out cookies and hot chocolate to all who come to see the lighting ceremony.

We will have a cookie baking night at the church on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. We'll have pizza and Christmas movies playing for the volunteers. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

And, if you want to come and help pass out goodies, another sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the office.



### THANK YOU

To the MANY people it took to make the church ready for the Phantom of the Pipes last week. The feedback I heard from countless people was that it was an amazing event and they hope we do it again next year. A HUGE thank you to Randy Ruthsatz, Brandon Johnson, and Charles Scroggy for sharing their amazing gifts with us and the community. To those who used their gift of song: Bob Hartz, Rev. Carol Fleming, Kaleen Lawrence, and Melissa Wymer. Thank you to Jenny Schoewe and the Parish Life Committee for decorating and manning the donut and cider stations afterwards. Thank you to the Invite Committee of Becky Montague, Kaleen Lawrence, Melissa Wymer, and Julia Jardon for their work in getting the word out. And to Debbie Chase for ordering goodies and picking them up, as well as, for the printing of the programs. And to all those that helped in decorating, ushering, and traffic work – **THANK YOU!**

### AFTER HOURS OFFICE HOUR

On Thursday  
**November 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Fr. Seth has his after  
hours office hour  
at 6pm at the church.



*Feel free to stop by and chat!*

### THANKSGIVING EUCHARIST

Our Thanksgiving Day service  
will take place on **Thursday,**  
**November 26<sup>th</sup>** at 9am  
in the Chapel.



### MEN'S COFFEE

**Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>**  
at 9:30am at Vita, 256  
Columbus Ave.



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

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.





### **STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

As of this writing we have received 38 pledges totaling \$90,552.00. The breakdown is:

- 4 New pledges (people that did not pledge last year)
- 17 Increased pledges (pledges that increased from last year)
- 3 Decreased pledges (pledges that decreased from last year)

There is still time to get your pledge card in, please consider a pledge towards the life, mission, and ministry of our church!

**THANK YOU** for your generous response to our stewardship campaign for 2027

*Side note: For those who are required to take a minimum distribution from your traditional IRA plan, fulfilling your pledge from 2026 or for 2027 could work for your situation and help the church. Please talk to your tax professional to see if this an option for you.*

### **PARDON THE DUST**

In the near future you will see the landscape work finishing up (now that all the supplies are in), you will also notice some more work on the north wall – during the sealing of the wall it was brought to our attention that the caulking around the stained glass windows was deteriorating before our eyes – that will be remedied before the cold weather hits and the water intrusion in the interior of the church we experienced because of it will be fixed in the near future as well.

Into 2027 we will begin the process of updating the main floor of the church building. This will mostly be in updating flooring and painting throughout the spaces. The most notable change will come with the updating of the Chapel and the kitchen. We are in the early phases of gathering samples. Once we have something to show you we will schedule some walk throughs with those who are interested in learning more.



### **KNEE DEEP IN COOKIES**

This month we have some opportunities to bring our parish together do something fun and then do something for the community!

- On **Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>** at 6p we will gather in the Mary Simpson Room to bake cookies for Light Up Sandusky on the 27th. We will provide the tools and ingredients, we just need the elbow grease to mix, bake, and bag the cookies. What do you get in return? Laughs and some Cameo's Pizza. There will be a sign-up sheet outside Debbie's Office for those who are interested – many hands make light work!
- On **Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>** we'll meet at the church at 5p to set-up and be present to pass out the above-mentioned cookies and some hot cider to those attending Light-Up Sandusky at 6p. As an added bonus – you can come and be one of the first to see the decorations with a fresh coat of paint courtesy of our own Rev. Carol Fleming!

### **DINING WITH GRACE**

It's been a while since we had Dining with Grace.

We are bringing it back this month when we will be dining out at the Sandusky Yacht Club. This is their annual turkey buffet dinner (*you must pay with a credit card*).



We plan to meet and eat on **Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm**. If you are interested in attending, a sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Or you can contact the office ([office@gracesandusky.org](mailto:office@gracesandusky.org) or 419-625-6919) or Marcia Fordham to R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> ([mfordham.70@outlook.com](mailto:mfordham.70@outlook.com) or 419-871-1611)



### CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

This Christmas we continue our tradition of collecting items for the youth at the Erie County Juvenile Justice Center. These small items brighten their holidays, where they forward to a bleak Christmas.



A list is below. We will collect items until December 15<sup>th</sup>. A collection box will be in the lobby soon for donations. In years past our parishioners (and friends of Grace) have been very generous and these children greatly appreciate this gesture of love.

## *Christmas Outreach*

### *The Erie County Juvenile Justice Center*

Members of the Outreach Committee have designated  
the Erie County Juvenile Justice Center  
as our Christmas outreach recipient again this year.

**We have been helping the ECJJC with this Christmas outreach since 2012!**

The staff is so appreciative for the gifts to the children in the facility.  
Our gifts make a difference in their lives and hearts  
during the Christmas season.

**Small scented lotions (ex. Cocoa Butter lotion)**

**Hairbrushes for females**

**Snacks/Candy (No nuts, lollipop sticks, or gum)**

**Pop Tarts**

**Beef jerky**

**Gatorade/Powerade**

**Water bottles with the flavor packets**

**Stress items!!!**

**Books for young adults and teenagers**

**DVDs rated G, PG or PG-13 (No nudity, drug, or sexual content - new or used)**

**Board and Card games**

**Monetary donations**

*(checks made out to the Erie County Juvenile Justice Center)*

**A collection box is in the lobby under the coat racks.**

**Thank you for whatever you can contribute to this project.**

**We will collect items through mid-December.**

**Members of the Outreach Committee will deliver these gifts on December 16<sup>th</sup>.**

### COMMUNITY MEAL

Our November Community Meal date is **Saturday, the 21<sup>st</sup>.** **We only serve one meal in November and December due to the holiday season.** 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 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](mailto:lisa.fowler@bex.net) or 419-602-7969).

### 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)

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PROTECT AND SERVE

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

### 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).

## Outreach Grants

Our 2026 Outreach Grants program has ended for this year.

All organizations who received grants will be announced in our December newsletter.



# Thrift Shop

*Serving our community since 1948*



## Grace Episcopal Thrift Shop

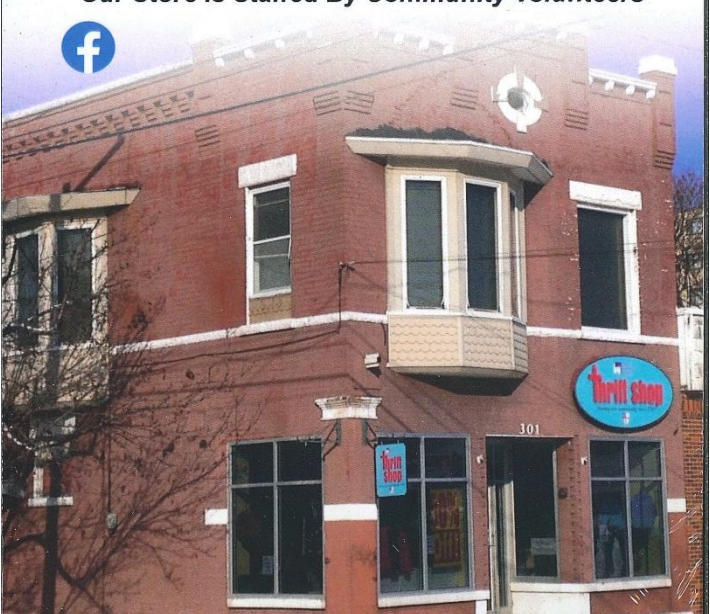
301 East Market Street • Sandusky, OH 44870  
**419-626-5453**

**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 •

# November

## BIRTHDAYS

3<sup>rd</sup> Connie Fais  
Judy Smith  
5<sup>th</sup> Bob Hartz  
16<sup>th</sup> Callum Pifer  
17<sup>th</sup> Arlo Wymer  
19<sup>th</sup> Mary Hartz  
Jane Wood  
Tim Work  
20<sup>th</sup> Jim Smith  
21<sup>st</sup> Carmella LaMarca  
23<sup>rd</sup> Cathy Pifer  
29<sup>th</sup> Beth Short

*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.***

The deadline to submit  
information for the December  
newsletter is **Monday,  
November 23<sup>rd</sup>.**



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

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

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

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED. ESPECIALLY**

Barbara Greulich (October 26, 2026)  
Ann Russell (October 1, 2026)  
Ben Schneider (October 12, 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 Saviour Jesus  
Christ. *Amen.*



### **SOCCER SATURDAY THANK YOU**

As part of our Invite ministry, volunteers have gone out every Saturday in September and October to Osborn Park to pass out free water, juice drinks, coffee, and snacks to the parents, grandparents, and kids who were there for the Bay Area Soccer League games. It's been an easy and fun way for us to be a presence in the community. We would like to thank everyone who volunteered to spend their Saturday mornings giving back to the community. Our Invite committee members are Melissa Wymer, Kaleen Lawrence, Julia Jardon, Becky Montague and Debbie Chase.

# November 2026

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                          | Mon                                                                                                          | Tue                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Wed                                                                                                          | Thu                                                                                                                                                                        | Fri                                                                                                                                                   | Sat                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> All Saint's Day<br><br><b>Mass</b><br><b>8am – Chapel</b><br><br><b>Mass</b><br><b>10am – Church</b><br><br><b>Children's Chapel</b><br><br><b>Invite meeting</b><br><b>11:15am</b> | <b>2</b> Rector's Sabbath<br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><b>Sandusky Choral</b><br><b>Soc. Practice 7pm</b>  | <b>3</b>                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>4</b><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><b>Choir Practice</b><br><b>7pm</b>                                      | <b>5</b><br><br><br><br><br><br><b>Men's Coffee</b><br><b>Vita 9:30am</b>                                                                                                  | <b>6</b>                                                                                                                                              | <b>7</b><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><b>Diamond Craft</b><br><b>Activity 1-3pm</b>                                                |
| <b>8</b><br><br><b>Mass</b><br><b>8am – Chapel</b><br><br><b>Mass</b><br><b>10am – Church</b>                                                                                                | <b>9</b> Rector's Sabbath<br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><b>Sandusky Choral</b><br><b>Soc. Practice 7pm</b>  | <b>10</b><br><br><b>Thrift Shop</b><br><b>Steering</b><br><b>Committee mtg</b><br><b>9am</b><br><br><b>Budget Committee</b><br><b>Meeting 10am</b><br><br><b>Mid-Week</b><br><b>Eucharist 5:30pm</b> | <b>11</b><br><br><b>Daily Eucharist</b><br><b>9am</b><br><br><br><br><br><b>Choir Practice</b><br><b>7pm</b> | <b>12</b><br><br><b>Daily Eucharist</b><br><b>9am</b><br><br><br><br><br><b>Shared Grief</b><br><b>6pm</b>                                                                 | <b>13</b><br><br><b>Daily Eucharist</b><br><b>9am</b><br><br><br><b>Food card</b><br><b>giveaway 9am</b>                                              | <b>14</b>                                                                                                                        |
| <b>15</b><br><br><b>Mass</b><br><b>8am – Chapel</b><br><br><b>Mass</b><br><b>10am – Church</b><br><br><b>Children's Chapel</b>                                                               | <b>16</b> Rector's Sabbath                                                                                   | <b>17</b><br><br><br><br><br><br><b>Mid-Week</b><br><b>Eucharist 5:30pm</b>                                                                                                                          | <b>18</b><br><br><b>Daily Eucharist</b><br><b>9am</b><br><br><br><br><b>Choir Practice</b><br><b>7pm</b>     | <b>19</b><br><br><b>Daily Eucharist</b><br><b>9am</b><br><br><b>Dining with Grace</b><br><b>5:30pm - SYC</b><br><br><b>After Hours</b><br><b>Office Hour</b><br><b>6pm</b> | <b>20</b><br><br><b>Daily Eucharist</b><br><b>9am</b><br><br><b>Diocesan</b><br><b>Convention 1pm</b><br><br><b>Cookie Baking</b><br><b>Night 6pm</b> | <b>21</b><br><br><b>Diocesan</b><br><b>Convention</b><br><b>Sawmill Creek</b><br><br><b>Community Meal</b><br><b>4:30-5:30pm</b> |
| <b>22</b> Christ the King<br><br><b>Mass</b><br><b>8am – Chapel</b><br><br><b>Mass</b><br><b>10am – Church</b>                                                                               | <b>23</b> Rector's Sabbath<br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><b>Sandusky Choral</b><br><b>Soc. Practice 7pm</b> | <b>24</b><br><br><b>Funeral for Ann</b><br><b>Russell 11am</b><br><br><b>Mid-Week</b><br><b>Eucharist 5:30pm</b>                                                                                     | <b>25</b><br><br><b>Daily Eucharist</b><br><b>9am</b>                                                        | <b>26</b> Thanksgiving<br><br><b>Church Offices</b><br><b>Closed</b><br><br><b>Thanksgiving Day</b><br><b>Eucharist 9am</b>                                                | <b>27</b><br><br><b>Church Offices</b><br><b>Closed</b><br><br><b>Holiday Lighting</b><br><b>Ceremony</b><br><b>Cookie Giveaway</b><br><b>5pm</b>     | <b>28</b>                                                                                                                        |
| <b>29</b> Advent Begins<br><br><b>Mass</b><br><b>8am – Chapel</b><br><br><b>Mass</b><br><b>10am – Church</b>                                                                                 | <b>30</b> Rector's Sabbath                                                                                   |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                  |

## NOVEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

|                                   | <b>November 1<br/>All Saint's Day</b> | <b>November 8<br/>24<sup>th</sup> Sunday<br/>after Pentecost</b> | <b>November 15<br/>25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after<br/>Pentecost</b> | <b>November 22<br/>Christ the King<br/>Sunday</b> | <b>November 29<br/>First Sunday<br/>of Advent</b> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Lector/<br>Chalice Bearer<br>8AM  | Kitty Smith                           | Debbie Chase                                                     | Amy Fox                                                           | Mark Pifer                                        | Debbie Chase                                      |
| Lector/<br>Chalice Bearer<br>10AM | Jeff Mettert                          | LaVon Swinehart                                                  | Ellen Mettert                                                     | Marcia Fordham                                    | Jeff Mettert                                      |
| Acolyte                           | Ellen Mettert                         | Arlo Wymer                                                       | Rick Doyan                                                        | Arlo Wymer                                        | Ellen Mettert                                     |
| Livestream                        | Jeff Fowler                           | Dan Deming                                                       | Jeff Fowler                                                       | Brandon Johnson                                   | Dan Deming                                        |
| Altar Guild<br>10AM               | Marcia Fordham                        | Judy Porterfield                                                 | Barby Gravengaard                                                 | Mary Ellen Hart                                   | Ellen Mettert                                     |
| Coffee Hour                       | <b>VOLUNTEER<br/>NEEDED</b>           | <b>VOLUNTEER<br/>NEEDED</b>                                      | <b>VOLUNTEER<br/>NEEDED</b>                                       | <b>VOLUNTEER<br/>NEEDED</b>                       | <b>VOLUNTEER<br/>NEEDED</b>                       |

### ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONVENTION

The Annual Convention of the Diocese of Ohio is the legislative body that approves the diocesan program and budget, elects persons to various groups, which serve the diocese, adopts resolutions on various issues, and approves changes in the Constitution and Canons of the diocese.



Each congregation in union with the convention, that is, those that are current with payment of diocesan assessments and Church pension requirements, is entitled to be represented by not more than three lay adult delegates in good standing in their respective congregations. Delegates are chosen in accordance with the prescribed Canon, or by special parochial charter or bylaws of the parish. Attendance at Annual Convention is not limited to lay delegates and clergy. Youth and adult members of all congregations are welcome and encouraged to attend.

This year's delegates from Grace are Becky Montague, Amy Fox and Kai Cummings. The Diocese of Ohio Annual Convention is November 20-21 and will be held at Sawmill Creek in Huron.

### FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS REQUESTED

We have a small food pantry in our kitchen for anyone who comes in needing a little extra help. We are running low on items due to an increase in people needing assistance. If you can help, the following items are what are most popular:



- Canned meat – chicken, tuna, Spam and Vienna sausages
- Canned soups
- Ritz crackers
- Jelly
- Ramen noodles
- Pasta and pasta sauce
- Macaroni and cheese boxes or cups
- Canned fruit (with pop tops)
- Canned veggies – no green beans
- Granola bars
- Pop tarts

Items can be dropped off at the office during the week or left on the kitchen back counter on Sundays. Thank you to everyone who helps support this ministry.

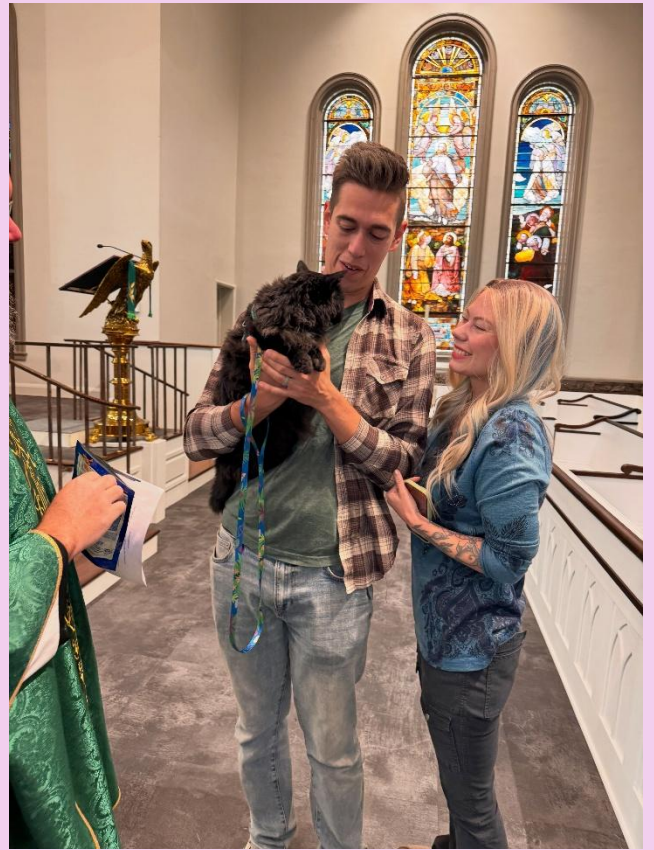
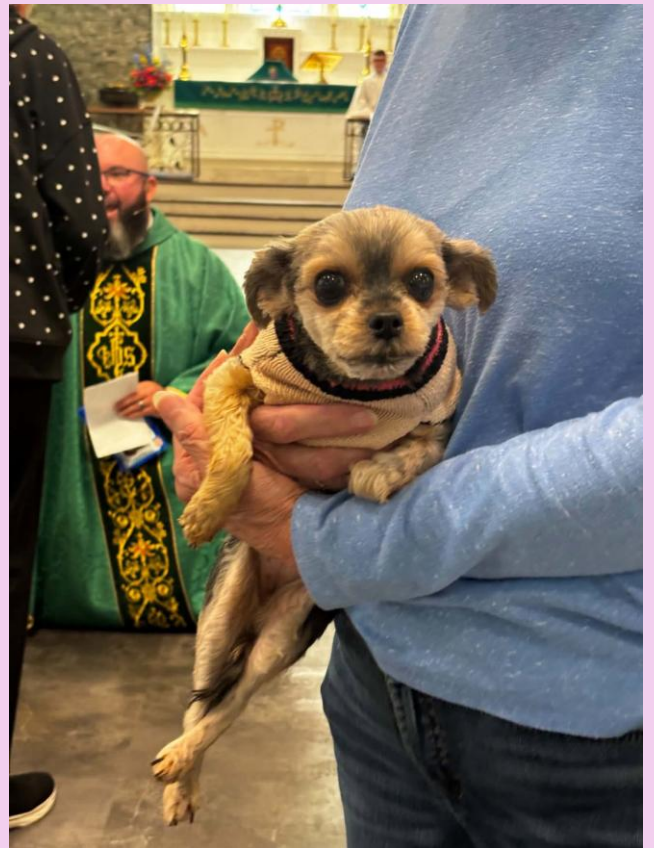
## BLESSING OF THE PETS

On Saturday, **October 3<sup>rd</sup>** and Sunday, **October 4<sup>th</sup>** we celebrated the Feast of St. Francis with our annual Blessing of the Animals! From wagging tails to soft purrs, our furry family members received prayers and blessings.

What a beautiful reminder that all of God's creatures are a gift.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and brought their beloved companions.





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### MIXED ECOLOGY THOUGHT

For those who may or may not know, starting in October our Adult Faith Formation topic has been a book study of *Embracing the Mixed Ecology*. The authors dive into the question of what does it mean to be the church today, and what are some ways we can get back to the roots of what Jesus taught and how the church flourished under the Apostles and the next generation of church leadership. I will share with you all a story I heard while at the Soccer Fields for our Soccer Saturdays:

A man with overalls and beard bushier than mine brought his children over to the table for snacks and a coffee for himself. He picked up a flyer for the *Phantom of the Pipes* and asked some questions, one of his daughters seemed really interested (especially after I told her she could dress up). He lingered for a minute too long so I asked him where he went to church. He shared that he had recently left the Chapel because he wasn't getting anything out of the service other than a headache. Seizing the opportunity, I asked, "What would a church service look like to you if you had a blank canvas and the money to pull it off?" His response will shock you! He said, "I would like someone to take me and my family's phones from us as we walked in. We would sit down to a home cooked meal and talk about our week. Someone would say a prayer. We would eat. Afterwards, we would hear a lesson from Scripture and pray for those things on our hearts. Then, we would go somewhere together and sit in prayer for 10-15 minutes. Grab our cell phones and go home.

That was it! And for him, that could be church. Not at all what our Sundays look like, but for him that would meet his needs. Beautifully, wonderfully, prayerfully simple. And would probably look like what St. Paul did for the churches in Ephesus, Corinth, and Philippi!

### A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

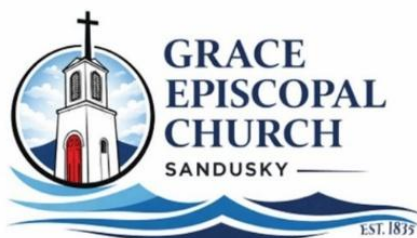
Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. *Amen.* (BCP, p.836)



**God loves you. No exceptions.**

🍁 🧛 **WHAT A SPOOKTACULAR NIGHT**  
🍁 **AT GRACE!** 🎵 🧛

The pipes came alive on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at Grace Episcopal Church for Phantom of the Pipes!

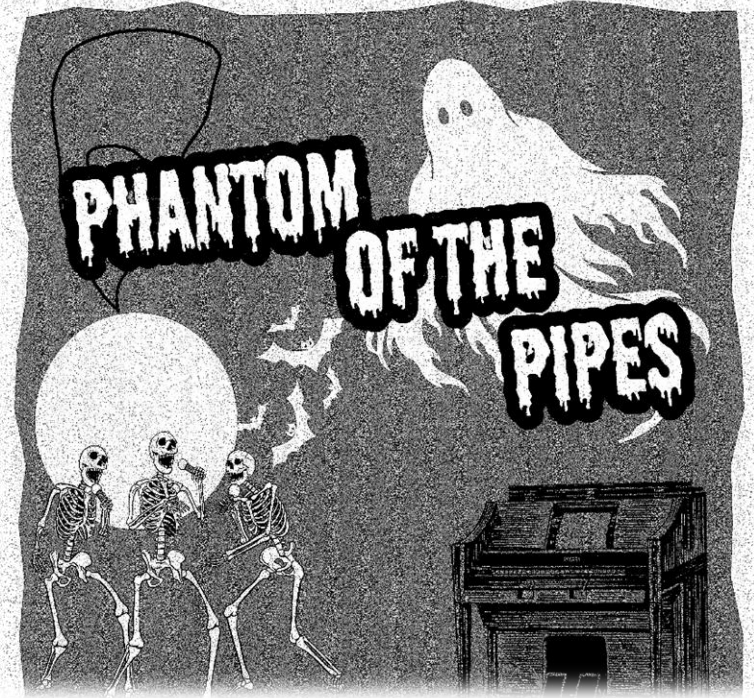
From hauntingly beautiful organ music to spooky surprises, creative costumes, and plenty of Halloween fun, it was an evening to remember.

We had 250 guests join us for fun and music with cider and donuts enjoyed afterward.

A huge thank-you to our talented organist, Randy Ruthsatz, our wonderful performers, volunteers, and everyone who helped transform Grace into a delightfully spooky setting!

♥ Most importantly, thank you to everyone who came out and supported our community! Free-will donations from the evening will benefit *The Center* and *CASA*, two organizations doing meaningful work for those who need it most.

***Thank you for making Phantom of the Pipes 2026 a night to remember!***



**Those who received grants in 2025 have submitted reports explaining how the money was used for the benefit of their organization. In this, and future newsletters, we will publish their reports.**



**Erie County CASA Program**  
Court Appointed Special Advocates/Guardian Ad Litem

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111 East Shoreline Drive, Suite 5 • Sandusky, Ohio 44870 • (419) 621-0324 • Fax (419) 621-8788

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September 15, 2026

Grace Episcopal Church:

Please accept this correspondence as the 2025–2026 expense report for the \$5,000.00 grant allocation awarded to the Erie County CASA Program.

The Erie County CASA Program’s biggest accomplishment since July 2025-26 was recruiting, and training eight new CASA volunteers. This permitted us to provide “a powerful voice in court” on behalf of 27 additional abused and neglected children.

During the past twelve months, the Erie County CASA Program has experienced substantial growth in the number of children served. In 2024, the program served an average of 64 child victims per month; since August 2025, that average has increased to 90 children per month. This 42% increase demonstrates both the rising need for CASA advocacy and the expanded impact made possible through grant support. Your charitable giving has directly helped ensure that CASA staff and volunteers can maintain required face-to-face contact with every child, regardless of placement location.

In 2025, limited availability of local foster homes and kinship placements required CASA volunteers and staff to travel approximately 800 to 1,000 miles per month to complete mandated in-person home visits. During this grant allocation period, travel increased further to an average of 1,356 miles per month, underscoring the importance of dedicated mileage reimbursement funding to sustain timely and consistent advocacy services.

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you our accomplishments, and the impact your support has on the children we serve. We look forward to keeping you informed of all our future accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Terri Stephan  
Executive Director