

A publication of



DIVINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

PARMA HEIGHTS, OHIO

Divinity Digest



A PEOPLE AND PLACE OF HOPE,
HEALING AND WELCOME

11877 Blossom Ave., Parma Heights, OH 44130
Phone: 440/845-2060; Email: divinitychurch1@sbcglobal.net

November, 2010

The Festival of All Saints

The festival of All Saints occurs just as the landscape in the northern hemisphere heralds the dying of plants and the quiet of winter rest. In like manner, the readings and liturgy of this day call us to rejoice in all the saints: those who have died and now rest in Christ, those who live now, and those yet to come.

As the church year draws to a close, we hear warnings about the end of time, stories of crisis and judgment, and parables of loss and death. The Christian community speaks honestly about human frailty and mortality.

At the same time, we confess our faith in the risen Lord, in the communion of saints, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. While both life and death may bring us fear and uncertainty, the liturgy calls us to hear the Lord's promise that he is with us in life and in death. Christ has claimed us in baptism and nourishes us in the communion of his body and blood. He leads us to the new Jerusalem. There we shall join all the saints in praise of God, who has turned our graves into the doorway to eternal life.



Rose Huetter
David Schoch
Dorothy Forbes
Eva Langreder
Dorothy Szabo
James Linn
Stanley Haase
Millie Firak
Dennis Johnson
Ronald Marvin
John Baloun
John Wolf
Ray Simmerer
Mina Provchy
Melanie Gergel
Siegfried Tober

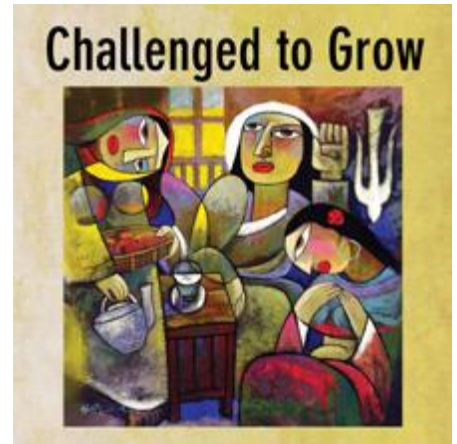
Richard Baumiller
Vada McDonald
Walter Penkal, Jr.
Kim Kukoleck
Donald Schuster
Harold Moehle
Doug Drehs
Stephanie Zach
Anna Jacobson
Gertrud Raulinitz
Marie Zimmerman
Helen Wolf
Richard Scheid
Karl Dietz
C. Vincent Schifano

Divinity Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are a people gathered by God to be a unique expression of the body of Christ in this time and this place. We are being called by God to respond to the needs of others as faithfully as we are able, based on who we are, the resources and gifts we bring to our life together, and our understanding of how we can make a Christ-like difference in our world.

As you have recently heard from the stewardship planning team, we have some compelling mission priorities to guide us through the year ahead. Please read these again here and spend a few minutes imaging, dreaming about, and praying for the difference we might make in our congregation, in our community, and even across the globe:

- **Repair and Maintenance of our church home – building**
- **Nurture of and commitment to our members**
- **Increase outreach to new members**
- **Reach out to inactive members**
- **Increase programs for all age groups**
- **Finding, training, and developing leadership**



Now is the time for us to think and pray about how we will financially support our work together around these priorities. What calls to you as an individual? How, as an individual, are you connected to a larger community – the church? How will you interweave your individual priorities with these priorities?

I leave these questions with you and ask you to begin to think in real and specific terms about what you can personally afford to give in order to see these priorities through. These are the bones – merely a skeleton – to give shape to our future. We must answer together Ezekiel's question: "Can these bones live?" (Ezekiel 37:3).

Look for more information and opportunities for reflection during worship over the coming weeks. I will be preaching on the themes "Called to Follow" and "Challenged to Grow" the first two weekends in November. Pastor John Uhle will share with us the theme "Sent to Serve" on commitment Sunday – November 21.

In the artwork at the top, Jesus occupies the center, reminding us of his central importance in our lives. Jesus is lifting his hand in blessing, physically embodying the truth that he is the one "from whom all blessings flow." The women in the image are Mary and Martha giving gifts to Jesus: food, drink, service, and attentive devotion. In the same way, our working together to accomplish our ministry goals for Divinity are our grateful response to God. Financially supporting our ministries is our grateful response to God.

May God be with us all during this time of discernment, bringing hope, joy, and a sense of faithful anticipation.

Faithfully,
Pastor Doug



Pastor Taylor was a classmate of Pastor Doug at Trinity Seminary in Columbus.

Many glorify God through Good Shepherd's dance and music ministries.

Good Shepherd Lutheran

Creating ministries deepens discipleship

Abolishing committees and training lay leaders helped deepen discipleship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Roosevelt, New York.

"People got tired of going to meetings. They looked at them as work, work, work," says the Rev. Jerome Taylor. "When committees became ministry instead of something they had to go to, it became something they owned."

Prayer ministries, music ministries, dance ministries, the education, social, and property ministries—all of them gained energy. "People who had been coming to church once or twice a month come every Sunday, now that they belong to a ministry," says Pastor Taylor. "That kind of discipleship strengthens our congregation from the inside."

Trained deacons and lay ministers serve side by side with Pastor Taylor among Good Shepherd's 550 baptized disciples. All six lay ministers belong to the Hannah Prayer Ministry, which "can pray me out of the pulpit," he says. The ministry meets every Sunday morning to pray for community concerns noted on cards placed in the offering plate.

During worship, they lead spontaneous prayer, lift up "praise reports" for answered prayer, and offer personal prayers for individuals—usually about a third of the congregation—who come to the altar during the monthly healing service.

When it comes to stewardship, "we disciple by example," says Taylor, who is transparent about his own family's giving.

"You grow by one percent a year until you get to 10." Not long ago, the congregation ended its year with a deficit. Now it ends the year in the black. In part, that's because people are faithful about giving even on vacation.

"Because people are disciples and not just members, they know that when they are not here their responsibility continues," says Taylor. "The whole way they think is different: this is my ministry, this is my church."

Discipleship, Pastor Taylor tells young people, was the key to Martin Luther King Jr.'s success.

"It was about submitting to God's will and making yourself available for God's ability to work through you. That's discipleship, if you say yes to God's call." ●

“You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.” - Psalm 51



In my everyday life, I am the director of a church in Tremont. When I first told my boss (the senior pastor) that I was a pastoral candidate for the ELCA, he said, “Well I should warn you, that denomination is not one for secrets.” That may have been the understatement of the century.

So far my candidacy process has been broken down into two major pieces; seeing if I have the passion for ministry, and seeing if I have the mental fortitude for ministry. In October, I spent three days in Columbus at an organization called the Midwest Ministry Development Network for an in-house psych evaluation. Prior to going, I had to complete a mornings worth of Myers-Briggs and other standardized tests at Divinity with Pastor Doug serving as my proctor. Then I had to fill out an in depth questionnaire that was personally tailored to an entrance essay I wrote over the summer. It took me five hours to complete that questionnaire, exposing every skeleton I knew I had, and a few others I had forgotten about. This questionnaire influenced the nature of the content discussed at Midwest. Over the next few months, all of this information will be forwarded to the synod office for interviews with a candidacy panel. My boss was right; the ELCA is no place for a pastor to have secrets.

To be honest, digging so far into myself hasn't been easy. It is really hard to look at which moments of your life have been successes and which have been failures. That type of honesty is an awesome experience. Despite my best efforts to prevent it from being true, God loves me. God forgives me. God trusts me. God not only sees me as someone worth keeping but sees me as someone worth leading. I am far from perfect. I have made poor choices. There have been times when I have born false witness, not honored my

parents, and envied my neighbor. My shoe collection alone is testimony that I have put my desires above the needs of others. The miracle is that mistakes are okay. I am, and will always be, a beloved child of God.

Better yet, I will forever be God's child because I will never be too old for mistakes. I am far from perfect, but I can see perfection anytime. By the grace of Christ Jesus, I can see it each time I let go of my secrets, my skeletons, and my shame and seek forgiveness. In many ways we are lucky that we are fallible, because we can revel in the joy that comes with letting go and being forgiven.

I think this is why the ELCA teaches candidates to be transparent. Ministry is never clear-cut. To be strong leaders we have to admit to ourselves that our way is not the only way, and that sometimes our most brilliant ideas will flop. This is why we work together, so that when one of us falls the rest of us catch. I think a perk of confessing our sins publicly and together is that we can be emotional safety nets for each other. It is hard to be that exposed, even when we know we will be forgiven. We get to be transparent together, be real together, experience perfection together.

And that is the best kept secret.

*Wishing you God's peace and blessings,
Tina Heise*

**And you also
were included
in Christ
when
you heard
the word of
truth.**

Ephesians 1:13

Prayer Thoughts

"Giving thanks always for all things unto God." – Ephesians 5:20

It is a cold rainy day as I sit here by my computer today... but, the rain is welcome after the long, very hot summer we have had. Rain has always been very soothing to me, especially at times when my heart may be sad. And, during those times, I have pondered this scripture verse, and with reflective thoughts I have learned to find great truth in it.

I must admit that going through the difficult times being thankful may not have been what was on my mind, or how I felt at that particular time. Those were the times when personal loss or sorrow surrounded by heart. I think you know what that feels like. Those are the walks in the valley and the times we need to feel God's love the most... to feel His Presence, His closeness. But, to give thanks **during** those times... maybe later, not now.

Time passes and later gets here sooner than we expect it to. When it does get here we can look at the difficult time and really give thanks for the blessings in it. Although it may have brought sadness at the time, or some other unwelcome emotions, the other side of that is the joy that was present. That may sound somewhat confusing... but right now to me it makes sense.

Those of us who have reached the "Golden Years" and often joke about them being rusty, and yes, some of you who have not reached the rust belt of life will understand and share my feelings of loss.

Once again, we have lost a dear and valuable friend. I can still hear him say (and will probably hear it for a long time) "If I was any better I would be twins!" To him it was a teasing way of responding to a greeting, but now that I look back at the life of this man, it really was a true statement. He just didn't know it.

This was a man whose gentle and wise ways commanded respect from all ages, and from all people. His attention to what you were saying during conversations allowed the validation of your thoughts and feelings, even if he personally did not agree with you. He was the kind of person we could immediately be comfortable with. There was no pretense. There was no need for it. Do I need to even mention his name? Well, I will anyway. This is the person we called Vince Schifano.



As I think about it, there were certainly others who have gone before us that will certainly... and are certainly missed. The loss does bring a sadness to our hearts. But having known Vince and the others who have entered the Church Triumphant, their lives have brought real blessings into our. Memories of the shared times of laughter and intense conversations, times of prayer and communion bring to mind the other side of the loss. These are the times when words like friendship and love are spoken in unison with a name. These are times when we can "be thankful" for all the blessings, the love, and the joy that even knowing a person can bring. And so, even in the sadness of loss, we can be thankful for the love that was Vince.

We can be thankful for all our brothers and sisters who continue to be with us in spirit. On All Saints Day, we can do that when we come to worship.

*Blessings to you,
Loretta*

YOUTH Activities



The Sr. High Youth are off and running with this year's youth group activities. Take a look...

October 23rd: Sr. High served a meal at the Ronald McDonald House on this Saturday afternoon. There is something to be said for youth that would give up their plans for the day and spend it serving those in need. Thanks, again!

November 12th -14th: The Sr. High Fall Retreat will take place this weekend. All youth in attendance are sure to be grateful for the chance to get away for the weekend and spend it relaxing with their youth group friends. While enjoying God's creation, they will take time to fellowship with one another.

November 19th: Not long after the youth return from the retreat, they will head off to Redeemer to help pack Thanksgiving food bags for families in crisis this holiday season.

November 21st: "SNL" will enjoy a family style meal in honor of Thanksgiving this night along with some great devotional time. There is sure to be much to talk about, many laughs, and many thanks to share with one another.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

December 5th: "SNL" goes to Parma Lutheran, meet at Divinity by 4:30pm

December 17th: Sr. High to Redeemer, 6:00pm

December 19th: Sr. High pack food baskets at Divinity, 10am

Attention, Sr. High!!! Please, make note that **we will not be meeting for class on the following days:** December 26th and January 2nd!!! Enjoy your Holiday break with family and friends...

HOLIDAY *Bake Sale*



Do you need Holiday baked goods? Look no further! Divinity's youth and parents will be holding an Extreme Bake Sale the morning of Sunday, December 19th. We will also be looking for those of you who simply enjoy baking for the Holiday Season to donate their goodies to the sale. Stay up to date on this event by checking your Sunday bulletins.

All those Sr. High youth planning to participate in this year's events need to turn in the following forms ASAP: PARTICIPANT FORM and YOUTH EVENTS CHECKLIST. Please, hand them directly to Laura Ramsey or leave them in her mailbox in the main office.

Dear Youth and Parents:

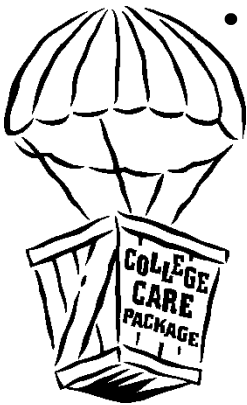
Your participation in the Youth Ministry meetings is essential to the success of all our activities and fundraisers planned for this year. Please, plan on attending them whenever they are scheduled!!! Contact Laura Ramsey for details and keep your eyes peeled for announcements in the weekly bulletin.

Thanks in advance,

*The Youth Board &
Director of Youth Ministry*

Divinity's College Care Ministry

It's time to again send "care packages" to Divinity's youth who are in college. The care packages will include some homemade cookies and other goodies/snacks, a scripture verse, and a letter from Pastor Doug letting the student know that the Divinity Family is praying for his/her academic success. We plan to send a package to each college student. There are several ways you can help with this ministry:



- First, we need donations of items for the care packages. We will be handing out plastic grocery bags on Sunday, October 31, and asking you to fill the bags with items for the packages. We are asking that donations be brought to the church by November 7. We will be packing the boxes on November 9.
- Second, we need help with the postage. It costs \$5.00-\$7.00 a piece to mail the packages.
- Finally, we need volunteers to bake cookies to include in the packages. If you are willing to bake cookies, please contact Barb Badowski at 440.888.0534.

Donated items may be placed in the box labeled **College Care** and located in the narthex anytime on or before November 9.

Thank you for your continued generous and loving support of Divinity's ministry to our youth!

Divinity Food Pantry Needs YOUR Donations!

Please remember your brother and sister in need when you grocery shop in the next few weeks. We ALWAYS need:

**Canned Chili and Stew, Boxed Potatoes,
Fruits, Juice, and Paper Products!**



IN 2 THE SON A COFFEE HOUSE CONCERT

**SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 13, 2010
6:30 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.**

IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

PRESENTED BY ARTS IN ACTION

A free will offering will be taken at the door.
A portion of the offering will be donated to
the Arts in Action Scholarship Fund.



Thanksgiving Food Packing at Redeemer Crisis Center Friday, November 19th

Divinity will be helping with the annual packing of Thanksgiving food bags at Redeemer Crisis Center. Won't you join us? Besides packing bags, which can be accomplished by all ages, there are many Christmas gifts that need to be wrapped. So, if you don't want to pack bags, you can always wrap gifts.



**THANKSGIVING
FOOD BAGS**

Like all of us this year, the budget is tight at Redeemer. Let's show them that we care by donating our time and talents to help with their projects. They are located at 2970 W. 30th St. near W. 25th and Clark. The evening will begin with a free pizza supper at about 6-6:30 p.m., with packing and wrapping beginning about 6:30-7:00 p.m. With many hands, the work is usually complete by 9 p.m. If this is your first time visiting Redeemer, we can arrange for you to ride with someone, so don't hesitate to join us. You won't regret it!

For more information, contact Jan Jasko at 440-888-6236.



Thanksgiving Eve Wednesday November 24 at 7 p.m.

In a country filled with bounty, we still yearn to be filled with something more satisfying than bread, a hunger that isn't sated by food or wealth. Despite our abundance, we still need to learn gratitude for the blessings that come from outside, the hunger that is eased by food greater than meat or grain. In holy communion, we physically meet all our hungers with nothing less than Jesus himself, given for the life of the world, given for our life now. Let us recognize that deeper hunger as we anticipate the feasting of Thanksgiving Day and the gracious response of God, who feeds us with so much more than just turkey and dressing: God's own being.

School and Health Kits

Divinity was able to send 60 complete School Kits to be sent to many third world countries for distribution. Each kit



consisted of notebooks, scissors, a ruler, pencil sharpener, 6 pencils, an eraser, 12 sheets of construction paper and a box of crayons. They are placed in a colorful cloth bag for the children to carry to school.

Divinity was also able to send 50 Health Kits containing a wash cloth, towel, nail clippers, soap, hair comb, toothpaste and toothbrush. Because of YOUR generosity and LOVE, children of God's world will have tools to improve their learning and healthy lifestyles.

*Submitted by – Jo Ann Worsencroft
Stewardship Chairwoman*

Christmas Giving Tree Will Be Back!!!

The Board of Social Ministry is once again asking for your help in making this a nicer holiday for those in need. From **November 28th to December 12th** we will have the **Christmas Giving Tree** with ornaments that specify whether the person is a boy or girl and that give you their age. We are asking you to take an ornament, purchase any appropriate item or items for that child, not to exceed \$20,



wrap the gift and put identifying information (i.e. boy or girl + age) on the outside of the package. Then return the wrapped packages to the **Christmas Giving Tree by December 12th**.

The members of the Board of Social Ministry will take the gifts to Redeemer Crisis Center and to those in need. If you would like to purchase extra toys and games, please do so, just list boy, girl and age on the tag. There are many more people in need of "Christmas Cheer" again this year!! Please help us to share a little of it with others.

Once again we would like to thank you for your continued generosity!!!! Our Divinity members have always rallied for those in need not only at the holidays, but also throughout the entire year!! This has been a tough year for all of us. Please remember our friends at Redeemer!

This June I attended the Ohio Choral Directors Association (OCDA) Summer Conference at Otterbein College in Westerville, Ohio. This event is a meeting of choral directors from all over the state and beyond, working in schools, churches and communities. The three day conference included topics about "Performance Practices in the Africa-American Spiritual"; "Body, Mind and Voice", round table discussions, reading and concerts. I enjoyed this meeting of the minds and came back with some new ideas for our choirs. ~~ Maria Valjin

Divinity Meals for Members

Divinity's Parish Health Ministry recently coordinated the preparation & freezing of 30 hearty and delicious home-made meals. The meals (meatloaf, lasagna and macaroni & cheese) were prepared by our excellent cooks right here in Divinity's kitchen. These meals will be offered to Divinity family members as needed. If you know of a member who could use a meal, please notify Pastor Doug, Loretta Cross or Marti Stephan.

As you might guess, the cost for the ingredients was sizable. We are requesting donations to cover the cost. Contributions of any size will be greatly appreciated.



Please make checks out to Parish Health Ministry (Meals for Members). Cash donations should be placed in an envelope and marked for Parish Health Ministry/Meals for Members.

Thank you in advance for your generous support of the Meals for Members ministry!

Marti Stephan - Coordinator, PHM

Confirmation Class Sermon Notes:

"The sermon caused me to think of when I forgot my Social Studies book in my locker and I had to study for a test. So I didn't do good because I wasn't prepared."

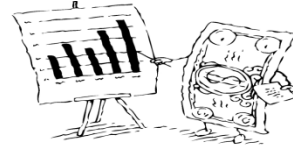
Kyle Panica

"I sat with my cousins and my family and I was wondering if the Browns were going to win. I will also remember that love and forgiveness are important."

Sam Smith

"When we are equipped with God's love and forgiveness, we want to go out and share them."

Dyllan Sesock



Divinity Lutheran Church Women

3rd Quarter Report – July, Aug., Sept., 2010

Balance forward June 30, 2010 = \$ 7,614.12

Receipts:

Interest	\$ 10.76
Check Charge	\$ 30.77
NEOSWO Retreat, 7	\$ 35.00
Circle Offerings	\$ 35.00
<u>Nut Rolls (113)</u>	<u>\$ 904.00</u>
Total	\$ 1,015.53

Disbursements:

Check Refund	\$ 30.77
Ballas Egg Co./nut rolls	\$ 56.00
NEOSWO (LWR)	\$ 15.00
NEOSWO/Retreat Offering	\$ 25.00
NEOSWO/Retreat reg. 7	\$ 105.00
Divinity Lutheran Baptismal Boxes	\$ 300.00
Divinity Lutheran ½ \$ Carts for Kitchen	\$ 188.94
Augsburg Fortress	
<u>3 Leader Guides/Bible Study</u>	<u>\$ 24.64</u>
Total	\$ 745.35

Balance on hand Sept. 30, 2010 = \$ 7,884.30

Filed for Audit – Marilyn Sesock, Treasurer

Checking Account:	\$7,584.30
Christian Service	\$ 300.00
Total	\$ 7,884.30

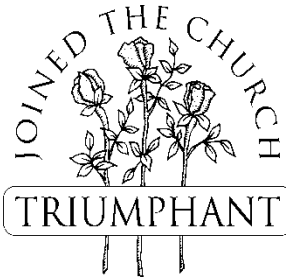
Check Out our New Additions:



- **New Tile** was installed in the entryways. The new look was made possible by the generous donation of Fay Maldari.
- **New Lights & Fans** were installed in the Hesterman Room thanks to George Revilock and funds from the Urbanowitz Memorial.

News from the Divinity Congregation

CONGRATULATIONS to
Kristen Michelle Werner
and Matthew James
DeVault who were married
on Saturday, October 2, here
at Divinity.



On October 2, Pastor Doug officiated at the Celebration of Life service for **Vincent Schifano**.

On October 23, a Celebration of Life service was held for **Siegfried Tober**.



Dear Divinity Lutheran Church,

Thank you. Your prayers, encouragement, and contributions to ELCA Missionary Sponsorship make a world of difference.

Thank you. Your "hand in hand" missionary sponsorship helps make it possible for 225 ELCA missionaries to teach, preach, build, grow, heal and nurture alongside global companions in 50 countries.

Thank you. You are a blessing. I pray that you are also blessed by generously giving and gratefully receiving.

*In Christ's service,
Enila Schack*

Dear Counters,

This Sunday is Ministry Appreciation Sunday, and I wanted to take this time to acknowledge the hard work you do every week. Your ministry is one of the quiet missions that is such an important facet to successfully completing God's work. Thank you so much for your time and dedication.

*With gratitude,
Tina Heise*

*Dear Pastor Doug,
Leslie Crowe, and
members of the
Divinity Family,*

Thank you so much for the wonderful dinner on Sunday, September 26. It was most enjoyable and a very meaningful way to end my ministry and service at Divinity. Also, thanks for all the beautiful cards, gifts, flowers, and cake. Janie and I are currently in Florida enjoying a couple weeks of sunshine (everyday). We will return to our home in New Philadelphia the first of November. Again we would love to have you stop in and visit with us if you are traveling south on I-77.

I cannot tell you in words what the last 12 years have meant to me. What better way of ending my 28 years in full-time service to the church than serving with Pastor Doug. Again thank you for everything.

Larry W. Jones



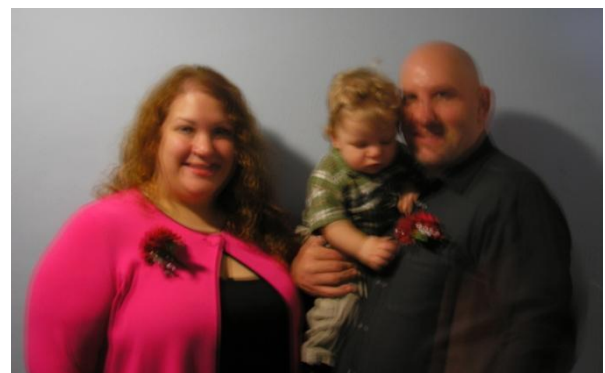
*Thank You
Notes*

On October 10, we rejoiced to receive NEW MEMBERS:



Richard Tish

Mark & Lana DeLaney and son, Benjamin



Submitted By Rick Haase



Paula McCormick is like a glass of fine French champagne. She effervesces. Her personality is what most people would refer to as “bubbly.” McCormick, 57, is the new Parish Administrator at Divinity Lutheran Church in Parma Heights.

She admits that the most important part of her job is “prioritizing.” Whether it’s handling the church payroll, keeping the Pastor organized, or dealing with parishioners on the telephone or in person, it’s all about “the people.” “That’s what it’s all about,” she said. “I may be the first person that people see, or I may be the first voice they hear. It’s very front line.”

McCormick began her position August 23. “It’s been great,” she said. “The people here are wonderful. I’ve worked in the corporate world, and it’s a whole different dynamic in the church. Everyone is kind, gracious and nice. It’s a wonderful work environment.

There is more to McCormick than just her job, however, as she is quick to point out. That’s evident if you check out the church parking lot. Her silver 2003 Jaguar X-Type has the vanity license plate MO MNTM. It describes her philosophy in life – “We must keep moving forward,” she said.

McCormick comes to Divinity from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Sharon Center (a Northern Medina County community), where she worked from 1994—2006. She says that is where she was “Lutheranized.” “I come from an American Baptist Disciples of Christ background,” she said. “Although I am not Lutheran, I love the liturgy.

McCormick began her professional career as a music teacher near Pittsburgh. After graduating from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, she married and moved to Ohio. She could not find a teaching position, so she went to work for Aetna Life and Casualty, where she worked for 7 ½-years until the couple started their family.

Daughters Katherine Elizabeth Rapp and Lindsey Ann McCormick arrived on the scene two years apart. Rapp, 29, is a physician’s assistant in Columbus, where she resides with her husband, Greg. Lindsey McCormick is a certified public accountant, who will turn 28 on October 21.

“I do think of myself as spiritual. Just about any piece of music will move me to tears. McCormick said she loves to sing, although she doesn’t perform regularly, as she used to. She has sung with the Akron Symphony Orchestra Chorus, and sang her first vocal solo at age 9 in church. “In the Temple,” she said, starting to hum the familiar

tune. “I’m always singing. There’s always a song in my head. I sang in church choirs forever. I do some summer solo work occasionally, but the voice is an instrument, and I don’t use it as much as I used to.” A Lyric Soprano, McCormick is a resident of Wadsworth.

In addition to her full-time responsibilities, McCormick is also an independent businesswoman. She owns and operates an online shopping, Internet marketing firm from her home. The company, P & J Enterprises, also specializes in developing web sites for local businesses. For the past few years, she has been focused on the company, but she came to realize that she needed a steadier income than sales.

She learned through personal contacts that Larry Jones, Divinity’s former Parish Administrator, was planning to retire. Jones left the parish on August 26 after 12 years in the pivotal role. Within 10 days of e-mailing her resume, McCormick was on the job. She finds it “interesting” that not only did she work at St. Paul Lutheran for 12 years, but Jones served Divinity for exactly the same length of time. “This (new job) brings me a church community,” she said. “I have gained a whole new family, and I’m looking forward to being her for a good long time. I value what Larry did here, and the child he’s given me to adopt.”

The hardest part of her new role? “Learning payroll,” she said. “But I’m figuring it out.” And what’s one of the best parts of her job? “I think it’s always the people. The relationships. The nurturing and the caring.” She also likes working for her new boss, Senior Pastor Doug Gunkelman. “I love the fact that he works ahead. I much prefer to have a sense of what is out there, what’s coming down the road. Then I can (help) orchestrate that and prioritize that. He’s working ahead of the game and I like that. He’s a very likeable, easy-going guy.”

McCormick’s Musings

Name: Paula McCormick.

Position: Parish Administrator, Divinity Lutheran Church, Parma Heights.

Residence: Wadsworth.

Favorite Color: “Blue. I just like it. It looks good on me.”

A Really Great Evening to Me Is... “The theatre, a concert, the ballet...something musical and artsy.”

Her car: Silver 2003 Jaguar X-Type. License Plate: MO MNTM.

A Natural Born Performer: Yes. She has sung with the Akron Symphony Orchestra Chorus.

A Little Known Fact About Her: She’s a trained vocal music teacher, who has also taught piano privately.

Parish Health Ministry

Ways to Avoid the Holiday Blues

Is your holiday season filled with joy or sorrow? Are you so stressed right now that you can't even enjoy the beauty of Christmas? So you secretly dread this time of year because of the sadness it brings you? Holidays come pre-packaged with STRESS - thanks to relatives, gatherings, malls and bills. The usual demands of the holiday season can stretch your physical and emotional limits, and if not prepared, leave you so stressed you are unable to enjoy special times. With all the shopping, cooking, planning, spending, and traveling, it is easy to fall into the trap of doing too much, ignoring our own needs, and ending up in a meltdown mode. A sense of control lessens the stress load. Here are some ways to tame stress and nurture your own spirit.

- Get exercise each day
- Learn to say "NO".
- Try to reduce the clutter around you
- Budget your time and money
- Enjoy your hobbies
- Keep regular sleeping hours
- Write appointments on a calendar
- Find help at work or home when needed
- Try to get away from noise
- Spend time alone each day
- Wash hands a lot to stay healthy
- Do something nice for a friend
- Pray or read the Bible
- Think about things you are grateful for
- Laugh whenever you can
- Breathe in deeply if feeling out of control
- If you are overwhelmed or depressed and nothing seems to help, find a friend or counselor to talk with.

*Submitted by Jo Ann Worsencroft
Parish Health Ministry*

November, 2010

Sunday, November 7, 2010 – All Saints Sunday

	<u>9:00 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
Head Usher	Dave Boxler	Doug Smith
Assisting Minister	Jim Deily	Tina Heise
Lector	Marie Dornbrook	
Acolyte/Crucifer	Austin Smith	Jarret Sullivan
Lay Assistants	Doug Smith	Sandra Cramer
	Jeanne Ormsby	Ted Lesniak
Wine Steward	Linda Englehart	Ed Kahl
Welcome Center	Suzanne LaPerna	Joelle Riffle
Nursery Attendant	Elaine Quint	Adam Havel
Grace Prayer Team: Leslie Crowe, Jerry Crowe		
Communion Bread:	Marilyn Sesock	

Sunday, November 14, 2010 - Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Head Usher	Dennis Miller	Dan Bemer
Assisting Minister	Mark DeLaney	John Forbes
Lector	Nancy Kilkenny	
Acolyte/Crucifer	Sam Smith	Dyllan Sesock
Children's Sermon	Marilyn Sesock	Marilyn Sesock
Welcome Center	Elaine Quint	Dottie Olson
Nursery Attendant	Pam Lively	Diana Vegh
Grace Prayer Team: Loretta Cross, Marilyn Sesock		

Sunday, November 21, 2010 – Christ the King Sunday

Head Usher	Don Hartwick	Ed Pabst
Assisting Minister	Marilyn Sesock	Jill Heise
Lector	Judy Jacobson	
Acolyte/Crucifer	Noah Eaton	Brandon Kalbrunner
Lay Assistants	Judy Junker	Lynette Ziebro
	Leslie Crowe	Joan Pratt
Wine Steward	Bev Selong	Karen Hopp
Welcome Center	Carol Naumann	Sandra Cramer
Nursery Attendant	Karen Hearld	Sharon Massaroni
Grace Prayer Team: Marty Hof, Mary Paul		
Communion Bread:	Jennifer Klemme	

Wednesday, November 24, 2010 – Thanksgiving Eve Worship – 7 p.m.

Head Usher	Dennis Miller
Assisting Minister	Bill Rettig
Lector	Walt Filipow
Acolyte/Crucifer	Mackenzie Grey
Lay Assistants	Jeanne Mapes
	Deb Bird
Wine Steward	Jerry Crowe
Welcome Center	Karen Hearld
Communion Bread:	Lana Gray

Sunday, November 28, 2010 – First Sunday of Advent

Head Usher	Dave Boxler	Doug Smith
Assisting Minister	Darryl Tinay	Ken Spanagel
Lector	Fay Maldari	
Acolyte/Crucifer	Jakob Landrau	Kyle Panico
Children's Sermon	Dennis Miller	Dennis Miller
Welcome Center	Beverly Selong	Jeanne Ormsby
Nursery Attendant	Laura Smith	Karen Hearld
Grace Prayer Team: Judy Junker, Fay Maldari		

ALTAR CARE for November – Judy Junker and Lana Gray

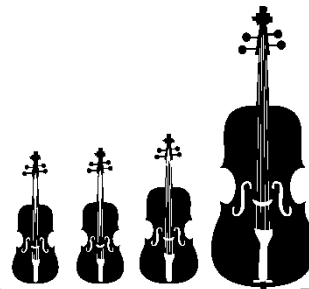
Matthew: 5:19 -- "And he said unto them, follow me and I will make you fishers of men."



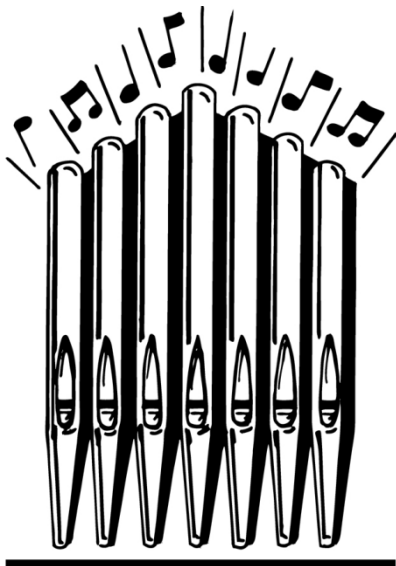
Arts in Action :||

The holidays are fast approaching and time becomes critical. As we prepare for Thanksgiving and the Christmas rush, Arts in Action is preparing for their next two concerts. **On November 13th at 6:30 p.m., we are presenting a local rock gospel group titled "In 2 the Son."** This will be one of our coffee house concerts. The group has a large local following and will present a great evening of spirit filled music. There will be a free will offering with a portion going to the **Arts in Action Scholarship Fund.**

On Sunday January 23, 2011, we are presenting **Alexandra Vago** and her string quartet in concert in the sanctuary. More information will follow in the December and January Digests.



QUARTET | CONCERT



ORGAN CONCERT

Our biggest event will be on March 6th at 3:30 p.m. We will be featuring the world renowned **organist Hector Olivera.** Weather permitting we will have his traveling organ on display. Tickets for this concert will go on sale to the general public December 1st. There will be a three tiered pricing, patron (with seating up close and friendly with the artist), general seating, and at the door (if room and fire codes allow). We are offering tickets in December to make them available for Christmas presents. During the month of November, the pricing will become available and for the Divinity Family we will hold preliminary sales. It is a known fact that Mr. Olivera has a large following that attend his concerts. As of this edition of the Digest, we have begun to receive calls for ticket information. Watch the Sunday announcements for ticket pricing and posters.

"Arts in Action: Community Outreach Through the Arts"

Bemer Plumbing Co.

Dan Bemer
Master Plumber

Complete Plumbing Services
Electric Sewer and Drain Cleaning
Certified Backflow
OH State ID #20354

6791 Stroud Road
Middleburg Hts., OH 44130

Phone (216) 676-8504
Fax (216) 676-8512



Busch

Funeral and Crematory Services

4334 Pearl Rd., Cleveland (216) 741-7700
7501 Ridge Rd., Parma (440) 842-7800

www.buschfuneral.com

James Deily, CPCU, LUTCF
James Deily Agency



FARMERS

Insurance • Financial Services
26777 Lorain Rd Suite 610
North Olmsted, OH 44070
Bus: (440) 734-2883 Fax: (440) 734-2884
jdeily@farmersagent.com

A TRUSTED FRIEND SINCE 1946

R.J. HEATING CO.

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
INDUSTRIAL • COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL
DESIGN • INSTALLATION • SERVICE

3805 Clark Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44109

216-961-8428
24 HOUR SERVICE

GOLUBSKI FUNERAL HOME

Family Owned & Operated Since 1913

440-886-0200

216-341-0940

5986 Ridge Rd 44129

6500 Fullerton 44105

PARMA

CLEVELAND

Dale E. Good
Director

(440) 842-0458

SAUER-GOOD-POWELL FUNERAL HOME

6953 W. 130th Street

Parma Hts., Ohio 44130

Erika Jordan Wagner

Attorney at Law

State-Milford Building 440-743-7561
5530 State Road - Suite 9 Parma, Ohio 44134

*Wills, Trusts, Probate, Medicaid Planning,
Social Security Disability, Real Estate*

HERE FOR YOU

Life is Good. Let Us Help You
Keep it that Way.

Protect the things you value most - your auto, home,
business, health or life.

For more information -
Call me...Stop by...Log on - It's your choice!

Alan D. Radefeld
(440)-886-3060
radefea@nationwide.com



Nationwide
Insurance &
Financial Services
Nationwide is On Your Side.



Life insurance underwritten by Nationwide Life Insurance Company,
Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and Affiliated Companies.
Home Office: Columbus, OH 43215-2220 MISC8 11/00