



Outreach Committee Reaches Out!

By: Pam McShea

Grace Church's Outreach Committee has been busy these past few months defining our goals, looking into projects, and selecting some activities to get us "rolling". Now it is up to you! There are many opportunities to volunteer and we are counting on you to join in on one or more projects. Here is what we have planned:

- ❖ **Bottle Drive – How can you help?** Turn in your bottles/cans at your convenience. **Donate** the money collected to our Outreach Fund. Specially marked envelopes are located in the Narthex for your donation. Make checks out to Grace Church with "bottle fund" in the memo space. See John Carney for more information.
- ❖ **Senior Ministry – "Sharing Favorite Stories/Poems".** We are putting together a program of favorite poems and short stories from our pasts to be shared with seniors at local nursing/assisted living homes. We will be developing a monthly program to be presented to seniors. **How can you help?** You can help by submitting your favorite childhood poems or short stories for inclusion and/or by **volunteering** to join us as we take this out to the community. We hope to have our first program ready for September. Please turn in your suggestions (by title or author) for readings to Pam McShea or Father Chris and let us know if you would like to volunteer!
- ❖ **Backpacks for Back to School -** We will be collecting school supplies for students and classrooms! **How can you help? Sponsor** a backpack – donate or fund a new backpack. **Collect** school supplies to fill backpacks and classroom closets from now until Aug. 10th. We will be making this part of our VBS program. Backpacks will be donated to students at TJ Connor School and classroom supplies will be donated to Nazareth Academy on Lake Ave. in Rochester. Lists will be available soon to assist you in shopping. See Marissa Labey or Barbara Close for questions.
- ❖ **Industry Visits –** We are hoping to help Tom Rotolo revitalize this ministry for the youth at Industry. **How can you help?** See Tom to **Volunteer** your time to visit with the youth at monthly Sunday gatherings.
- ❖ **Oatka Cemetery –** As you may be aware, there is a section of the cemetery (South Annex) that serves as a burial place for people in need. Services for those who have died are held there on a regular basis.



Markers have been paid for by the GRCC Faith in Action Network, prior to this time most grave sites have not been marked. **How can you help? Attend** a special service on Saturday June 7th at 2 PM to dedicate the new markers for each of the more than 300 individuals buried there.

After the service there will be a reception put on by Union Presbyterian Church at the cemetery. **Volunteer** to attend graveside worship services of those with no financial resources and often no family. Let Fr. Chris know if you are interested in being contacted as the need arises.

- ❖ We will, of course, still be running our Grace's Table, Industry Gifts and SWEM Christmas baskets.

These are some of the opportunities for you to help support your outreach committee and our local communities. We are hoping that each parishioner will find a way to share their time/talent on one or more of these projects. Please see Father Chris or a committee member for further information on any of these projects and thank you in advance for your assistance! (Committee Members: Fr. Chris, John Carney, Barbara Close, Barbara Kjelsden, Laurie Lucas, Pam McShea, JoAnne Niemeyer, Marissa Labey-Stone, Joan Wood)