

The Beacon

St. Jude's Episcopal Church Fenton, MI Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching Out to Others November, 2015 (our 157th year)

I feel like stewardship is a lot like Rush for the Greek system on a college campus, the period of time when you try to attract new members to your fraternity or sorority. In my house, we all loved being in the fraternity but no one liked Rush, even though the ultimate survival of the fraternity depended on it. We all love St. Jude's, but talking about Stewardship isn't our most favorite topic.

I have been a member of St. Jude's for over 15 years. I felt strongly that it was important to be a part of the church, and it was especially important when I had kids because I wanted church to be a part of their lives. As much I enjoyed the service and found it a good way to clear my head of troubles and worries, I was never fully involved. I was content to come in right before the service began and slip out right when it ended. Even worse, I dreaded the collection plate. I always gave, but just enough so that I felt good about it. I was afraid to give more--there were a lot of things that I could do with that money for the benefit of my family or myself.

A lot has happened since then: the terrorist attacks of 9/11, the war on terrorism, the economic crisis, mass shootings, and racial tensions. I got divorced and lost my job to downsizing. Sometimes it seems the world is spinning out of control. And it seems that people are more self absorbed than ever with how much money they make, how much stuff they have and what their status is.

I find solitude here at St. Jude's. It makes me happy that my children have been baptized here and that they have participated in the youth program. I have met many wonderful people. I know I can do more in terms of giving my time, my limited talents, as well as my treasure. I feel my faith is stronger the more I give of these things, and the less I take. I believe I am a better servant to God the more effort I put into doing these things.

I want to share a story about something I saw several years ago. It has nothing to do with money. Before church one Sunday, I remember standing in the library with several parishioners. One of them noticed that the wastebasket was full and she picked it up and emptied it. This may seem like a small thing to you, but to me it was, and still is, huge. How many times have you thought about something that needs to be done, only to let the moment pass and you do nothing. I do it all the time, and if I had a quarter for every time I have those thoughts, there would never be another capital campaign at St. Jude's. I learned a long time ago about something I call "Inner Glory." It's when you see something that needs to be done, and you do it. You don't wait for someone else to do it or to be asked to do it. You do it for the greater good. For your family, your community, for your church. It's about being selfless.

I feel there is more I can do, and more I can give. I have been looking closely at my spending habits that last couple of years. Not because I am deep in debt or live beyond my means, but because I know I have wasted a lot of money. Money that I can save for retirement or college tuition for my kids. Money that I can give away, whether it's a school fundraiser, a tip at a restaurant, or my pledge to St. Jude's. That is why I love the book, *Enough*, by Adam Hamilton. It is right in my wheelhouse. I want to live simply, so that I can give generously. I appreciate nice things and like to have fun with my family and friends. Having "stuff" is okay, as long as it is within my means. If I need to defer payment for something with credit, then I know I should not buy it.

This brings me back to the beginning of my story. St. Jude's is my oasis from the rigors of everyday life, the rat race, the chase for more. It is also a beacon of hope for us and for many in our community who benefit from our outreach. Sometimes this world feels like a runaway train. I stay on track by living simply and focusing on family and faith. When I know where my money goes, it helps me make the best choices so I can give generously. I love to be generous!

As you make your decision about how much you will pledge for the upcoming year, perhaps you will consider making other changes in your life that not only strengthen your bottom line, but strengthen your faith as well.

Yours, Bill Anderson

We Are Family

Please Hold In Your Prayers

For those in particular need of prayer: Margaret Ancic; Christian Beck; Bill Cowger; Doug; Patricia DuCharme; Julie Gates; Stan Haddock; Jenny Hart; Bill Lenny; Jeff Leubke; Lewis family; Lisa; Mary; Sidney Nihill; Ed Ransley; Paul Riley; Spencer Sands; Norine Smith; Stan Spicer, the Stone family, Jennifer Ubil

And those in continuing need of prayer: John Babcock; David Barrows; Brett Beal; Theresa Braun; Margot Brummett; Marie Church; Betsy Davies; Erica and Gail Delaney; Jane Diehl; Gail Endahl; Bunny Gladfelter; Ralph Gladfelter; Judy Godsell, Renee Goss; Brian Henderson; Mary Lou Jenkins; Ev Koller; Mary Kurtz; Teresa Maynard; Leona; Denny Sharpe; Arin Shinabarger; Sandy Train; Susan Taber; and Gavin Woods.

Pray for Our Ministers

November 1 – Teresa Maynard; Bill McDonald; Scott & Sharon Michael; Jack & Beverly Mills

November 8 – Robert & Ann Minock; Lorraine, William, Leah, Austin & Matthew Moller; Ben, Gwendolyn & Maurin Oliver, Lenae Chambers

November 15 – Mike, Ashleigh, Emily, Bradley, Libby & Chloe Pattan; Gabriella & Arthur Pennington, Raquel Gazzi; Vic & Michele Peters

November 22 – John & Carol Pettipher; Susan Premo; Adam & Ashley Prew

November 29 – Clay, Diane & Lois Putnam; Ed & Ashley Ransley, Nancy Day; Dave & Denise Rayner

FALL BACK!

SUNDAY NOV. 1ST 2 A.M.

Come to church Sunday, November 1 refreshed from an extra hour of sleep...or, be an hour early and put the coffee on, please!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2^{nd}	Madison Freeman
6^{th}	Dustin Rayner
10^{th}	Josie Foguth
	Jennifer Freeman
	Lauren Gangwer
1 1 th	Charan Carr

11th Sharon Gay Raquel Gazzi Jennifer Koch Arthur Pennington

12th Harry Chciuk 18th Ann Minock

19th Mary Ellen Hazell

20th Barb Goss 21st Jon Burroughs

23rd Sarah Dolza Tristin Hassell

24th Jake Kusluski
 26th Krystn Freeman

27th Rodney Bentz 28th Kirsty Rising

8 Kirsty Rising
Angela White

NOVEMBER Anniversaries

6th Bob & Christine Szostak (22 years)
8th Bob & Mary Warren (57 years)
9th Clay & Diane Putnam (36 years)
12th Ian & Jennifer Rosa (4 years)
14th Jerry & Joan Graham (62 years)

Chet & Mary Louise Susalla (34 years)
24th Robert & Ann Minock (48 years)

St. Jude's Card Ministry

There have been many positive comments about those Birthday and Anniversary Cards from St. Jude's. Many thanks to Lynne Ronthi for sending them out each month. She is also sending Get Well, Sympathy, Just Thinking of You and others as well. If you know of someone who is ill, had a death or birth in the family, or simply just needs to be remembered by the St. Jude's family, please contact Lynne at 810-750.3409 or the office at 810-629-5681 and let them know so a card is available on Sundays for signatures.

We are Family (Con't)

COFFEE HOUR Hosts:

Sincere thanks to those who provided coffee hour for the month of October: Matt and Kristin Shepherd, Linda Chciuk, & the Ben Oliver and Lenae Chambers, Amy Freeman Megan Rosa, and Connie Hibbard.

Again, our thanks to CRUST for their dedicated and delicious baked goods.

Every day they continued to meet together...they broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts. Acts 2: 46-47

October Thanks Fall Clean Up

Thank you to everyone who came and helped prepare our grounds for winter: Ben Oliver, Raquel Gazzi, Bill & Lydia Anderson, Lorraine Moller, Kelly & Lisa Cronk, Megan Rosa, Terri Hutchins, Francine & Charlie Johnston, John & Carol Pettipher, and a special thanks to Kristen & Matt Shepherd for providing a delicious meal for our volunteers.

Diocesan Convention

Thank you to all of our St. Jude's members who attended the Diocesan Convention October 23-24th: Sarah and Paul Dolza, Terri Hutchins, Josephine Feijoo, Angela White, and John and Carol Pettipher! Also, thank you to Kris Forsyth for leading a Messy Church workshop with Missy Harrison.

SCRIP

Clay and Diane are busy behind the scenes at St. Jude's for which we owe them thanks. They would like to remind you to be thinking of your Christmas SCRIP purchases so you may fit them into your budget early on.

Mowers

Thanks to everyone who has been a mower this year!!! Matt Shepherd, Kelly & Lisa Cronk, Fed & Lynell Wright, Emily Short, Bill Anderson (and perhaps some other angels who just stopped by and mowed, but didn't identify themselves to the office!)

Notes from the Choir

November is an exciting month liturgically and musically. The month begins with the Feast of All Saints on November 1. This Sunday includes some of the most thrilling music in the entire Christian year. We begin with one of the greatest hymns in the English language, For all the saints, experience the child-like faith of I sing a song of the saints of God, review the Beatitudes with the contemporary song, Blest are they and conclude with the magnificent Ye watchers and ye holy ones.

The readings for the other Sundays of November allude to the second coming of Christ in glory as we approach Advent. The final Sunday of the liturgical year, November 22, is designated as Christ the King Sunday. These days will feature music appropriate to the lessons as well as some favorite harvest themes.

Wednesday, November 25, is the Community Thanksgiving Service at St. John's at 7:00 p.m. Special music is provided by musicians assembled from various churches. Several musicians from St. Jude's will be participating. This is such a wonderful opportunity to give thanks and meet our friends from the wider Christian community and it is always gratifying to see familiar faces from our congregation. Come join with us!!

November is a packed month full of times of celebration as well as reflection. Let us enjoy these special times as we worship together. Marlene Weston

Openings in the Music Ministry

- 1. We have an open position in St. Jude's Ringers.
- 2. Each Christmas, several guest singers join the choir for Christmas Eve.

Please see Marlene Weston or any of our musicians for further information.

Office Notes

From time to time, there are opportunities for volunteers assist the office. Dates, time and the particular need will appear in the weekly email, as well as the announcements. If you would like and are able to help, please email the office at stjudeschurchfenton 106@gmail.com or call Liz at 810.629.5681.

News and Happenings

Vestry - October, 2015

Vestry met on Oct. 20th. Some highlights to the meeting follow:

- Church audits are up-to-date through 2014
- Plumbing issues are still being dealt with; quotes on door refurnishing are being secured
- 2016 budget draft reviewed
- Stewardship pledges will be collected on Nov. 8 and Nov. 15.

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday, Nov. 25, 7:00 p.m. St. John's Roman Catholic Church An ecumenical event sponsored by the Ministerial Association. Come give thanks with our friends in the area. As it has been for a number of years, our choir will join their voices with others to provide inspirational music. After the service, there is pie to be had in the fellowship hall of St. John's.

Thursday Bible Study: Song of Songs

November 12 and December 10.

Come along to read and talk about this great love poem.

Scrip Rally

Our profit for scrip as of the end of October is \$1012.98. There are only 4 Scrip order dates before Christmas! Let's get ordering to meet our \$2000 profit goal! You can order the first and third Sunday in November as usual. The dates for December are modified so Scrip cards will be delivered in plenty of time for the holidays.

Order date Dec. 6th - Pick up Dec. 13th Order date Dec. 13th - Pick up Dec. 20th

Think about purchasing Scrip for your groceries. We all stock up on food for the coming holidays. Instead of shipping those expensive packages, send scrip cards! Does the thought of all that shopping sound exhausting? Buy Scrip! Relax and truly enjoy the holidays!

INSTALLATION OF THE PRESIDING BISHOP on NOVEMBER 1

The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry will become the Most Rev. Michael Curry on November 1st during the installation service at the Washington National Cathedral.

The service will be available to watch online at the link listed below. Some churches in Eastern Michigan will be holding watch parties.

Curry currently serves as the Bishop of the Diocese of North Carolina. He was elected to be the next Presiding Bishop during the 78th General Convention last summer on the first ballot. http://www.cathedral.org

Silent Auction, 2015

If you were unable to attend, you missed out on an amazing, festive event! Walking into VandenBergh Hall, the first thing you saw was a beautiful autumnal display created by Kirsty Rising and Tara Wakeham...and it set the tone for the entire evening!

Sincere thanks all the people who donated items, worked to make it a success, and came to the auction. The chair of the event was the tireless and gracious Freyah Hutchinson.

The committee was Dee Grossmann, Connie Koch, Carol Chambers, Nancy Day, Denise Rayner, Deb and Ty Fry, Rex and Judi Harris, Christine Szostak. Additionally, thanks to those who worked on the various committees: Dave Rayner, Debbie and Dave James, John and Carol Pettipher, Joe Binder, Charlie Johnston, Connie Hibbard, Kelly and Lisa Cronk, Jack and Bev Mills, Sue Premo, Tom and Shirley Gernack, Lorraine Moller, Kirsty Rising, Tara Wakeham, Lynne Ronthi, Dick Stratton, Martha Applebee, Carl Koch, and Linda Chciuk.

We cleared over \$5550.00. Thanks to a lot of hard work, everyone had a good time!

News and Happenings

New Administrative Assistant - LIZ SAUVIE

Elizabeth Sauvie was born in Flint and raised in Swartz Creek. She attended the University of Michigan-Flint where she earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Music. She has worked for several non-profit programs for children and teenagers in the Genesee County area where she gained experience in everything from classroom management to administrative services.

Elizabeth also served as the Music Director for New Life Wesleyan Church in Swartz Creek until 2014 when she moved to Pensacola, Florida for six months. She is excited to be back in her home state of Michigan (at least until the snow arrives). Elizabeth, as well as working at St. Jude's, is the Parish Secretary at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Grand Blanc. She currently lives with her two cats, Gatsby and Daisy. She loves to read, lounge by the pool, run, knit and crochet, and spend time with friends and family.

You can reach Liz at stjudeschurchfenton106@gmail.com

NEW OFFICE SCHEDULE beginning Oct. 19:

Mondays - all day (8:30-5)

Tuesdays - morning (9-12)

Wednesdays - all day (8:30-5)

Thursdays - morning (8-12)

Theology on Tap at Tenacity Brewing

Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m.

Tenacity Brewing in Flint

119 N. Grand Traverse St.

With the first session reviewing *A Faith Not Worth Fighting For* completed, consider jumping in on the next session, which is to be announced...

Talk with Tristin Hassell -- 810- 964-2334 / tshassell@gmail.com or Ben Oliver (ben.dean.oliver@gmail.com) if you have questions.

Safeguarding God's People

Monday, November 2, 6:00 p.m. Very important training for leadership. This certification is good for 5 years. Vestry and leaders are invited to participate to help make the church and our community a safer place for all people. Contact Heather to register.

Episcopal Diocesan Magazine Check out a copy of *The Feast* - the magazine from the Diocese of Easter Michigan. In the Autumn 2015 edition, our very own David James has a poem published, and former parishioner Missy Harrison has an article!

Ladies Advent Candlelight Tea

Longing for Light in the Darkness

Traditionally, the tea has taken place on a Sunday evening, but with our new Sunday evening Messy Church service, we are moving to Wednesday, December 2nd at 6:30 p.m.

As always, we will have a sign-up sheet in VandenBergh Hall, both for women who would like to be table hostesses, and for those who would like to attend this event.

Make sure you mark your calendar for this beautiful, peaceful service and night of fellowship that ushers in the season of Advent. Look for more complete information in the November *Beacon*, and in bulletins at church.

St. Jude's Episcopal Church

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