

The Beacon

St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Fenton, Michigan

Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching Out to Others

August, 2015 (our 157th year)

Things you might be thinking about in August:

sweltering heat, pool parties, sun, ice cream, trips to be beach!

The thing that you don't want to think about:

Planning for the fall (and academic year)!

Sorry, friends...it's time...

There are a couple of key things that I'd like you to note:

CHILDREN AND YOUTH – 8/2, 10:30 a.m.

On August 2, following the 9 a.m. service, **parents of all ages and youth** will meet to continue our conversation about the programs / events that will launch in the fall. Many thoughts are out there and it's time to decide...which way will we go? How will we best provide opportunities for children and youth to engage in relationships with each other and deepen relationships with God?

WORSHIP MINISTERS – 8/16, 10:30 a.m.

On August 16, following the 9 a.m. service, **Eucharistic Ministers**, **Acolytes**, **Readers**, **and Ushers** will gather. The hope is that we can share information with one another to help facilitate smooth-running services. If you would like to share your gifts during the service in one of these ways, please attend this meeting. We will be planning follow up meetings / trainings this day. (Please bring a calendar.) If you are unable to make this meeting, simply let me know to be on the list for the next one.

CALENDAR GAME - TBD

"Calendar game" is what I call the time when groups are trying to work out their upcoming schedule. So, grab your calendar and come play! I'm looking to schedule a meeting with the **leader (or designee) of each of the ministry areas**. At the meeting, we will look at the upcoming academic year and figure out how to schedule all of the amazing things happening at St. Jude's! If you're the head of your ministry area or would like to be involved in this meeting, let me know. I'm looking toward the end of August or beginning of September.

I hope that you're enjoying this great summer! I look forward to seeing you soon!

Peace.

The Rw. Steather Barta

106 East Elizabeth St., Fenton, MI 48430-2322 • 810-629-5681 • E-Mail:stjudeschurchfenton106@gmail.com

The Reverend Heather Barta – Interim Priest-in-Charge, 989-413-3229 • E-Mail: revbarta@gmail.com

Director of Christian Formation: Kris Forsyth • Minister of Music: Marlene Weston

Administrative Assistant: Barb Smith, 810-695-7868 • Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. (M - Thurs.)

Sunday Services: July and August: 9:00 a.m.

We Are Family

Please Hold In Your Prayers

For those in particular need of prayer: Margaret Ancic; Doug; Julie Gates; Bill Lenny; Jeff Leubke; Lewis family; Eveline McCoy; Cele Mills; Lois Putnam; Spencer Sands; Stan Spicer and Christine Vallaire.

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; Caytie Gascoigne; Bunny Gladfelter; Ralph Gladfelter; Judy Godsell, Renee Goss; Brian Henderson; Mary Lou Jenkins; Mary Kurtz; Teresa Maynard; Leona; Rick M; Denny Sharpe; Arin Shinabarger; Sandy Train; Susan Taber; and Gavin Woods.

Pray for Our Ministers

August 2nd – Greg, Kris & Leigha Forsyth; Bill & Marcia Freeman; David, Lynn & Gabrielle Freeman; Mark & Pat Freeman

August 9th – Matt & Linda Freeman and Michael Wolos; Amy Freeman Rosa; Connie Fry, Ty & Debbie Fry

August 16th – Doug, Michelle & Lauren Gangwer; Sharon Gay; Raquel Gazzi and Gabbie & Arthur Pennington; Tom & Shirley Gernack

August 23rd – Vance Gordon; Brian & Barb Goss; Renee Goss; Jerry & Joan Graham

August 30th – Mike, Chace, McKenna and Aiden Green; Mark Hamel; Dee Grossmann, Carol Hall

WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS

If you know of someone who is a newcomer please be sure to welcome them warmly and encourage them to fill out a "Welcome Newcomers" form (please ask an Usher for the form or take one from the rack by the office) and drop it in the Offertory Plate. This helps to get them on the *Beacon* recipient list and also we can recognize birthdays and anniversaries.

Remember, it only takes a moment to offer a smile and reach out to a visitor!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1st Bill Freeman
15th Connie Koch
16th Matt Freeman
19th Herb Aldrich
20th Gabrielle White
24th Dee Dickens
Tom Gernack
25th Marilyn Safa

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

6th Harry & Linda Cheiuk (44) 11^{th} Henry & Heather Barta (9) Shane & Heather Chambers (4) 18th Craig & Gay Adams (42) Lynn & Kathy Hopper (37) 21^{st} Michael & Sue Reilly (39) 22^{nd} Ronald & Jennifer Chambers (17) Jerry & Francine Rucker (51) 23^{rd} Tom & Shirley Gernack (35) 27th Dan & Beth Harvey (5)

Memorial Garden Gets Spruced Up!

Have you glanced at the Memorial Garden lately? So much has been done this summer in the neverending task of upkeep. Thanks to Lynell and Fred Wright for their leadership in making this sacred space more beautiful!

Thanks also to Nancy Jones and Josie and Lucy Foguth, Lisa (The Machine) Cronk and her granddaughter, and Amy Rosa. Thanks go out as well to Dot Dowlan and Connie Fry for their tireless weeding preparing for the mulch.

If you would like to offer some time to assist, contact Lynell.

While we are on the topic of keeping up our outdoor space, our thanks go out to those who mowed: the Wright, Cronk and Short families!

Thanks to our Web Site Volunteers

St. Jude's website is a continuing work in progress, constantly updating data and adding new information. Sincere thanks go to Ty and Debbie Fry for all their dedication and hard work keeping the site attractive and current!

We are Family (Con't)

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:

We are so grateful to Crust for their dedicated delivery of their delicious baked goods that we enjoy each Sunday. If you have not had the chocolate croissants (which I like to call a piece of heaven on earth), then you have not lived! Folks have been filling in and making coffee, but we do need dedicated people to manage coffee hour. Please think about signing up for this very important ministry!

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

Family Promise Updates

Each week a Family Promise newsletter is published. The letter often includes personal stories about some of the folks that are in the program or have graduated. We thought you might like this note about one of the recent graduate families...

Shawtayvia (Family Promise graduate) dropped by with Diamond and Kaylen. They are all doing really well. Diamond is going to Camp Chickagami, an Episcopal Church camp brought to our attention by Craig Leavitt (and raved about by John and Carol Pettipher, with St. Jude's Episcopal, Fenton support church – John even gave me a pen!) and made possible by a grant from the Child Welfare Society of Flint (thanks to Susan Pollard, with host church Davison United Methodist, for writing the grant!) She jokes that she's turned into a bit of a hermit since moving into her own place. She says she goes to and from work and enjoys hanging out with the kids at home. Each of the kids is enjoying their new room! Kaylen loved seeing all of the toys again. It was fun to visit with them and know they are doing so well.

Back to School Shopping? Think SCRIP

As you begin making lists for clothing and school supplies for the upcoming year, you have time to plan ahead and think of using SCRIP cards! ALL of your favorite retailers are there...and buying cards supports St. Jude's ministries! WIN/WIN!! Upcoming order dates August 2nd and 16th (you get

Notes from the Choir

The choir is on recess for the summer, but remember: WE HAVE A GREAT NEED FOR MORE SINGERS AND RINGERS. Please consider either joining us or recommending someone we may not be aware of. Both the bell and vocal choirs will resume in September.

Directory changes:

Michael & Sue Reilly PH: Mike -810.343.1817 Sue - 810.434.8942

E-Mail: michaelreilly1910@sbcglobal.net

Bill McDonald PH: 810.730.9454

Office Notes:

Pledge Statements

The semi-annual statements are available in the library for you to pick up at your convenience. They are pro-rated per day, so please don't be confused if you have a cents balance. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office at 810.629.5681 or email:

stjudeschurchfenton106@gmail.com.

Volunteer Sign-ups

We continue to struggle to fill in the openings on the monthly schedule for Worship Leaders and Volunteers. Please take time to go to our website at http://www.stjudesfenton.com and click on the Sign Up Station and fill in your availability. If you do not have a computer or prefer to call the office, please feel free to do so at 810.629.5681 and we will happily assist you.

Summer Services / Office Hours

Beginning July 5th through August 30th, there will be one Sunday service at **9:00 a.m**. July will feature Rite 1 and August will be Rite II.

Office hours will be from 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday. Office vacation hours will be posted in the bulletin.

News and Happenings

Vestry Notes – July 2015

The Vestry was on summer break for the month of July...we look forward to serving you in August!

Barta Open House

Friday, August 21, 6:30 p.m.

Come see Henry and Heather's

new house!

10951 Terrace Rd. in Holly

Meet the horses and hang out. Snacks and drinks are provided.

You can RSVP or just show up.

989-413-3229 or revbarta@gmail.com

It's All About Our Youth!

Pilgrimage 2016

Pilgrimage is a religious practice which began a very long time ago. After God's people wandered in the wilderness for 40 years after escaping slavery in Egypt and after they made it to the promised land, they realized that in the busyness of the city and of daily life, it became harder and harder to hear God's voice. So, the people of God went back into the wilderness and traveled back to Mount Sinai to quiet the noise of their daily lives in order to hear God's voice more clearly.

Eventually, of course, Jesus was born. He lived and died and rose from the dead.

Christianity came into being. And still, people looked for ways to hear God's voice and still, pilgrims traveled to holy places in order to strip away distractions so that they might find God. Pilgrims travel to Mount Sinai to this day on pilgrimage, but as the Christian Church grew and spread throughout the world, other places became sacred and holy – places where saints had lived, places where a particular monastery or church or religious community thrived, places where pilgrims had traveled in the past.

Popular international pilgrimage destinations with Journey to Adulthood groups include St. George's College in Jerusalem, Camina de Santiago de Compostelo in Spain, Canterbury, England, the Center for Celtic Spirituality in Ireland, the Taize Community in France and Iona in Scotland. Potential pilgrimage destinations in the U.S. include the Missions of Northern New Mexico, the California Missions Trail, the Black Hills in South Dakota, Sedona and Navajoland in Arizona, the Washington National Cathedral, Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in NYC, Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE) in Boston and Grace Cathedral, San Francisco.

Our J2A group, here at St. Jude's, is preparing to travel on Pilgrimage next summer. Please pray for our young people and our Pilgrimage Discernment & Design Team as we research six potential destinations. Parents and young people will be invited to a Pilgrimage Meeting in September where we'll share our research on the six sites and collect feedback in order to pare our list down to three. Watch for details in the coming weeks.

Youth Group Canoe & Kayak Trip... August 23rd, 2015

Young people in grades 6 through 12 (and their families) are invited to join in the fun and adventure as we travel down the Huron River in Milford in canoes & kayaks. We'll attend the 9 a.m. service first and then head out after that with packed lunches. Watch for flyers and permission sheets!

We're also waiting on word from the canoe livery as to whether we can reserve additional canoes/kayaks for members of the congregation not involved with the youth. That would make this trip

News and Happenings

a truly intergenerational one and that's always a plus! Stay tuned!

Godly Play: Learn More About It

We are offering an introduction to the Godly Play program via a book study for anyone at St. Jude's who might be interested in learning a little more. This group might include parents of children who will participate in Godly Play, potential storytellers or assistants, and curious members of the congregation at large. No strings attached! We'll meet on Wednesday, July 29th, and Wednesdays, August 12th, 19th and 26th from 6 pm - 7:30 pm. Please let us know you are coming so we can have a book ready for you!

Kris: forsythkris@gmail.com or 248-568-6082.

A Day in the Life

of a member of the Official Youth Presence at General Convention.

Each day in Salt Lake City began at an hour which would make most teenagers cringe. Wake up time ranged from 6 am to 8 am. It was all dependent upon whether or not you wanted to eat or to attend morning legislative committee meetings. Essentially, these committees would hear opinions of the various people at the convention and would attempt to craft passable resolutions for the two houses. The two houses at General Convention were the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops. The former consisted of about 800 Episcopal clergy and lav members, while the latter was composed of about 100 bishops across the church.

Following the committee meetings, we would head to the massive space allocated for worship. Many of you would recognize the style and structure of the service. However, each day would have an important person deliver a sermon. Additionally, the services had music from various cultures across the church that included the following: Japanese, Native American, and Hispanic.

Before the House of Deputies meeting commenced, we had some spare time to enjoy the various exhibits and learn about the church workings at the exhibit hall. After, we would attend the House of Deputies meeting and experience the governance and witness historical legislation passage. Directly after the meeting, our group would sneak out of the convention center in order to grab some lunch at the

mall

The second legislative session of the day would start following lunch. Many of the people on the floor were burned out from a long, tedious session from the morning and needed a break. During these meetings, many of the deputies would find themselves using Twitter to discuss and criticize the current workings of the house, playing video games on their phones, or catching up on some must needed rest.

Our evenings had a much more relaxed, flexible schedule than the rest of the day. We would go to dinner at various gatherings including the UTO banquet or the banquet for young adults. Following the dinner, our group members had the option to testify at an evening legislative hearing. When the festivities of a long day were completed, we often swam in the hot tub, had some personal time, or just went to bed.

Submitted by Holden Holsinger

BOOK DONATIONS NEEDED!

This year's Read & Feed program will start on August 11. Children will get an opportunity to improve their reading skills in preparation for the beginning of the school year. At the end of the program the students will be able to take books home with them to keep. To support this part of the program we are collecting new and gently used books that are age appropriate for 1st - 3rd graders.

Please bring books to church and place them in the plastic tub in the Library.

Thank you!

REED AND FEED

Read and Feed needs your help. This program works with young people in the community to help build literacy. It's one of the best gifts that we can give to our children... the ability to read. There are lots of ways to support this program - in person, with snacks and food, and with prayers.

If you have any questions about roles or help needed, contact Dave Rayner

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