

## The Beacon

St. Jude's Episcopal Church
Fenton, Michigan
Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching Out to Others
April, 2016 (our 158<sup>th</sup> year)

## Bishop Ousley's **Easter Message for 2016**

"How are we going to embrace the implausible notion that through death, new life will happen for us?"

Every year as Winter turns into Spring, as the days begin to lengthen and light begins to shine forth more fully in our lives and in our days, I find myself looking out on the perennial gardens in our backyard and noticing the tiny tips of tulip bulbs beginning to poke through and those early crocus that are beginning to come out and just about to flower. It's a harbinger of Spring, of new life and of new possibilities.

E.B. White, author of *Charlotte's Web* and *Stuart Little* was married to Katherine White who had the exciting work of writing for seed catalogues in New York. After her death, E.B. wrote this as a forward to a collection of her writings. He's talking about the annual event when Katharine, his wife, in October, would begin to prepare the bulbs and place them, to inter them into the ground so that they would spring forth in full flower the following Spring.

"Armed with a diagram and a clipboard, Katherine would get into a shabby old Brooks raincoat much too long for her, put on a little round wool hat, pull on a pair of overshoes, and proceed to the director's chair... There she would sit, hour after hour, in the wind and the weather. As the years went by and age overtook her, there was something comical yet touching in her bedraggled appearance on this awesome occasion - the small, hunched over figure, her studied absorption in the implausible notion that there would be yet another spring, oblivious to the ending of her own days, which she knew perfectly well was near at hand, sitting here with her detailed chart under those dark skies in the dying October, calmly plotting the resurrection."

"The implausible notion that there would be yet another spring."

And "plotting the resurrection."

These are images for us to embrace as we too approach the resurrection - that festival day known as Easter. A time when once again we will shout, "Alleluia, Christ is Risen! The Lord is Risen indeed, Alleluia!"

It's a time for us to do our own plotting of resurrection, to ask ourselves, "How are we going to embrace the implausible notion that through death, new life will happen for us?'

How are we going to plot the resurrection in our own lives? How will we know that by dying to self, by dying to old ways, we too can embrace new life and new possibilities?

May God bless you in this holy season and may your Easter day be filled with joy.

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The Reverend Heather Barta (Priest-in-Charge) (989.413.3229) E-Mail: revbarta@gmail.com
Liz Sauvie, Administrative Assistant Office Hours: M/W: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., T: 9 a.m. - 12, Th: 8 a.m. - 12
Min. of Music: Marlene J. Weston (810.658.2683) Dir. of Christian Formation: Kris Forsyth (810.208.0886)
Sunday Services: Holy Eucharist: 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.; Messy Church: 5:00 p.m. Coffee Hour follows 10:30 service

# We Are Family

**Please Hold In Your Prayers** Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Todd, our Bishop; Heather, our Interim Priest; and the Wardens and Vestry.

For those in particular need of prayer: For those in particular need of prayer: Margaret Ancic; Doug; Patricia DuCharme; Stan Haddock; Jenny Hart; Eveline Karnowski; Bill Lenny; Lewis family; Lisa; Bob Minock; Sidney Nihill; Ed Ransley; Paul Riley; Spencer Sands, Stan Spicer, Louis Sternello, the Stone family, Jennifer Ubil And those in continuing need of prayer: John Babcock; David Barrows; Brett Beal; 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; Paul Otto; Leona; Richard Perkins; Denny Sharpe; Arin Shinabarger; Sandy Train; Susan Taber; Elijah Unkefer, and Gavin Woods.

#### **Updates to Prayer List**

Help us keep our prayer list up-to-date. If you know of any changes that should be made, please let the office know.

#### **Pray for Our Ministers**

**APRIL 3** – Liza, Paul & Sarah Dolza, Dot Dowlan and Dean & Julie DuPei

**APRIL 10** – Julie & Bill Edgar, Jerry & Kimberly Edwards and Larry & Pam Elder

**APRIL 17** – Lottie Englehart, Bonnie, Marilou & Rebecca Ensign and Josephine Feijoo

**APRIL 24** – Mary Felix, Judith & Marv Fisher and Katie Fleming

#### Our sincere condolences

To Denise and Dave, Dustin and Ben Rayner and the whole Rayner family on the death of Denise's mother, Carrol Yardley.

May the soul of Carrol and all those we love but see no longer, rest in eternal peace.

#### **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

1<sup>st</sup> Erica Freeman

2<sup>nd</sup> Jacob Freeman

4<sup>th</sup> Patrick Hibbard

8<sup>th</sup> Shane Chambers

15<sup>th</sup> Michelle Gangwer

20<sup>th</sup> Scott Smith

24<sup>th</sup> Lynn Freeman

26<sup>th</sup> Gay Adams

29<sup>th</sup> Teresa Maynard

#### APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

5<sup>th</sup> Fred & Lynell Wright (41<sup>st</sup>)

7<sup>th</sup> Harold & Edith Hersback (62<sup>nd</sup>)

14<sup>th</sup> David & Carol Chambers (43<sup>rd</sup>)

#### Memorial Garden - Walk & Weed

In order to keep the Memorial Garden looking its best, we are asking for your help. One volunteer is needed per week to walk through the garden and pick up fallen branches/debris, sweep the pavers and pull any obvious weeds and grasses. A bin is available for any yard waste. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in VandenBergh Hall. Thank you very much for both your time and your effort in keeping the Memorial Garden beautiful!

#### **Eucharistic Visitor Training**

We have had in the past an active Eucharistic Visitor program that has been newly revived...each week we are sending our Eucharistic Visitors out to take communion, companionship and news from St. Jude's to those who are not able to attend church. If you would like to become part of this fulfilling and important ministry, please note:

Training is being offered May 7th from 9:30 to 3:30 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church in Midland. If you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Visitor (this is a licensed ministry position), please consider attending. The cost is \$25 per person. More information is available online, or in the office.

### We are Family (Con't)

#### COFFEE HOUR Hosts:

Our sincere thanks to those who provided nourishment for the body and soul during March: Connie Hibbard, Kathy Kortge, Martha Applebee, Richard Stratton, Sharon Gay, Matt, Kristen and Kara Shepherd, and Sue Premo.

We continue to thank CRUST for their dedicated delivery of delicious baked goods for us to enjoy. 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

"I used to believe that
prayer changes things,
but now I know that
prayer changes us,
and we change things."

#### Mother Teresa

## **Electronic Funds Transfer Now Available**

Have your pledge automatically taken directly from your account to ours! Forms are available in the rack outside the office door. Enclose form and voided check and turn it into the office. Liz will contact you to set it up!

#### **Book Fair for FARR**

FARR wants to give out books to support literacy! You can help by shopping online with Usborne Books and More. You can buy books for children you know or you can buy books to give to FARR. Regardless, based on total sales, FARR will be able to pick out free books once the Book Fair has ended. If you would like to purchase for FARR, think about ages birth to 7. Those are the ages that they see the most. Shop online or, if you want to see a real catalog or order in person, contact Heather at 989-413-3229.

#### News and Happenings

#### **Notes from the Choir**

Due to no reminder message being sent to Marlene, you can view the Choir Notes in the Online version of the *Beacon*. What can be said about the choir is that our Easter music was beautiful—and having Tracy Dunlop join is on the violin was a wonderful addition! Thank YOU!!

Deb James

## RECOVERY MINISTRY RETREAT IN JUNE

"11th Step Retreat" is for anyone involved or interested in a 12-step recovery group.

The Recovery Outreach Ministry Group is hosting an 11th Step Retreat at the CYO Camp for Girls near Port Sanilac from Friday, June 3rd through Sunday, June 5th with the theme "Renewing our Spirit in Recovery."

The Retreat is suited for anyone involved or interested in the 12-step recovery process. The cost to attend is \$80, which includes meals and two nights lodging. Partial scholarships are available. Checks marked "11th Step Retreat" should be sent to St. Francis Episcopal Church, PO Box 501, Grayling, MI 49733 along with your contact information and anything else regarding special dietary needs, physical limitations, or medication.

For more information, contact coordinator Doug Pryor at 734-308-1877 or theuberdug@yahoo.com

sponsored by the Social Committee...

#### Annual Birthday S u n d a y

Back by popular request...
During coffee hour on Sunday, April 17th,
we will have a

#### **CAKE TABLE**

for each month of the year.

(that's right, twelve
Birthday Cakes!)
Please come and share
a cake and fellowship
with others who share
your birthday month!
(Yes, you may make your
way to other cakes that are not
celebrating your birth month!)

### **News and Happenings**

#### **Vestry Notes – March 2016**

Vestry's March meeting helped set groundwork for a good spring and maintained the progress we have been making over the past several years on the financial and business side of our church.

- The financial review was reviewed and accepted by the Vestry.
- Kathy Kortge and the property committee are making great strides in the care of our grounds, and with Lynell Wright's help they are doing a brilliant work honoring the Memorial Garden with tender love and care.
- The welcoming committee introduced new welcoming gift packets for our visitors and are developing better ways to stay in contact with the good folks who visit and join our community.

#### Dear St. Jude's Parishioners

After several months of diligent work by the Search Committee led by Dave Rayner and Josephine Feijoo, I am pleased to announce that Tracie Little will be the next Rector of St. Jude's Episcopal Church in Fenton. Tracie comes to us from All Saints Episcopal Church in Marysville, MI, where she has been Rector since 2004. She has also been very active within the Diocese of Eastern Michigan during that time. Among her roles, Tracie has been a Lay Worship Leader Training Facilitator, served on the Leadership Team of the Living Stones Partnership, and is the Dean of the Blue Water Convocation.

After having the opportunity to meet her in person, and see her lead a service, the Search Committee felt that Tracie is the right person to be the next Rector. Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, will be Tracie's first day at St. Jude's with May 8<sup>th</sup> being her first Sunday. In the meantime, she and her husband, Dave, are in the process of looking for a home in the Tri-County area. The Little's, and most especially Tracie, are very excited about starting this new journey in their lives and getting to know the parishioners of St. Jude's.

In closing, I would sincerely like to thank the Search Committee for the tremendous amount of time and energy they put into this process. I don't know if there is a greater example of demonstrating one's faith and love for their church than to serve in the search for a new Rector. Thank you for your dedication! If you have any questions, please contact Dave, Josephine or myself.

Best Regards, Bill Anderson, Senior Warden

#### **SCRIP NEWS**

Yes, spring is here! If your are thinking of gardening and other spring projects remember to purchase Lowe's, Home Depot, or Menard's gift cards. Keep Scrip in mind as you're thinking of that new spring outfit. We have many retailers such as Kohl's, JC Penny, and Macy's. Check out <a href="https://www.shopwithscrip.com">www.shopwithscrip.com</a> to see the many new retailers that have been added. You will also see the great percentages many retailer offer at places you spend money at weekly. Help St. Jude's Church reach its annual goal of generating \$2000 or more!

Crossover Anniversary Dinner & Silent Auction



Monday, May 2 at 5:30 p.m., Crossover Downtown Outreach Ministry will be hosting a dinner and silent auction event to celebrate 25 years of serving in the downtown area. The event will be hosted at Riverfront Banquet Center in Flint with guest speaker, Congressman Dan Kildee. Single tickets are available with a \$25 each donation. Other donation options are available. For more information, contact Crossover Downtown Outreach Ministry at (810) 234-2479 or info@crossoverministryflint.org

There will be information posted in VandenBurgh Hall for those who wish to attend, or sponsor a table.

### **News and Happenings**

#### **Memorial Garden Committee Meeting**

Spring is here! That means it's time for our thoughts, once again, to return to the restoration of the Memorial Garden. The first meeting of the Memorial Garden Committee is scheduled for **Sunday, April 3, 2016,** after coffee hour, in St. Jude's library. Discussion will include selection of design, scheduling for planting days and much more. If you have great ideas, an interest in gardening or just want to know what is going on out there, please join us.

#### **Memorial Garden Information**

We have been working on updating the Memorial Garden plaques and map. Please take a look to make sure we are not missing anybody. If you know of someone who needs to be added, please let the office know. Thank you!

#### **SPRING Clean-Up Day**

Sunday, April 10 is our parish Cleanup Day – or we could call it "Wear Your Grubbies to Church Day!" Bring garden tools (rakes, clippers, hedge trimmers, etc.) and gardening gloves so we can spiff up our lovely church and grounds before we welcome our new priest!

-Submitted by Building & Grounds Committee

#### Set Sail on The Allure of the Seas

Lynn and Kathy Hopper, in conjunction with their Leprechaun Travellers, L.L.C., are taking reservations for a 7-night Easter Caribbean Cruise that departs from Fort Lauderdale, Florida on July 9, 2017, and returns July 16, 2017. Ports of call include Phillipsburg, St. Maarten, San Juan and Labadee, and Haiti.

A deposit of \$250 will secure your space on the ship, and must be paid by April 24, 2016. Cost and other information is available by contacting Lynn or Kathy (810-629-9069) – or looking at the online *Beacon*.

#### Family Promise Celebrates Gala Success!

More than \$36,000 was raised to benefit families facing a housing crisis here in Genesee County. Family Promise of Genesee County is a non-profit organization serving families during a transitional

homeless period. Money raised at the 3rd annual Winter Gala & Silent Auction directly benefits those families served.

More than 200 guests filled Riverfront Banquet Center in downtown Flint for dinner, dancing and the silent auction. Gala guests also heard directly from a graduate family and about the important role Family Promise played in the rebuilding of their lives.

Special thanks to event sponsors Snider Financial and Dr. Kenneth Vobach for helping make the event possible. Thanks also to our Gold Sponsors, Energy Design Service Systems (EDSS), Hall Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge Ram, Pioneer State Mutual and The State Bank.

For further information on the gala & silent auction or getting connected with Family Promise of Genesee County, contact Lindsay Moore, Network Director, at 810-234-9444. Planning is already underway for our next year's GALA.

#### Saturday, February 11, 2017 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Gala & Silent Auction in Black & White.

Stay tuned to our Facebook page (Family Promise of Genesee County) and website (familypromiseofgc.org) for updated information and planning!

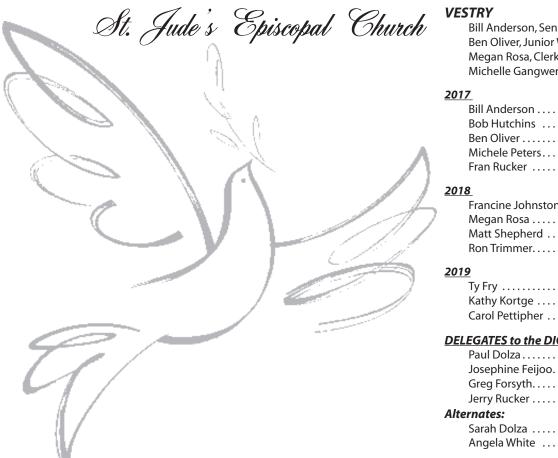
See you at the

Riverfront Banquet Center in 2017!

St. Jude's sponsored a table at the 2016 event. Attendees included John & Carol Pettipher, Kris & Greg Forsyth, Bev & Jack Mills and Sarah & Paul Dolza. Any of these couples, plus Dave & Denise Rayner, could let you know how much fun the evening was, and how to get involved in the upcoming year.

#### St. Jude's Episcopal Church

106 E. Elizabeth St. Fenton, MI 48430-2322 Church Office: 810-629-5681 www.stjudesfenton.com



Bill Anderson, Senior Warden       810.444.2378         Ben Oliver, Junior Warden       810.240.8437         Megan Rosa, Clerk       810.735.4547         Michelle Gangwer, Treasurer       810.208.0120
2017
Bill Anderson
Bob Hutchins
Ben Oliver
Michele Peters810.441.5324
Fran Rucker 810.750.9578
2018
Francine Johnston
Megan Rosa
Matt Shepherd
Ron Trimmer
2019
Ty Fry
Kathy Kortge 810.869.7224
Carol Pettipher 248.889.2525
DELEGATES to the DIOCESAN CONVENTION
Paul Dolza
Josephine Feijoo
Greg Forsyth810.208.0886
Jerry Rucker
Alternates:
Sarah Dolza
Angela White

### ATTENTION



#### TAKING RESERVATIONS

## ALLURE OF THE SEAS (NEED TO BOOK 8 STATEROOMS)

(TO MAKE THIS COME TRUE)

DEPARTING: FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 2017 TO SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2017

- SEVEN NIGHT EASTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE -

# PORTS-OF-CALL PHILIPSBURG, ST. MAARTEN SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO LABADEE, HAITI

DEPOSIT REQUIRED: \$250.00 PER PERSON INSIDE STATEROOM: \$1,257.17/PERSON BALCONY STATEROOM: \$1,567.17/PERSON

DEPOSIT REQUIRED BY APRIL 24, 2016

SEE/CALL LYNN OR KATHY HOPPER FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS (810) 629-9069



LEPRECHAUN TRAVELLERS, L.L.C.



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