



The Beacon

St. Jude's Episcopal Church
Fenton, Michigan

Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching Out to Others

March 2017 (Our 159th Year)

What do you think of when you hear the word "Lent"? What images come to mind? What sounds do you hear? What spiritual practices have you tried in the past?

Lent is one of those seasons of preparation. For 40 days we journey with Jesus on the road to Jerusalem. In liturgy we simplify. The Paschal Candle (the tall candle that sits by the Font at the front of the church) is removed and will reappear at the Easter Vigil as we light it from the Easter fire. The flowers that usually adorn the Altar will disappear. This year we may try simplifying even more and switch out all the "shiny holy hardware" for more simple candle holders, alms basins (that we use for collection) and Communion vessels. The colors that we hang on the Altar, Lectern and Pulpit will change to purple (a penitential color) and then to red for Holy Week. Our music and our Eucharistic prayer will change, all to reflect the tone of the season.

Many people continue the practice of Lent into their everyday lives taking on a new spiritual discipline or perhaps adding to a current one. I know of someone who chose to read an extra hour a day (not a "fun" book, but something that would help him to deepen his relationship with God). Others choose to simplify their lives by giving something up – perhaps an item of food or drink, maybe a negative practice that they wish to change. Some increase their knowledge of the saints by playing a game called Lent Madness where a bracket of saints battle it out to be crowned with the Golden Halo. Check out their website at www.lentmadness.org.

Why do people choose to give up or take something new on for this season? Why do you?

For the past few months the articles that I write for the *Beacon* have been copied onto our St. Jude's website on the blog part of the site. Debbie Fry has set the blog up so that it offers a place for conversation and interaction by inviting comments. To avoid those who troll the internet looking for such interactive areas in order to put their own links to advertisements and to avoid inappropriate comments, we are requiring all comments to be approved before they go live. I receive – or I will when those comments begin – an e-mail alerting me to the comment so I can go ahead and approve and post it.

Let's use this article as a launch to a conversation on the blog about Lenten practices. What are you choosing to do? How's it going? A place to support one another in our Lenten journeys and perhaps a place to reflect more deeply about our practices. I've entitled this blog "Our Journey Together" and it can be found at the link below. I'll start the conversation by posting my Lenten discipline. I look forward to our online conversation about Lent. It's my plan to begin using this blog as a way to begin a new online community as St. Jude's begins exploring how to engage more directly with the community around the building – as we move on out into the neighborhood. It will be exciting to see where God takes us on Our Journey Together! Here's the link to the blog page of our website: http://www.stjudesfenton.com/?page_id=858

***Blessings,
Tracie***

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The Reverend Tracie Little (810.300.9177) E-Mail: traciellittle@gmail.com Intern: Paul Brunell (810.618.3453)
Liz Sauvie, Administrative Assistant Office Hours: M/Thursday: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; T/Weds: 9:00 a.m.-noon
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. 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: Craig Adams; Jack Bretzke; D'Jair Cominotti; Marie Doyon; Steven G.; Stan Haddock; Judy Hogan; Collin & Yasuko James; Eveline Karnowski; Carl Koch; Jim Kortge; Bill Lenny; Jeff Luebke; Theresa Maynard; Sidney Nihill; Richard; Paul Riley; Mike Ryan; Marilyn Saffa; Spencer Sands; Nanae & Fukuko Shiraishi; Larry Smith; Stan Spicer; Louis Sternello; Jennifer Ubil; Sandy West; Ron Winters

And those in continuing need of prayer: Herb Aldrich; John Babcock; David Barrows; Brett Beal; Margot Brummett; Marie Church; Rachel & Don Conway; Betsy Davies; Erica and Gail Delaney; Gail Engdahl; Bunny Gladfelter; Ralph Gladfelter; Judy Godsell; Brian Henderson; Connie Koch; Mary Lou Jenkins; Ruth Krebs; Ev Koller; Angela Koresh; Mary Kurtz; Don Kurtz; Leona; Bob Minock; Paul Otto; Richard Perkins; Denny Sharpe; Arin Shinabarger; Susan Taber; Sandy Train; Elijah Unkefer

Updates to Prayer List

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

Pray for Our Ministers

March 5 – Sharon Gay; Raquel Gazzi and Gabriella & Arthur Pennington; Tom & Shirley Gernack; Vance Gordon

March 12 – Brian & Barb Goss; Jerry & Joan Graham; Dee Grossmann; Mark Hamel and Mike, Chace, McKenna & Aiden Green

March 19 – Bruce & Linda Hardy; Rex & Judi Harris; Lois Hartranft; Dan & Beth Harvey

March 26 – Mary Ellen Hazell; Harold Hersback; Connie Hibbard; Patrick & Abel Hibbard

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2nd Mary Louise Susalla
3rd Bob Minock
5th Matt Shepherd
8th Bob Foguth
Connie Hibbard
Vic Peters
Carol Pettipher
9th Sophia Chambers
10th David Chambers
Brian Goss
Dan Harvey
13th Linda Hardy
Kristen Shepherd
14th Debbie Fry
Ella Koch
16th Lenae Chambers
18th Rex Harris
Scott Michael
Jessie Withorn
19th Rosiland Burroughs
20th Betty Leonard
23rd Bonnie Ensign
Gabriella Pennington
31st Francine Rucker
Matt Shepherd

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

6th Rex & Judi Harris (52nd)
14th Bob & Teri Hutchins (53rd)
26th Brian & Barb Goss (57th)

*If you do not see your name and you have a birthday or anniversary this month, please let the office know. We would love to celebrate with you, but we need to know when your birthday/anniversary is (including the year for database purposes only)!
Thank you!*

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

STARTS ON Sunday, MARCH 12TH

If you don't remember to
"Spring Forward," you
will arrive at church
possibly for communion,
definitely for announcements,
and you'll enjoy a
lovely Coffee Hour.
So set your clock *ahead* before you go to *bed*!

We are Family (Con't)

COFFEE HOUR Hosts:

Our sincere thanks to those who provided nourishment for the body and soul during February: Lorraine Moller and all who made what was going to be the Bishop's visit special coffee hour with a Super Bowl theme, the White family, the Shepherd family and all who baked a cake for the All Birthday Sunday. There were some fantastic cakes to be sampled. Thank you to the Social Committee for making sure we had such a fun celebration. 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*

Easter Flowers

If you would like to purchase flowers for Easter, please fill out one of the yellow sheets located in the rack next to the office and turn in with your payment of \$24. If you have any questions, please contact the office or Judi Harris.

A BIG THANK YOU!

The kitchen received a much needed and thorough cleaning and rearranging on February 18th led by our Building and Grounds liaison from the Vestry, Francine Johnston.

Our sincere thank you to those able to a part of the cleanup: Kris Forsyth, Megan Rosa, Amy Freeman, Carol Pettipher, Nancy Day, Kathy Kortge, Sarah Dolza, Bill Anderson, Dan White & Rex Harris and, of course, Francine Johnston.

For a Friend:

Mary Lou Jenkins, a former parishioner of St. Jude's, is not doing well. Her daughter Liza says she would appreciate hearing from her Fenton friends. Her new address is:

Mary Lou Jenkins
Florentine Gardens
409 Wards Corner Rd. #331
Loveland, Ohio 45140

News and Happenings

Notes from the Choir

This year, March falls entirely within Lent. These Sundays incorporate beloved events from the life and teachings Jesus. We first have His temptation during the forty days in the wilderness after His baptism. *Forty days and forty nights* is one of the hymns that recount this. The second Sunday relates Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus in John 3 including the much loved *God so loved the world*. The third Sunday is devoted to Jesus and the woman at the well. *Come, thou fount of every blessing* recalls how He is the living water. Through the story of the healing of the blind man, March concludes with the picture of Christ bringing light and salvation into the world darkened by sin. *I want to walk as a child of the light* illustrates this.

Marlene Weston

Special Music Sunday, March 26th

Tracy Dunlop, violinist, will be our guest artist. Please plan on attending the 10:30 service to hear her make beautiful music along with Marlene and the Choir.

from the social committee...

Sunday, March 12th

Baked Potato Bar

Please join us following the 10:30 service for a special coffee hour. Look for a sign up sheet on the board in VandenBergh Hall to bring potatoes and fixing

Flowers and Candles

We haven't had as many people signing up this year for altar flower and candle dedications. If you are interested in donating toward either, please see the bulletin board in VandenBergh Hall. There are forms underneath so that you can let the office know how you would like your dedication to appear in the Sunday morning bulletin. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

News and Happenings

Vestry Notes – February 2017

Your new Senior Warden: Megan Rosa

Junior Warden: Ty Fry

Clerk: Debbie James

- Discussion about Bishop Ousley's Pastoral letter with conversation about what St. Jude's might do in response.
- Francine Johnston reported that the roof over VandenBergh Hall has problems and needs to be addressed. She and Ron Trimmer will be contacting contractors to get three bids, and decisions will be made once that is accomplished.
- Lifetouch Photo Directory dates are now scheduled as follows: Wed., April 19th through Saturday, April 22nd. More information to come regarding times.
- Electrical repairs are done, much to everyone's delight and satisfaction.

Office Hours Changed

The church office hours have changed. The office will be open Monday & Thursday from 9 am – 5 pm and Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 am – Noon.

Advent Coin Folders Update

Thank you to everyone who donated quarters (and cash/checks) during our Advent Folder Outreach program. We were able to donate \$600 to the Episcopal Relief and Development organization to help in fighting poverty, hunger, disease and disasters around the world! Thank you!

Lunch Time Bible Study is Back!

Our twice-a-month noon-time Bible Study has returned! We will meet on the second and fourth Thursdays from noon to 1pm in the Library. To start, we will look at one of the scripture passages for the upcoming Sunday and follow a pattern that helps us make connections between the scripture and today. Interested in learning more? Pack a lunch and plan to join us for the next meeting on Thursday, March 9th!



Holy Conversation For Thinking people

DATES: Thursday, March 9 (John 3:1–17)

Thursday, March 23 (John 9:1–41)

TIME: Noon to 1pm

PLACE: St. Jude's Episcopal Church, Library

106 E. Elizabeth Street, Fenton

An opportunity to Make Connections Between scripture and life...

BRING YOUR QUESTIONS

INVITE AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS

ALL ARE WELCOME!

ADULT LENTEN STUDY

This year we will once again be partnering with First Presbyterian Church for our Lenten study. The format will be different as we've put together an intergenerational time of growing.

We will all start each session together and then will split up as children and youth encounter each week through activities and adults spend our time in conversation. We will then join back up together for a short time of reflection and evening worship.

Adult Study Focus Themes (each session is from 4–6pm)

March 5—Community

March 26—Sacrifice

March 12 - Treasures/Values

April 2—Coming Age of Justice,

March 19—Forgiveness/Repentance

Kindness and Humility

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



News and Happenings

From your outreach committee:

Truckload Food Giveaway

Play Like Jackson,
Fenton Firefighter Charities,
St. Jude's Episcopal Church
and the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan are sponsoring a

MOBILE FOOD BANK

Bring your grocery bags and receive free food!

Saturday, March 4th
9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
while supplies last

The mobile pantry will be at the Fenton Fire House located on the corner of Silver Lake Road and South Walnut St.

If you are interested in being a part of this worthwhile event, sign up in VandenBergh Hall.

Also:

Look for **Stinky the Sock** to be making an appearance for our annual Sock drive in April...the socks are available for purchase at a crazy low price...and are then are given to Carriage Town Ministries and Crossroads. They distribute them to those in need. Clean, dry socks make such a difference – please be ready to purchase some!

and also:

Be on the lookout for information regarding the **School Lunch Program** on April 1st. We will be feeding children who are eligible for free lunch at school with lunch items to be eaten over their spring break. This program seeks to reduce the financial burden of the parents whose hungry children will be home for a week of school and seeks to provide the children with nourishing lunch items.

As always, our sign-up sheets in VandenBergh Hall stand ready for your much appreciated volunteer assistance. See you there!

“Where there is no love, let us put love: and so, by and so, by your power, draw love out.”

COPPAGE-GORDON SCHOOL FOR MINISTRY SOCIAL JUSTICE SERIES

WHAT?

The Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan and the Coppage-Gordon School for Ministry invite you to join together to build skills, get resources, and prepare for the work of the church by participating in our upcoming Social Justice Series.

Over the course of 2017, we are hosting four workshops focused on the varying aspects of the work of sacred activism hosted by ministry leaders from our local communities, wider church, and beyond.

The Social Justice Series will take place at [St. Paul's Episcopal Church](#) in downtown Flint.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING – MARCH 4

Sister Cheryl Liske, Gamaliel Network and the New Ezekiel Project

Using the knowledge and experience from her life as a professional organizer and her resources through the Gamaliel Network of Michigan, Sister Cheryl Liske will lead us through an introduction to the tools of community organizing through the lens of our Gospel call to dismantle structural racism and cycles of poverty. The workshop will look at how to transform communities from the bottom up through examinations of power and perspective, one-on-one relationship building, and more.

ASSET BASED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – JUNE 10

The Rev. Dan Scheid, the Rev. Ken Hitch, Katie Forsyth

Go beyond the food pantry. Asset Based Community Development (or ABCD) is a model for developing mutual and missionary relationships between church and community. This workshop will delve into the theory of ABCD

News and Happenings

ABCD and will give participants some hands-on practice into how to implement an ABCD-style approach to outreach programs and community community relationships.

ADVOCACY & MEDIA ENGAGEMENT – SEPTEMBER 23

Jim Naughton & Rebecca Wilson, Canticle Communications

How do we get and keep the attention of our legislators to advocate for the issues we're called to address as a people of faith? Our friends at Canticle Communications will share their experience and give us some tools for advocacy through contact with legislators, engagement with the media, and more.

THE THEOLOGY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE – TELLING THE STORY – DECEMBER 9

Dr. Courtney Cowart, The Beecken Center and Sewanee School of Theology

As Christians struggle against institutions and societal norms that perpetuate violence, structural inequities, and ambivalence, the Church must become a contrasting space of non-violence, peace, voice, and sacred activism. Dr. Courtney Cowart will share her expertise in justice theology and how our core beliefs shape the stories of our lives and of our ministries.

The cost to attend is \$40 per workshop. Scholarship assistance is available.

Each workshop is from 9:30-3:30 p.m. with registration opening at 9:00 a.m.

Lunch will be provided.

A Look Ahead to Holy Week

Holy Week Liturgies

Sunday, April 9 @ 8am and 10:30am

Palm Sunday

at St. Jude's in the Sanctuary

Monday, April 10 @ 7pm

Prayers in the Style of Taize

at St. Jude's in the Sanctuary

Tuesday, April 11 @ 7pm

Reflections on the Symbols of Easter

at St. Jude's

Beginning in VandenBergh Hall

Wednesday, April 12 @ 7pm

Tenebrae Service

at St. Jude's in the Sanctuary

Thursday, April 13 @ 7pm

Maundy Thursday with Footwashing and

Stripping of the Altar

at St. Jude's in the Sanctuary

Thursday, April 13 all night prayer vigil (sign up lists available at St. Jude's)

at St. Jude's in the Sanctuary

Friday, April 14 @ noon

Community Good Friday Service

at Fenton United Methodist Church

119 South Leroy

Friday, April 14 @ 7pm

Good Friday with

the Veneration of the Cross

Sunday, April 16 @ 7am

Easter Vigil followed by

Church Breakfast Pot-Luck

at St. Jude's

Beginning in the Memorial Garden

Sunday, April 16 at 10:30am

Easter Sunday

at St. Jude's in the Sanctuary

St- Jude's Episcopal Church
106 E- Elizabeth St-
Fenton, MI 48430-2322
Church Office: 810-629-5681
www-stjudesfenton-com

St. Jude's Episcopal Church

VESTRY

Megan Rosa, Senior Warden.....810-444-5066
Ty Fry, Junior Warden810-874-6064
Debbie James, Clerk810-210-6305
Michelle Gangwer, Treasurer810-208-0120

2018

Francine Johnston810-629-5981
Megan Rosa 810-444-5066
Ron Trimmer..... 810-923-3493

2019

Ty Fry810-874-6064
Kathy Kortge 810-869-7224
Carol Pettipher 248-889-2525

2020

Dan White810-735-4763
Sarah Dolza.....248-895-4737
Denise Rayner 248-634-2748
Mark Jagos810-735-0821

Term TBD

Debbie James810-210-6305
Terri Hutchins..... 810-407-4094

Delegates to the Diocesan Convention

Dave & Debbie James810-735-4547
Jack & Beverly Mills248-634-3416

Alternate:

Greg Forsyth.....810-208-0886





Narnia Film Viewing Parties

**Saturday, February
25th, 7pm at First
Presbyterian, Fenton**

**Sunday, February
26th, 1pm at St.
Jude's**

**Popcorn and Juice to
be provided! Folks
attending St. Jude's
are encouraged to
bring a brown bag
lunch.**



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Our youth group (middle & high schoolers) will be serving up some yummy pre-Lenten goodies on Tuesday, February 28th. We plan buttermilk, blueberry, chocolate chip and gluten free pancakes. We will also have sausages and are tentatively planning some egg casserole dishes too. Free will donations are encouraged.



SHROVE TUESDAY

We will also have an alleluia banner coloring station at the pancake dinner. Come help us decorate some beautiful alleluias! We put the alleluias away for Lent but we'll find them in time for our Easter celebration in April!

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Come Explore the Many Christian Themes in Narnia

Throughout the season of Lent, we will be offering an intergenerational series based on C.S. Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia.

Come join Edmund, Lucy, Peter and Susan as they travel thru the wardrobe and into Narnia where it-is-always-winter-but-never-Christmas. Once in Narnia, we'll meet lots of new friends including Tumnus, Mr. & Mrs. Beaver, Father Christmas, Aslan and more. We'll also meet the evil White Witch and try to stay out of her way as much as possible!

During our time together, we'll explore several themes from the story including betrayal, repentance, forgiveness, love, sharing, hope and sacrifice.

Along the way, we will also consider Bible passages from Paul's Letter to the Corinthians regarding love to the summary of the law "Love the Lord Your God with all your heart and soul and love your neighbor as yourself" to the Prodigal Son to words about sacrifice from the Gospel of John and words about loving one another from the Gospel of John as well.

At the close of the series, we'll wrap up with the Great Coronation feast!

We will need several helpers throughout including characters, craft and game leaders, set decorators, snack preparers and servers and more.



The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe Viewing Parties

Saturday, February 25th, 7pm at First Pres or Sunday, February 26th, 1pm at St. J's.

Bring a bag lunch, if you like, for the viewing party on Sunday. We'll provide the popcorn and juice!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 28th, 4:30-7pm

This event is a pilgrimage Fundraiser for Youth Group. Our pilgrims will travel to Charleston in June of 2018. Alleluia coloring station too!

COMING EVENTS

Confirmation Companion Orientation

Sunday, March 5th, Noon

Sunday Morning Godly Play!

Sunday Mornings, 10:15am—11am

For children in Pre-K thru Grade 5. We meet in the Godly Play room in the basement (follow signs).

Youth Group

Sundays, March 12th, 19th & 26th

Youth group meets after the 10:30am service in the couch room (so roughly 11:45am to 12:45pm). We won't meet on March 5th because we need all hands on deck on Sunday afternoon that day for the Lenten Narnian program.

The St. Jude's Endowment Funds – “Pay It Forward”

The Capital Fund: “Providing for the preservation, improvement, and safety of St. Jude's historic building and grounds for the next 100 years.”

For some, our church building and grounds is a source of peace and spirituality in an ever-changing world. For others, it provides shelter and needed space for worship and the many other activities that we all participate in. For the community, St. Jude's is a sanctuary for many groups to meet.

Throughout the years funding the upkeep and maintenance of our church has taken many forms. From single project funding events to major capital campaigns, we have done them all. Every year the Rector and Vestry struggle to find the funding to meet our building and grounds project needs. The Capital Fund looks to the future. Earnings from the fund will be used to help fund capital improvements. Individual donations are not spent, but instead will be invested so they can produce income for future projects. The Capital Fund is a new way of donating gifts and/or bequests that will help St. Jude's meet the needs of the future.

Would you like to help St. Jude's meet capital funding needs in the future? If so, contact the church office or Rev. Tracie Little for more information on how you can “pay it forward”. To learn more, you can attend one of the educational programs being organized by the Endowment Committee. The first will held between the services on Sunday May 21st.