



The Beacon

St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Fenton, Michigan

Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching Out to Others

July/August 2017 (Our 159th Year)

SUMMER ADVENTURES WITH JESUS

Summer adventures. Do you have something planned? What are you planning on taking with you?

Last General Convention, two years ago, I was introduced to "Flat Jesus" for the first time. Josh Hoover had already left St. Jude's and we served together as Clergy Deputies for the Diocese of Eastern Michigan. He'd brought with him a number of laminated and beautifully colored Jesus figures. His church was inviting us to bring Flat Jesus along wherever we went at General Convention and take pictures of his adventures. My Flat Jesus sat with me on the floor of the House of Deputies and he helped me with the voting device, he rested against my water bottle so he could get a good view of everything that was taking place, he wandered through the hall of displays many times, he visited the local grocery stores and markets to stock up on breakfast and lunch foods, and he joined me a few times as we went out to eat dinner together. He was a busy Flat Jesus and I found it so much fun to post pictures of our adventures together. I'm sad to say that since returning from General Convention he's found his place on my book shelf at home, rarely, if ever, making an appearance. In short, he's been rather bored and likely felt very left out.

On June 18 Kris Forsyth invited us to take a Flat Jesus along on our summer adventures and when my Jesus heard that this was happening he jumped for joy! Finally, he would be able to see something other than the same old books he's been seeing for two years! And I knew if my Flat Jesus was excited, I could only imagine how excited each Flat Jesus that a St. Jude's parishioner took out into the world would be. He might be wondering what he was going to see. Would he be taken along for grand adventures? Would he join in everyday activities? Who would he meet? Family? Friends? Strangers?

What I discovered on carrying my Flat Jesus with me through my daily activities at General Convention was that I was much more conscious of the presence of Jesus all of the time. I found this interesting as I'm a person who is almost always conscious of the presence of Jesus.

So now Kris is bringing Flat Jesus to St. Jude's! And we have a few options available for posting your adventures with Flat Jesus. You could e-mail or text either Kris or me and we will post your adventures from there. Or you could visit our church website and click on the Blog – Our Journey Together tab. From there visit the blog entry entitled "Summer Adventures with Jesus" and post your adventure as a comment. The information you need is listed below.

I'm looking forward to reading all about your adventures with Jesus and seeing your photos of Flat Jesus!

Blessings,
Tracie Little+

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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!

News and Happenings

Read and Feed Summer Reading Program Volunteers Needed

Come join in the fun! First and second grade students from local school districts are in need of some volunteers to assist them during the Read and Feed program. There will be sign-up sheet in VandenBergh Hall and online at the St Jude's website. You can read about the different volunteer positions and pick the one that is right for you. You can volunteer for 6 days or just one day. The dates are August 8-10 and 15-17 from 8:30 a.m. until noon. The program takes place at the First Presbyterian Church across the street. Call Diane Putnam at 810.629.6079 if you have any questions.

Collecting Children's Books

We will be collecting gently used and new children's books for the Read and Feed Summer Program Sundays through August 13th. These books will be for children ages 6-8. Any book suitable for a first through third grader would be great! You'll find a box in the Library at St. Jude's to place your donation. Garage sales are an excellent source to get inexpensive, gently used books. Let's bring a smile to a child's face with a good book to enjoy!

WOMEN'S RETREAT

August 18 -20, 2017: \$200

Have you been looking for a way to disconnect from the day-to-day to do list and busyness of this life?

Come and spend a relaxing few days at Camp Chickagami in the prime of the summer with optional activities focused on spirituality and connection. Take intentional time to get in tune with yourself again and enjoy the beauty of (almost) Northern Michigan. We will even do the cooking!

Register at campchickagami.org

Do you have a desire to preach?

We invite you to consider joining the licensed lay preacher training program.

Training to become a licensed preacher in the Diocese of Eastern Michigan consists of two components that can be taken concurrently or in order:

1. Course in Holy Scripture through the Academy for Vocational Leadership or a comparable program
2. Preaching Practicum

Participants begin their preparation with the course in Holy Scripture offered at the Academy for Vocational Leadership. The course meets monthly over ten Saturdays, September through June at the Colombiere Retreat Center in Clarkston. The cost is \$500, which includes lunch and materials. There will be an additional cost for textbooks.

The Preaching Practicum meets over twelve sessions, with site and class schedule to be determined by the students and instructor. Participants will learn about, discuss, and practice preaching both in their classes and in their home congregations. The cost for this section is \$400, plus textbooks.

If you would like to talk about these classes, please reach out to me at vfargo@eastmich.org or at 877-752-6020.

Thank you,
The Rev. Dr. Valerie Fargo
Director, The Coppage-Gordon School for Ministry
The Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan

Opportunities for Fellowship

LANSING LUGNUTS GAME

7:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY,

AUGUST 19.

**TICKETS ARE 11.00 PAID IN
ADVANCE TO KATHY HOPPER**

News and Happenings

Summer Reading

The Adult Study will be reading this book over the summer with the intent to begin discussion in September. Please consider joining the group for some thought provoking conversation.

What Is the Bible?: How an Ancient Library of Poems, Letters, and Stories Can Transform the Way You Think and Feel About Everything – By Rob Bell.

Below is a summary from Amazon:

Rob takes us deep into actual passages to reveal the humanity behind the Scriptures. You cannot get to the holy without going through the human, Rob tells us. When considering a passage, we shouldn't ask "Why did God say . . .?" To get to the heart of the Bible's meaning, we should be asking: "What's the story that's unfolding here and why did people find it important to tell it? What was it that moved them to record these words? What was happening in the world at that time? What does this passage/story/poem/verse/book tell us about how people understood who they were and who God was at that time?" In asking these questions, Rob goes beyond the one-dimensional question of "is it true?" to reveal the Bible's authentic transformative power.

Rob addresses the concerns of all those who see the Bible as God's Word but are troubled by the ethical dilemmas, errors, and inconsistencies in Scripture. With *What Is the Bible?*, he recaptures the Good Book's magic and reaffirms its power and inspiration to shape and inspire our lives today.

Building & Grounds Bits & Bytes

Just in case you were wondering what's been happening around our church building ---

The Memorial Garden is now mulched and blooming, thanks to Kelly and Lisa Cronk, Sarah Dolza, Gaye Foor, Dee Grossman, Terri Hutchins, Francine Johnston, Kathy Kortge, and Fred and Lynell Wright. There is a new bronze plaque on the gate, courtesy of the Cronk's.

The rest of the grounds have been mulched and weeded with help from Paul Dolza, Ty & Debbie Fry, Mark and Nicole Jagos, and Dan White. The big pile in the parking lot is history!

We have a new light in the parking lot (the old one was damaged, probably by a flying shingle from the old roof), and clean gutters all around the building.

The grass keeps growing, as grass should, but that means it needs mowing, too. Our mowers so far have been Bill Anderson, Lisa and Kelly Cronk, Greg Forsyth, and John and Carol Pettipher. They could use reinforcements as summer goes on. Please sign up on the schedule in VandenBergh Hall.

Kathy Kortge

Notes from the Choir

There is no real news to report with the choir on summer recess. We would like to invite anyone that has an interest in singing to become a part of this important ministry. The choir meets weekly on Thursdays, and will resume after Labor Day. Please contact myself, or any other choir member...we will be happy to have you join in!

Marlene Weston

Baskets, Baskets, Baskets

We hope everyone is getting fired-up about our Blessings in a Basket Auction that will be taking place on the first three Sunday mornings in November, after both services.

You can sign up to make a gift basket, help out on the set-up or clean-up crew, sign up to bring an appetizer or dessert for the special coffee hour on November 19th, or most importantly, attend our next planning meeting on Wednesday, August 30th at 7:00 p.m.

Proceeds from the auction are meant to reduce our deficit budget, with 10% going to our many outreach activities. It will be a time to count the many ways we are blessed to be part of the St. Jude's family.

If you have any questions please contact one of the auction co-chairs:
Freya Hutchinson or Denise Rayner

We Are Family



Please Hold In Your Prayers

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop;
Tracie, our Priest, for the Wardens
and Vestry.

For those in particular need of prayer: Craig Adams;
Karen Anderson & family; Jack Bretzke; D'Jair
Cominotti; Steven G.; Stan Haddock; Timothy
Harman-Zerbiec; Janel Koop; Bill Lenny; Jeff
Luebke; Theresa Maynard; Jordon Michael; Paul
Riley; Mike Ryan; Marilyn Safa; Spencer Sands;
Nanae & Fukuko Shiraishi; Larry Smith; Stan
Spicer; Louis Sternello; Jennifer Ubil; Sandy West;
Kimberly Wheeler & family; Ron Winters; Jack
Ziegler & family

And those in continuing need of prayer: Herb
Aldrich; John Babcock; David Barrows; Brett Beal;
Margot Brummett; Rachel & Don Conway; Betsy
Davies; Erica and Gail Delaney; Gail Engdahl;
Bunny Gladfelter; Ralph Gladfelter; Judy Godsell;
Tom Hackbardt; Brian Henderson; Ev Koller;
Angela Koresh; Mary Kurtz; Don Kurtz; Sidney
Nihill; Leona; Paul Otto; Richard Perkins; Denny
Sharpe; Arin Shinabarger; Susan Taber; Jim
Thompson; Sandy Train; Elijah Unkefer

Pray for Our Ministers

July

July 2- Dave and Denise Rayner,; Dustin Rayner;
Michael and Sue Reilly; Troy, Kirsty, Ella and Lily
Rising

July 9 –Mark and Lynne Ronthi; Megan Rosa; Jerry
and Francine Rucker

July 16 – Marilyn Safa; Liz Sauvie; Reid, Adrienne,
Teddy & Clara Shepard

July 23 – Matt, Kristen, Jackson & Kara Shepherd;
Brian, Brady, Emily, Lucas & Tessa Short

July 30 – Robert & Dianne Simpson; Scott &
Sandra Smith; Ron Spaulding

August

August 6 – Crista, Kail & Kayelynn Spencer;
Richard Stratton; Chet & Mary Louise Susalla

August 13 – Bob, Christine & Connor Szostak;
Bruce Trimmer; Ron & Catherine Trimmer

August 20 – Ellen Tripp; John Vitovsky; Bob &
Mary Warren; Mike Wells

August 27 – Marlene Weston; Dan, Angela, Gabby
& Laurel White; Jessie Withorn

July Birthdays

5 th	Bob Warren
7 th	Laurel White
10 th	Mike Little
	Gwendolyn Oliver
13 th	Jerry Graham
14 th	Liz Sauvie
18 th	Ron Trimmer
21 st	Kathy Kortge
25 th	Bruce Hardy
	Shirley Gernack
	Troy Rising
26 th	Connie Fry
28 th	Bill McDonald
30 th	Kathy Hopper

July Anniversaries

1 st	Charles & Francine Johnston (39 years)
7 th	Lester & Nancy Jones (44 years)
12 th	Dave & Denise Rayner (43 years)
20 th	Marv & Judith Fisher (43 years)
28 th	Jack & Rita Bretzke (66 years)
29 th	Scott & Sandra Smith (45 years)

August Birthdays

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

August Anniversaries

6 th	Harry & Linda Chciuk (46 years)
11 th	Shane & Heather Chambers (6 years)
15 th	Mike Green & Mark Hamel (8 years)
18 th	Craig & Gay Adams (44 years)
	Lynn & Kathy Hopper (39 years)
21 st	Michael & Sue Reilly (41 years)
22 nd	Ronald & Jennifer Chambers (19 years)
	Jerry & Francine Rucker (53 years)
23 rd	Tom & Shirley Gernack (37 years)
27 th	Dan & Beth Harvey (7 years)

We Are Family (cont'd)

Coffee Hour Hosts:

Our sincere thanks to those who provided nourishment for the body and soul during June and July: Freya Hutchinson, Ty, Debbie and Connie Fry, Debbie and Dave James, Connie Hibbard, Kris Forsyth, Tracie Little, the Simpsons, Terri Hutchins, Shirley and Tom Gernack.

We also offer our sincere thanks to Crust for their dedicated delivery of their delicious baked goods that we enjoy each Sunday.

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: In case you needed a boost for your “Why?”

The letter below came from a graduate of Family Promise. Her name is Kim Parsons and many of you met her and her 4 children (Cameron, twins Emani & Emaya, and Nyla) during one of our support weeks in early 2015. They graduated right before the 2015 school year kicked off. Kim moved to MI from TX with the promise of a good job but that job fell through and the savings quickly unraveled. Kim heard about Family Promise from The River Church (in Holly). She and her family attended The River and they were eventually forced to turn to them for help/guidance. Someone at The River knew about Family Promise and gave Kim the number.

Today, Cameron is serving our country, in the Army. Kim and the girls have moved into a smaller home, more suitable for just the 4 of them and more affordable. Kim and the girls have attended several Family Promise graduate events and even attended the 5k fundraiser in 2015. Since graduation, Family Promise grant money has been used to send her girls to camps at The River and she remains a positive force.

Thanks to St. Jude's and all of the Family Promise volunteers, her life and the lives of her 4 wonderful children have been forever changed.

Dear Family Promise of Genesee County,

This letter is written to express my humble gratitude towards the extraordinary people who accepted and helped my family during our difficult time. I will admit many challenges came with the program – The Good, The Bad and The Ugly. My experience with Family Promise was a positive personal breakthrough and made my family realize that every life lesson negative or positive, is a personal development. Instead of looking at obstacles as a means of destruction, we look at it as construction with detours to make better decision for positive challenges, choices and changes.

It is said that people come into your life for a reason, season or a lifetime. I am very grateful for all. Mrs. Lindsey, Ms. Lisa and Ms. Valerie and contributing churches because of your dedication and commitment to helping others, you change lives and give hope to many that may feel there is no way out. Though time will pass and life will bring changes your invaluable support and generosity will always be remembered

Thankful and Blessed Kimberly Parson and Family

“Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow.”

~Melody Beattie



The Kindness Project

The Kindness Rocks Project was created to spread inspiration and a moment of kindness for unexpected recipients through random inspirational rocks dropped along the way.

Many people are feeling a sense of overwhelm, unease and restlessness due to the current events taking place in our world today. Kindness rocks can make a positive difference.

“Losing my parents at a young age meant losing my advisors, my sounding board and my role models” writes Megan Murphy, founder of The Kindness Rocks Project. “During difficult or stressful moments in my life, I found myself looking for ‘signs’ on my morning walk, such as a heart shaped rock or a piece of sea glass. I perceived these small beach treasures as ‘signs’ or as a dive message and the random inspiration I needed to signify that things would be ok. Maybe I wasn’t the only one looking for such signs!”

Thus, the Kindness Rocks Project was born.

“It started as a hobby of one... painting and dropping a few rocks at a time when something amazing happened. I began receiving messages from strangers about how much the rock they found meant to them. So, I stepped up my rock painting and add-



ed social media and a website.”

Murphy continues, “Now it has become a grass roots kindness movement. When a person finds a rock that speaks to him/ her, that person takes it home but makes another rock to drop and inspire someone else. The goal is to encourage others to find cool creative ways to reach out and brighten someone’s day unexpectedly. Giving from your heart in service of others while expecting nothing in return is what this project is all about.”

Kindness is contagious! Come join us in making some Kindness Rocks on Sunday, August 13th during Coffee Hour.

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More Summer Fun & Faith Formation

- **Flat Jesus':** We still have Flat Jesus' to share which can be decorated and laminated. Please continue to send us your pics of Flat Jesus tagging along with you on your summer adventures.
- **Godly Play for Summer:** We are exploring Jesus' Parables on the last Sundays of June, July and August. Children should come down to the Godly Play room at 10:25am. We'll come up to join the congregation for communion.
- **A Safeguarding God's Children Workshop:** for those members of the congregation interested in working with children or youth in our formation programs or in Read & Feed. Wednesday, August 2nd, 6pm. Please RSVP to Kris to register.



- **Youth Fellowship & Service activities**—We invite youth participation in Read & Feed and Family Promise. Tiger Game outing too!
- **I Wonder Circle for Adults:** August 20th, after the 10:30 service. Please join us in the Godly Play room (downstairs) to experience a story and learn about how you might be able to get involved in helping children to grow their faith.
- **Family Promise and Read & Feed:** Lots of volunteers will be needed for these programs which helps house families who are homeless and help build reading skills of local students.
- **Camp Chickagami's Women's Retreat (August 18th-20th) and Family Camp (Labor Day Weekend):** Registration for these is still open. We already have some St. J's folks registered for these events.

Sunday Morning Godly Play!

Sundays, 7/30 and 8/27, 10:25am

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

Youth Group

Beginning anew on September 10th

Youth group (6th thru 12th graders) meets most Sundays in September thru the beginning of June after the 10:30am service in the couch room (so roughly 11:45am to 12:45pm).

COMING EVENTS

The Kindness Project

Sunday, August 13th, during Coffee Hour

A project to help inspire positive thoughts in our local community. See article on first page.

Carwash for the Youth Pilgrimage Fund

Rescheduled for Sunday, August 27th, between the 8am and 10:30 services and after the 10:30 service.

Our young people heading to Charleston on Pilgrimage next year. Free will donations appreciated.

WORSHIP LEADERS for July 23 - August 27, 2017

	LEM (s) 2nd CHALISE PRAYERS	READER (S)	USHERS	COFFEE HOUR	VESTRY PERSON OF THE DAY	ALTAR GUILD
July 23						
8 am	Mary Louise S.	Lois Hartranft	-----	-----	-----	-----
10:30 am	Paul Dolza Amy Freeman Dee Grossmann	Dave & Debbie James	Dave & Debbie James	Chciuk	Denise Rayer	Terri Hutchins Fran Johnston
July 30						
8 am	Jerry Rucker	Josephine Feijoo	-----	-----	-----	-----
10:30 am	Amy Freeman Greg Forsyth Dan White	Paul Dolza	Lorraine Moller Charlie Johnston	Cronk	?	Gaye Foor Lorraine Moller
August 6						
8 am	Clay Putnam	Lois Hartranft	-----	-----	-----	-----
10:30 am	Dave Rayner Judi Harris Dee Grossmann	Amy Freeman	Nancy Day Lynne Ronthi	Dolza	Terri Hutchins	Sarah Dolza Gay Adams
August 13						
8 am	Mary Louise S.	Chet Susalla	-----	-----	-----	-----
10:30 am	Lynn Hopper Dave Rayner Paul Dolza	Jack & Beverly Mills	Rex Harris John Pettipher	Szostak	?	Mary Ellen H. Mary Louise S.
August 20						
8 am	Jerry Rucker	?	-----	-----	-----	-----
10:30 am	Dee Grossmann Dan White Greg Forsyth	Marjie Andrejciw	Cronks	Marinco	?	Dee Grossmann Judi Harris
August 27						
8 am	Mary Louise S.	Ron Trimmer	-----	-----	-----	-----
10:30 am	Greg Forsyth Amy Freeman Dee Grossmann	Ellen Tripp	Rayners	Premo	?	Christine S. Linda Chciuk

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

