



May, 2018 (Our 160th Year)

St. Jude's Episcopal Church • Fenton, Michigan

Rector's Report

Community. At yesterday's 5th Sunday of Easter we spoke a lot about community. How we are community together, needing one another just as much as we need God. "Abide in me," says Jesus, "as I abide in you." Then we got to experience community as so many willing hands pitched in to do the work of cleaning up around the church. Everything looks so wonderful! Thanks to all those who leant their helping hands!

I think even more than just the spruced up landscaping, what I saw and heard as I wandered around and talked to folks, was a deepening of community. Folks who don't necessarily spend a lot of time together were working and talking together. People were getting to know one another differently in those conversations. Community was deepening as we all lived out "Abide in me as I abide in you."

A deepening of community was the growth opportunity that the Vestry identified last year as a focal point for development at St. Jude's. It wasn't that we didn't already enjoy one another's company in a close community. It was more a noticing and a wondering if our newer members felt as much a part of our community as we already do. We also noticed that the multi-generational activities at coffee hour that Kris puts together were opportunities for different folks to gather around tables with a common goal. While folks worked on their projects, what we noticed was that conversations also accompanied the work. And in those conversations folks were getting to know one another more deeply. Community being lived out in deepening ways.

Since the day I arrived I have noticed and been so thankful for the community that is St. Jude's! There is such a deep caring for one another here. Every time we host a funeral luncheon I'm impressed with the number of people who step up to take part and offer the gift of the presence and their helping hands or to supply a tasty item to share with those who gather to celebrate a life. The families and friends that gather to say goodbye to a loved one are blessed by the presence of so many of our church family at

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Monday & Thursday:

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Tuesday & Wednesday:

9:00 a.m.-noon

Minister of Music

Marlene J. Weston

810-658-2683

Director of Christian Formation:

Kris Forsyth

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Sunday Services:

Holy Eucharist

8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Coffee Hour follows 10:30 service

Rector's Report (continued)

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the service itself. I'm also very much aware of how many folks stay in touch with one another, care for and visit one another, and pray for one another between Sundays.

I believe that the world hungers deeply for the kind of community that Jesus calls us to be. The kind of community that Jesus modelled and challenges us to live into. "Abide in me as I abide in you." In consciously wanting to be that kind of community, we are really agents of God's Kingdom inviting the world to know what it means when we recognize Jesus abides in us always. And that our communities are extensions of that abiding.

May our community continue to deepen. May we be windows into what Jesus pointed to with that timeless statement, "*Abide in me as I abide in you.*"

*Blessings,
Tracie+*

Vestry News

4-18-18 Vestry Meeting

Tracie reported that the Holy Week services were well received and that she was able to make some innovations in liturgy which received good feedback. She will be on vacation May 11-19 and the Vestry decided to go forward with the May meeting with Senior Warden Ty Fry leading the meeting.

Kathy Kortge reported the repairs to the drain and concrete were completed in the parking lot. She noted that the Freeman brothers donated the work and Marcia and Bill Freeman donated the concrete.

She identified an additional safety issue needing attention with the other drain which has a void beneath it. We will obtain an estimate and endeavor to complete the repair on a timely basis so long as it is below the amount authorized by the Vestry.

The Vestry has a new committee working on the Sanctuary Project which met and informed us of their recommendations. They have prioritized the repairs ranking repairs directly related to safety. They will begin a process of getting estimates which clarify the scope of the project, cost assessment, etc. at which time they will move to identifying funding sources such as grants, fundraising etc.



Music Ministry

THANK YOU to all our musicians for their dedication and talents for helping to make Holy Week and Easter so special. Also, **THANK YOU** to St. Jude's Ringers who have just concluded their season. This group of dedicated musicians adds much to the joy and beauty of our worship.

May is a month of celebrations. May 13 is the Sunday after our Lord's Ascension. Musical selections will include *See the Conqueror mounts in triumph* and *Lord of the Dance*.

We celebrate Pentecost on May 20, the fifty days following Passover that saw the coming of the Holy Spirit and the actual birth of the Christian church. The musical offerings are joyous and illustrate this celebration.

May 27 is Trinity Sunday. *Holy, holy, holy and Holy God*, we praise thy name carry this theme.

Marlene Weston



St. Jude's Project Update

Over the past few months you have heard Reverend Tracie Little and members of the Vestry, Properties Committee and members of the congregation talk about various upgrades or needs to our buildings and grounds.

A lot of individuals have been generous both financially and labor to correct the problems. These projects have included the Memorial Garden, Electrical, plumbing and concrete issues.

A Project Team has been formed and is looking at more difficult and major projects. The list includes the Bell Tower being structurally sound and functional, Handicap Ramp/Wheel Chair Lift for floors (ADA Codes), Sanctuary renovations and altar modifications per conceptual plans, improving the sound system in the Sanctuary and Vandenberg Hall, kitchen renovations and the insulation for Vandenberg Hall.

It is our intent to keep our parish updated on our progress through the use of the Beacon.

Our Project Team consists of Jerry Rucker, Kathy Kortge, Sarah & Paul Dolza, Kelly Cronk, Ron Trimmer, Dan White and Tracie Little. If you have questions, concerns, ideas, or even support please let one of us know. We would love to hear from you.

Ron Trimmer

Spring Clean-Up 2018

April 29 was bright, sunny, and not-so-warm, perfect conditions to be working outside. Our willing workers included Bill Anderson, Kelly and Lisa Cronk, Nancy Day, Paul Dolza, Tess DuPei, Kathy Kortge, Dave, Mike and Tracie Little, Jill Perry and Dave and Denise Rayner.

We weeded, raked, gathered, swept, planted and bagged, filling twenty big brown yard waste bags by the time we finished. The grounds of St. Jude's look great, ready for the new growing season. A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who made this happen!

Kathy Kortge



Progressive Dinner set for May 19



This year's "Progressive Dinner" is all set for Saturday, May 19.

If you are planning to attend, please sign up to bring food to one of the three courses. The sign up is on the Social Committee board in Vandenberg Hall.

Thank you,

Kathy Hopper

Diocesan Next-Steps Meeting

The Diocesan self-studies have concluded. There will be a meeting to report on the findings and discuss next-steps on Saturday, June 9 from 10 am - 2 pm at St. John's, Midland. The event is free (there will be a free-will offering taken for lunch). Please register at eastmich.org. Or let Tracie/church office know that you plan on attending and we can register for you.

Diocesan Confirmation

Diocesan Confirmation was postponed due to the weather. It has been rescheduled to Saturday, June 2 at 2 pm at St. John's Church in Midland.

Outreach



Family Promise

The week of May 20th marks our 2nd week supporting Family Promise this year (2 more in August and November). There are currently 3 families active in the program, but the numbers are quite fluid so we won't know the exact numbers for our week until the last minute.

As in the past we will be providing dinners on Sunday (20th), Tuesday (22th) and Saturday (26th); overnight hosts on Sunday and Tuesday; and Saturday afternoon hosts.

Family Promise continues to be one of our primary outreach projects in support of the local community. Not only do we provide volunteers during our support weeks, but because of our participation with St. Pauls and St. Dunstons, our Diocese provided a \$10,000 grant again this year.

Sign up lists we be soon be posted in Vandenburg Hall and online. Please consider volunteering for this worthwhile project.

Reaching Out to Our Neighbors

Members of group homes are often forgotten by the community. In 2013 St. Jude's adopted a Group Home in Holly that supports 6 individuals from the ages of 40 to 80. Each Spring we spend some time sprucing up their yard by raking leaves, trimming, planting flower bulbs or perennials. This year our spring cleanup is scheduled for Saturday May 19th 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Please bring any rakes, blowers, clippers, tarps and planting tools you might have. Sometime during the day we plan to go inside and spend some time with the residents to share a bowl of ice cream and get to know them better.

If you would like to help, please sign up on the outreach bulletin board near the coffee hour refreshment table. (Note: If we have rain, the backup day will be Sunday 5/20).

Looking Ahead...

Read and Feed

Read and Feed this year is going to be held for only 4 days (vs. 6) and all in 1 week: Monday 7/31/18 – Thursday 8/3/18).

May Birthdays

- 3rd – Benjamin Rayner
- 5th – Charles Johnston
- 6th – Dominic DuPei
- 10th – Jenne Hadden
- 12th – Carol Chambers
– Susan Premo
- 14th – Judith Fisher
– Miryam Hassell
- 15th – Eveline Karnowski
– Steve Koch
- 16th – Connor Chambers
- 19th – Sandra Smith
– Bruce Trimmer
- 21st – McKenna Green
- 22nd – Vance Gordon
- 24th – Lynn Hopper
- 26th – Judy Marinco
– Lois Putnam
- 27th – Justin Melchor

May Anniversaries

- 5th – Mike & Peggy Kearns
(28th)
- 9th – David & Marjie Andrejciw
(26th)
- 18th – Mark & Lynne Ronthi
(22nd)
- 19th – Herb & Sharon Aldrich
(59th)
– Ed & Marlene Weston
(45th)
- 22nd – Don & Mary Kurtz (70th)
- 24th – Troy & Kirsty Rising
(19th)



Coffee Hour Hosts



Our sincere thanks to those who provided nourishment for the body and soul during April: Jackie Richardson; Freya Hutchinson; Martha Applebee, Lorraine Moller and Gaye Foor; Connie Fry; and all those who brought dishes for the potluck breakfast on Easter Sunday.

Crust continues to graciously send their delicious (and plentiful!) coffee cake on a weekly basis – for which we give our thanks too!

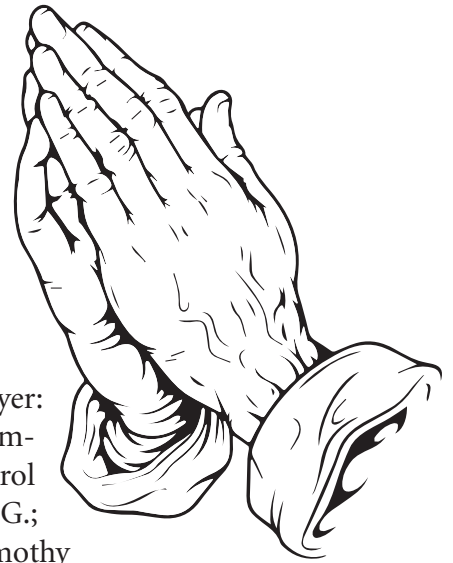
“Every day they continued to meet together...they broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts.”

Acts 2:46-47



Prayer List

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



For those in particular need of prayer: Jeremy Alber; Karen Anderson & family; Shanin Beall; Julie Beuchel; Carol Chambers; D’Jair Cominotti; Steven G.; Carol Green; Bunny Gladfelter; Timothy Harman-Zerbiec; Sue Haywood; Laura Hendricks; Michael Krauthofer; Lisa Langly; Leon Layman; Bill Lenny; Jeff Luebke; Carl Manzella; Theresa Maynard; Jordon Michael; Beverly Mills; Noel; John Pettipher; Paul Riley; Mike Ryan; Marilyn Safa; Spencer Sands; Nanae & Fukuko Shiraishi; Larry Smith; Stan Spicer; Howard Thorpe; Jennifer Ubil; Sandy West

And those in continuing need of prayer: Herb Aldrich; John Babcock; David Barrows; Brett Beall; Jack & Rita Bretzke; Margot Brummett; Betsy Davies; Erica and Gail Delaney; Gail Engdahl; Ralph Gladfelter; Joan Graham; Brian Henderson; Ev Koller; Janel Koop; Paul Koop; Angela Koresh; Mary Kurtz; Don Kurtz; Anne Munns; Sidney Nihill; Leona; Aaron Oberle; Paul Otto; Richard Perkins; Denny Sharpe; Arin Shinabarger; Susan Taber; Sandy Train; Ellen Tripp; Elijah Unkefer

Pray for our ministers

May 6 – Lydia Regester; Michael & Sue Reilly; Jackie Richardson; Troy, Kristy, Ella & Lily Rising

May 13 – Lynne Ronthi; Megan Rosa; Jerry & Francine Rucker; Marilyn Safa; Liz Sauvie

May 20 – Brian, Emily, Lucas, Brady & Tessa Short; Robert & Dianne Simpson; Scott & Sandra Smith

May 27 – Ron Spaulding; Crista, Kail & Kayelynn Spencer; Richard Stratton; Chet & Mary Louise Susalla

The Mystery of Pentecost

There was once a great tower. Everyone working on the tower spoke the same language and worked together. But as the tower grew taller and taller, they began to talk in different ways.

The tower came close to God, but the people forgot why they were building it. They grew so proud of themselves that they began to think they were greater builders than God. Each group thought it was better than any of the others.

A huge noise replaced their talking. It made no sense. Everyone was babbling.

Soon, the tower fell down, so it was called the Tower of Babel. The language of the people of the earth was shattered and broke into splinters. Each one was beautiful, but it was broken.

Thousands of years passed. Then Jesus died on the cross, but somehow he was still with the people around him as he is with us. They kept seeing him, and they couldn't let him go. Then, one day something amazing happened.

The disciples were in Jerusalem.

Here they are: Peter, James, John, Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the Less, Simon and Jude. There are only eleven disciples because Judas had already died.

Jesus took them outside of Jerusalem to a Mountain called Olivet, or as far as Bethany.

Jesus then went up, and soon the Holy Spirit would come down.



The eleven disciples went back into the city. They were full of joy and went to the Temple to pray. They then went to the upper room, and, with God's help, decided that Matthias would take Judas' place.

On Sunday the Twelve were together again. Suddenly there was a sound like a mighty wind rushing in to be with them. It was the Holy Spirit. They become so full of it's power that they seemed to be on fire. Their tongues burned in their mouths. They were so excited that people wondered what was going on.

When the disciples went out on the street, there were people there from many different countries. They spoke many different languages.

Everyone could see that the Twelve had come close to God—and God had come close to them—in a new way. It no longer mattered that they spoke different languages.

The disciples had become apostles! They went out into all the world to tell this story.

Ever since, Pentecost has been celebrated to remember that day.

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Multi Generational Programs & Resources for 2018

- **What's in Your Stomach?:** *Sunday, May 6th, during the 10:30am service.* Come join our middle and high school age young people in an exercise and reflection from the Compassion and Mercy section of their program.

- **Pentecost Fair:** *Sunday, May 20th, Coffee Hour.* Join in the fun making fiery lanterns and wind chimes.

- **Blessing of the Pilgrims:** *Sunday, June 10th.* Join us in blessing the pilgrims right before we head off to Charleston. Members of the congregation will also receive info as to how to view the trip's log throughout the journey. We will also invite people to offer prayer, via a prayer clock, for us while we are away.

- **Summer Godly Play:** *We plan to offer Godly Play sessions on the following Sundays this summer: June 3rd & 24th, July 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th and August 19th & 26th.*



Sunday, May 20th

Benefitting Pilgrimage Fund

- **Camp Fun & Faith Formation:** *July & August at Camp Chickagami.* Four weeks of Resident camps for young people. Trip Camp for Teens. Counselor-in-Training program too! **Also, at Camp Chickagami this year:** Men's & Women's retreats & Family Camp too! Brochures are available now. ***Did you know St. Jude's has a camp fund which will support our folks' participation at Camp Chickagami? Details available thru Kris or Tracie.***

- **Wizards and Wonders:** *A Harry Potter program for all ages on August 5th & 12th.* Movie Night scheduled for August 1st. Join in the fun and learning. Think chocolate frogs and Quiditch and Sorting Hat and more. Think about offering your gifts in decorating for the event or playing a character! We'll be turning St. Jude's into Diagon Alley and Hogwarts! We are going to need a Harry Potter, a Ron Weasley, a Hermione, a Professor McGonigle, Albus Dumbledore and Hagrid.

Regularly
Happening at
St. Jude's

Godly Play

Most Sundays from September thru late May

For children in Pre-K thru Grade 5. We meet in the Godly Play room (follow signs) in basement. We start at 10:25am.

Youth Group

Most Sundays from September thru early June

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

Sunday Morning Nursery Care

For Infants thru Kindergartners

The nursery opens at 10:15am on Sundays. Nursery staffers bring any children from the nursery into Godly Play (when it is being offered) for the story. Very young children and Nursery Staffers may return to the nursery to play afterwards until parents pick their children up for communion. If the children are 4 years old or older, we generally have them stay in Godly Play for creative time or "Work Time". All of the children who stay in Godly Play for work time join their parents in worship around the time of the Peace.

St. Jude's Episcopal Church
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St. Jude's Episcopal Church

SEEKING AND WORSHIPPING GOD, REACHING OUT TO OTHERS

VESTRY

Ty Fry, Senior Warden
Mark Jagos, Junior Warden
Josephine Feijoo, Clerk
Michelle Gangwer, Treasurer

2019

Ty Fry
Terri Hutchins
Kathy Kortge
Ron Trimmer

2020

Sarah Dolza
Mark Jagos
Denise Rayner
Dan White

2021

Josephine Feijoo
Jackie Richardson
Jerry Rucker
Crista Spencer

Delegates to the Diocesan Convention

John & Carol Pettipher
Jack & Beverly Mills

Alternate:

Paul & Sarah Dolza
Rex & Judi Harris