



August, 2018 (Our 160th Year)

St. Jude's Episcopal Church • Fenton, Michigan

Rector's Report

The General Convention of the Episcopal Church is the third largest convention after the two political parties. I spent two weeks in Austin, TX serving as a Deputy representing the Diocese of Eastern Michigan at the 79th General Convention of the Episcopal Church. This was my third time serving as a Deputy to General Convention and every single time has been different. Over the two weeks we moved 502 Resolutions through both houses (the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies). Only 15 were left incomplete at the end of our time together which I figured was, with the record number of Resolutions submitted, pretty good.

I found this General Convention to be particularly grace-filled. Our conversations, our “aha” moments, our deep listening to one another, our worship together, our time in Committee and on the floor during Legislative Sessions all made room for every voice to be heard. Compromise was met on several touchy pieces of Legislation and although we needed to vote, it felt much more like consensus this time around. We also, as a General Convention, responded from a place of Social Justice. Each day, a half hour before the first Legislative Session, the Bishops United Against Gun Violence hosted a short prayer service during which they handed out 96 small, simple wooden crosses. Those crosses represented the number of people who would die that day from gun violence. Across the two weeks more and more people donned those crosses. Everywhere you went you were reminded of the number of deaths that were amassing during General Convention. Sunday morning 1,500 people boarded busses that took them to the Hutto Detention Center not too far from Austin where women who had fled their home countries were being housed. I wasn't able to attend that day but felt as if I was present with my brothers and sisters. I got to experience what it was like to be there through the stories of those who attended. It was a day of blessing.

More than any other time I attended, I was aware of the breadth of the Episcopal Church's diversity. I think this year we listened more to one another and many felt safe enough to share the stories of their deepest pain and their grandest joys. Maybe its simply that we made space for those stories to be heard this year. Or perhaps the church is in the midst of an awakening.

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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

810-208-0886

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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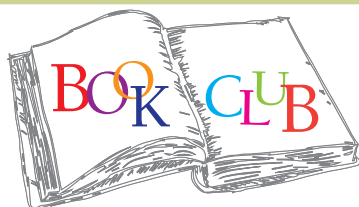
At the end of General Convention I was tired – I expected that and I wasn't surprised. I also felt as if my time there was life-giving and uplifting. I made some personal discoveries about my ministry that were, to be honest, a little surprising and yet, maybe not so much. I felt a bit overwhelmed but I looked forward to seeing the workings of General Convention from a different perspective. What I discovered was that I absolutely loved seeing the big picture of our work together. This year Dispatch of Business worked differently than in year's past as Liaisons ensured that we connected with one another and encouraged the Chairs of our Committees to do so as well. We even tried to keep the Program, Budget and Finance Liaison informed about Resolutions that were asking for significant funds to be allocated. That kind of collaboration is something I find particularly life-giving and it was wonderful to participate in it at a Church-wide gathering.

I'm also very much aware of the sacrifice that those at home have made so that I could be present and serve the church as a Deputy to General Convention. Thank you all for your grace in supporting me as I fulfilled my elected responsibilities! That support has meant more than you know.

If you would like to know more about what was decided at General Convention and hear about how that might affect the Diocese of Eastern Michigan and our life together at St. Jude's, there are three Post-General Convention gatherings coming up in early August. The closest one for us is Thursday, August 9 from 7 – 8pm at Grace Episcopal Church in Lapeer. You can also talk to me and ask anything you're interested in knowing and I'll do my best to answer your questions.

Blessings,

Tracie+



Schedule

Date	Hostess	Title	Author
August 28	Shirley	The Higher Call	Adam Makos
September 25	Terri	Grace's Secret	Jill Child
October 23	Judi Harris	The Girl Who Knew Too Much	Amanda Quick
November 27	Diane Putnam	Cookie Exchange	
12/18/2018 (early)	Kathy Hopper	The Great Alone	Kristin Hannah
January 22	Sharon Aldrich	Runaway Midwife	Patricia Harman
February 26	Mary Ellen	Things Fall Apart	Chinua Achebe
March 26	Freya Hutchinson	Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker	Jennifer Chiavemini
April 23	Denise Rayner	Ordinary Grace	William Kent Krueger
May 28	Judy Maringo	The Summer of Great Grandmothers	Madeline L'Engle
June 25	Kathy Kortge	The Residence	Kate Anderson
July 23	Nancy Day	The Tuscan Child	Rhys Bowen

Vestry News

July Meeting

The Vestry met after services on July 15th to see the Project Team presentation made by the Project Team led by Bill Anderson. The purpose of the Project Team is to prioritize, unbundle and obtain bids on needed maintenance projects at St. Jude's.

The Project Team completed their objectives identifying four major maintenance needs:

1. Repair the bell tower to a safe condition.
2. Sanctuary renovations
3. Wheelchair lift
4. Improved sound system

The Vestry reviewed financials and decided to ask the Finance Committee to meet in July to look into revenue and expenses not unexpected by the budget process. This information is important to the Vestry's decision-making regarding the maintenance needs at St. Jude's.

The Vestry identified actions to take such as researching and applying for available grants and loans available through the Diocese, ADA and historical sites. The vestry moved to apply for available grants and loans and agreed that Tracie would follow-up. Also agreed that the sanctuary renovations would move forward led by Bill Anderson since the needed funds were minimal (\$500.00) and would use volunteers.

The Vestry moved forward on parking lot drain repairs approving the bid and repairs as presented by Kathy Kortge.

Next Vestry meeting is scheduled for August 15th.

Coffee Hour Hosts



Our sincere thanks to those who provided nourishment for the body and soul during July. Thank you to the the Dee Grossman, the Jagos family, the Spencer family, the Krebs family and the Ronthi family.

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



Mid-year Financial Report

The Vestry and Finance Committee have reviewed our financial position through the end of June, and are concerned that our actual pledge and loose plate income is significantly less than projected in the 2018 budget; while our actual spending significantly exceeds budgeted expenses. For our church to achieve the small budget surplus we have projected for 2018, we will need all our parish members to fulfill their pledge commitments and we will need to constrain our total spending on budgeted items. Achieving our budget goals is an important way we can help our church achieve its mission. Thanks for everything you’ve done and will do to help our church succeed financially and succeed in achieving its important mission.

Budget Status through June 30, 2018			
	Budget (through June)	Actual (through June)	Budget vs. Actual
Income <i>(pledges, offerings, other)</i>	\$110,766	\$99,018	-\$11,748
Expenses	\$102,375	\$105,183	\$2,808
SUMMARY			
Short of budget on income: \$11,748			
Over budget on expenses : \$2,808			
Total Budget Deficit as of June 30: \$14,556			

Altar Flowers

A reminder that we purchase and have delivered fresh altar flowers every Sunday. If you would like to donate flowers for a particular Sunday in memory or in celebration of someone or some important event, please sign up on the board in Vandebergh Hall, fill out a form beneath the sign-up, and return it with a donation (suggested donation of \$24) to the church office/slip into the offering plate Sunday. Contact the church office if you have questions.

Mid-year Giving Statements

2018 Mid-Year Giving Statements reflecting your donations and pledges to St. Jude’s through June 30, 2018 have been sent out. If you have questions or corrections or if you did not receive a statement, please contact Liz in the church office. If you are behind on your pledge, please try your best to bring it up to date. We relay on your pledges every year to help us create our budget and to judge how and where we should spend your money on the ministries of St. Jude’s. Thank you!

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; Shanin Beall; Bill Belknap; Julie Beuchel; Carol Chambers; D'Jair Cominotti; Steven G.; Carol Green; Bunny Gladfelter; Sue Haywood; Laura Hendricks; Jaqueline Hoskins; Kellie Johnson; Michael Krauthofer; Lisa Langly; Leon Layman; Bill Lenny; Jeff Luebke; Carl Manzella; Theresa Maynard; Jordon Michael; Jack & Beverly Mills; Noel; John Pettipher; Lois Putnam; Paul Riley; Marilyn Safa; Spencer Sands; Nanae & Fukuko Shiraishi; Larry Smith; Stan Spicer; Howard Thorpe; Jennifer Ubil; Sandy West; Bob & Marcia Wittig.

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

Pray for our ministers

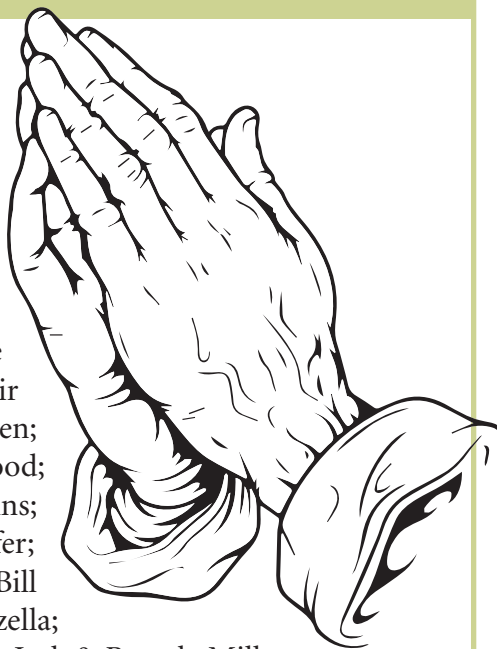
- August 5 – David & Carol Chambers; Ron, Jennifer, Sophia & Conner Chambers
- August 12 – Shane, Heather & Hayden Chambers; Harry & Linda Chciuk
- August 19 – Lana, Marcus & Julian Clark; Jessie Clawson & Becky Trier
- August 26 – Kelly & Lisa Cronk; Sally Crouter; Sandy Davis; Nancy Day

TALK TO US!

Website:
www.stjudesfenton.com

The Blog... our journey together:
www.stjudesfenton.com/?page_id=858

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/stjudeschurchfenton/



August Birthdays

- 1st – Bill Freeman
- 4th – Pedro Melchor
- 5th – Dave Little
- 15th – Connie Koch
- 16th – Matt Freeman
- Jill Perry
- 20th – Gabrielle White
- 21st – Vincent Marinco
- 24th – Tom Gernack
- 25th – Marilyn Safa
- 29th – Dee Dickens

August Anniversaries

- 6th – Harry & Linda Chciuk (47 years)
- 11th – Shane & Heather Chambers (7 years)
- 15th – Mike Green & Mark Hamel (9 years)
- Mike & Judy Marinco (48 years)
- 18th – Craig & Gay Adams (45 years)
- Lynn & Kathy Hopper (40 years)
- 21st – Michael & Sue Reilly (42 years)
- 22nd – Ronald & Jennifer Chambers (20 years)
- Jerry & Francine Rucker (54 years)
- 23rd – Tom & Shirley Gernack (38 years)
- 27th – Dan & Beth Harvey (8 years)

CeleBRate

in MEMORIAM

Gale Cronk
 (father/father-in-law) of
 Kelly and Lisa Cronk.

A Hero's Journey with Harry Potter continued...

Although the path of our journey is unique to each of us, we seldom travel totally alone. In the INITIATION stage of the journey we begin to be faced with the CHALLENGES. These tests can come in the form of physical, mental, social, ethical or spiritual challenges. They may begin with challenges that are relatively easy. Successful completion of these can build confidence and maturity. At some point, we realize we will need help from others, maybe even a team to accomplish all that is required. One of the crucial tasks of this stage is learning to differentiate true helpers from tempters. The tempters try to pull us off our path. They use fear, doubt, distraction and the deception of posing as a friend. Ironically, the challenges we face most often represent our greatest fears, shortcomings, vulnerabilities and temptations. It is only by facing these hidden or shadow aspects of ourselves that we can conquer them and incorporate them in a more balanced way into our being.

Our Second Session

Harry begins student life at Hogwarts by being sorted into one of four student houses. He begins to make true friends (Ron and Hermione) and rejects potential bad influences (Malfoy). Harry demonstrates his loyalty to his friends by defending one of them at the expense of

breaking the rules. On the Quidditch field, Harry learns not only how to be part of a team but to face challenges of physical skill.



Theology:

The Sorting Hat is symbolic of the Good Shepherd who knows his sheep by name and knows what each of them needs. Jesus provides us with the perfect model of how to live. Although all the powers of God are at his disposal, Jesus still puts a team together to share the ministry and the journey. When Jesus calls the disciples, they are chosen for their potential and inner qualities which may not be readily apparent to anyone other than Jesus. In the writings of St. Paul, we learn about the Body of Christ. We are all invited to be members of that eternal team where we are valued for our individual differences and the unique contribution each of us has to make.

Our multi-generational version of **Wizards & Wonders: A Hero's Journey with Harry Potter** will take place on the following Sunday mornings—August 5th, August 12th, September 16th, October 21st and November 18th. The program will unfold during the 10:30am worship service, summer Sunday School (for Pre-K—5th Grade kiddos—downstairs) and coffee hour afterwards.

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Multi Generational Programs & Resources for 2018

- **Summer Beulah Land for children in Pre-K—5th**

Grade: Something new and fun!
We plan to offer Beulah Land stories most summer Sundays from 10:25am until about 11:15 when we head up participate in the Liturgy of the Table with the rest of the congregation.



Beulah Land Summer Sunday School

- **Kindness Rocks revisited:** *Sundays, August 26th and September 2nd.* Join us in making some Kindness Rocks to plant here or there for someone to discover. We'll bring rocks and paint. You bring inspirational words and designs!
- **Camp Fun & Faith Formation:** *July & August at Chickagami.* Four weeks of Resident camps for youth. Men's & Women's retreats too! ***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 Hero's Journey with Harry Potter is a multi-generational program.* Think Platform 9 3/4's, chocolate frogs, Quidditch, 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've secured a Hermione, Professor McGonagall, Dumbledore, Harry, Hagrid, Voice of Sorting Hat and Hedwig the owl. We have shopkeepers for Olivander's Wands. We have a couple of folks ready to make Butter Beer at the Leaky Cauldron. We still need a Ron, a Snape and a Professor Quirrell. We also need shop keepers for Flourish and Bott's. Thank you to all who have stepped up to play a character and to lend items for costumes or props.

Godly Play

Most Sundays from mid 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).

Regularly
Happening at
St. Jude's

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.

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Church Office: 810-629-5681
www.stjudesfenton.com

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

