



January 2020... our 162nd Year

St. Jude's Episcopal Church • Fenton, Michigan

Rector's Report

January is always a busy month in the church. Throughout the month we call for reports from the various ministry teams at the church and begin to build our Annual Meeting Booklet. This year's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 19 during the 10:30am service, as has been our practice over the past few years. Placing the meeting in the midst of worship, helps us all to remember that everything we do at St. Jude's is in response to our call to serve God in the Fenton area at this time.

The meeting is divided up into sections that make liturgical sense. As we look back and remember 2019, we acknowledge the reports that will appear in your booklet and invite questions for particular ministry areas. In each area we will be asking all of those who participate in those ministries to stand. We will give thanks for all that they do and ask God to strengthen them as they continue in those ministries. It's important to recognize and give thanks to all those who volunteer. The ministries that we enjoy and that make a difference would not be possible without our volunteers.

As a part of the Sending Out we will look ahead to 2020. We'll have a chance to see our budget. We'll elect the new Vestry. We'll choose our Diocesan Convention Delegates remembering that this year we will have a joint convention with the Diocese of Western Michigan. This year's budget will be presented in narrative form as well as the numbers you are used to seeing. The stories that will appear all came from the House Group Fellowship gatherings and will show the impact of the ministries that we offer at St. Jude's. I hope you enjoy reading the stories as much as I enjoyed hearing them. Each gathering was presented using the same agenda and questions and each was unique based on who was attending. It was more than apparent that God is up to some pretty incredible stuff at St. Jude's!

And, following our worship, we'll gather around the tables in Vandenburg Hall and share a meal and a time of fellowship over a pot-luck lunch.

Annual Meetings are important times of both reflection and visioning. When we reflect on the past, we can see where God has been at work and that can help us to vision where God is calling us to be in the year and years ahead.

Please mark your calendars and plan on being with us on January 19 at the 10:30 service. Help us to celebrate, to reflect and to vision!

Love and Blessings,

Tracie+

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WEB:

www.stjudesfenton.com

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St. Jude's Episcopal Church

The Reverend Tracie Little

810-300-9177

E-Mail: TracieLLittle@gmail.com

The Rev. Judy Marincio, Deacon

E-Mail: JAMarincio50@gmail.com

**The Reverend Paul Brunell,
Transitional Deacon**

810-618-3453

Liz Sailus,

Administrative Assistant

Office Hours:

Monday & Thursday:

8:30 a.m.-4:30 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

Grieving with Hope

It was only a week ago that our world at St. Jude's forever changed as we learned we had to say goodbye to Brayden Rayner, entrusting him to God's care. Last week was shrouded in a deep sadness for which there were and are no words.

Last week this congregation responded with hope and with love as together we stood in the midst of a tragedy that left us all heart-broken.

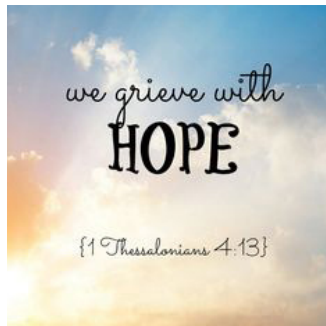
As the week unfolded, I saw a congregation that came together and stepped into the grief in which we found ourselves. We responded with love and support for Meghan and Dustin, for Austin, Ben, Rylan and Danyelle, for Dave and Denise, and for the countless others who grieve Brayden's death. As your pastor, I was not surprised. This is one of the most powerful aspects of St. Jude's. As your pastor, I was proud of all that everyone was doing.

It was a difficult week and yet it was filled with so much love and so much hope. The week was filled with God's love as we remembered Brayden's love, energy and spirit. Please continue to share stories of Brayden. One of the ways you can do so is through Kris's scrapbooking memory book. What a powerful ministry she facilitated! As people gathered and shared stories of the many ways Brayden touched their lives, we supported one another. If you haven't had a chance to fill out a scrapbook memory page or if you have another memory you'd like to share, I'm certain that Kris can get you the materials you will need. I know I didn't get a chance to fill out a page and am looking forward to sharing my memories of how Brayden impacted my life in this memorial.

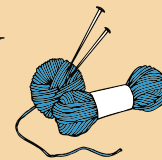
If you find that you need to talk, feel free to give me a call and make an appointment or drop in when you see my car in the parking lot. If I'm not able to talk with you right then, I'll let you know the earliest I can do so.

Continue to pray for all who were touched by Brayden's life. Here is the prayer I offered at the end of my homily at Brayden's memorial service:

Loving God, your Son took little children into his arms and blessed them. Thank you for Brayden and for all that we learned from him. Thank you for the times we had together. Be with us as we face the mystery of life and death and grant us assurance that Brayden is encircled in arms of love. In the midst of our grief strengthen our faith and hope. Help us to know with courage and confidence that there is nothing in all creation, past, present or yet to come, that can separate us from your love. We pray all this through our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.



Prayer Shawl Ministry



Our Prayer Shawl Ministry makes prayers tangible to those who are facing surgery, a serious illness, or any need. The making of a prayer shawl is a spiritual practice which embodies our thoughts and prayers for the receiver. It is a gift freely given with no strings attached. Made in prayer, as a prayer, for prayer, the shawls are passed on hand-to-hand and heart-to-heart.

The prayer shawl ministry will meet

**Tuesday, Jan. 14,
at 1:00 p.m.**

***Other dates, times and
meeting locations will
be announced.***

Materials needed:

3 skeins of Lion Brand
Homespun yarn

or

2 skeins of Barcelona
(can be purchased at
Michael's). For the bulky yarn
(5 skeins). This brand is soft
and will work.

Size 13 circular knitting needles

As always, experience is not required — we can teach at the meetings. All are invited to attend, even if they have no interest in knitting - the fellowship is grand!!

Questions? Contact:

**Deb James at 810-210-6305 or
Judy Marinco at 810-629-8074**

COFFEE Hour Fellowship



Our sincere thanks to those who provided nourishment for the body and soul during December... the Wagshals; the Johnstons; Connie Hibbard; the Simpsons; the Marincos; Ty & Debbie Fry and everyone who contributed to the Social Committee's Cookie Exchange Coffee Hour.

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

COFFEE Hour Sign Up

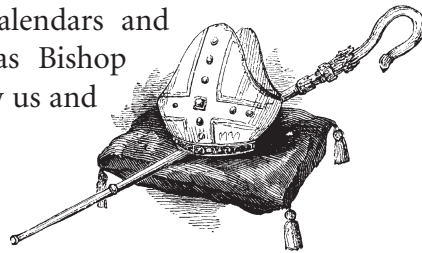


The sign-up sheet for coffee hour is on the bulletin board in Vandenberg Hall. Please consider hosting a coffee hour. See Sue Premo if you have any questions.



Bishop's Visit

The Rt. Rev. Wayne Houghland, Provisional Bishop of the Diocese of Eastern Michigan, will be visiting St. Jude's on the weekend of February 2! The Bishop will meet with the Vestry on Saturday afternoon and will present to preside and preach at the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending as Bishop Wayne gets to know us and we get to know him.



Dave and Tracie extend our humble and heartfelt thanks for your gifts, cards, prayers and love! We are so honored and blessed to have been called to serve God with all of you and mere words alone cannot express how deeply thankful we are for every single one of you. We look forward to continuing our journey together!

Notes from the Vestry

The Vestry met on December 11 to review Finances and to approve the projected Budget for 2020. Clay Putnam presented the projected budget for 2020 and it was approved with the budget including a deficit of \$8,287.00. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2020 and at that time the budget will be presented.

The Vestry would like to thank the Finance Ministry Team members for the research and work that they did to help the Vestry ensure that they had the information needed to make an informed decision on the finances.

Reports were provided for specific Ministry areas and were reviewed and discussed along with the Rector's Report. Outreach reported on projects that were very successful. Dave Rayner is sitting on the Board for Family Promise so he will no longer be able to act as our coordinator for the Family Promise. Diane Putnam will be the new coordinator for Family Promise.

Music Notes

Thank you to all the musicians who made our Christmas Eve services so special. It was a wonderful evening to welcome the birth of our Lord.

January is the time of the epiphany season, that time in the liturgical calendar when we commemorate the baptism of our Lord, the calling of the disciples and the beginning of His public ministry. We celebrate Christ, the light of the world, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit in our lives. The music reflects these themes. January is a time of contemplation and celebration.

Have a blessed month.

Marlene Weston

Family Promise Gala

The Annual Gala is Family Promise's biggest fund raiser of the year. This year's Gala is scheduled for Saturday February 29th. Like 2019 it will be held at Genesys Banquet and Conference Center, but this year's Gala has a twist, it will include a Murder Mystery! Tickets are on sale now for \$100/person (\$125 after 1/31/20). Our target is to fill at least two tables of 8. This is always a fun event and it's for a great cause. Please see Dave Rayner for tickets so we can make sure we all get at the same table. See the Family Promise Facebook page for additional information.



Family Promise[®]
of Genesee County



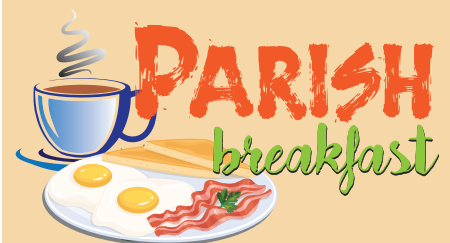
SCHEDULE

Date	Hostess	Title	Author
Jan. 28, 2020	Sharon Aldrich	Accidental Heroes	Danielle Steele
Feb. 25, 2020	Nancy Day (co-ed)	Lamb	Christopher Moore
Mar. 24, 2020	Gwen Wagschal	A Tale for the Time Being	Ruth Ozeki
Apr. 28, 2020	Denise Rayner	Educated	Tara Westover
May 26, 2020	Francine Johnston	Snow Flower and the Secret Fan	Lisa See
June 23, 2020	Terri Hutchins	I Am Livia	Phyllis T. Smith
July 28, 2020	Diane Putnam	A Wrinkle in Time	Madeline L'Engle



On the first Sunday of each month, Nancy Day takes scrip orders. These are gift cards you purchase to spend at hundreds of businesses either in person or on line. They also make great gifts! There is zero cost to you, other than the face value of the card, and St. Jude's gets a percentage of the total amount. A win-win.

So, make sure you bring your checkbook to church on the first Sunday of each month. You can fill out your order during coffee hour. The orders are sent in that afternoon, and the cards are picked up in Brighton that week and distributed the following Sunday.



**The Parish Breakfast is scheduled for
Saturday, Jan. 18
at 9:00 a.m.**

**The Group meets at
Mega Coney Island
on Owen Rd. in Fenton.**

***We look forward to
seeing you there!***

Purple Rose Theater Outing

The March 14th Purple
Rose Theater Outing
Participants need to make
their payments of \$39 per
ticket to Denise Rayner by
Sunday, February 9th!
Thank you!

Sign-Up Sheets

New sign-ups for coffee hour and altar flowers are up and ready to go on the bulletin in Vandenberg Hall. Please take a look and sign up for dates. Altar flowers donation envelopes are located near the sign-up sheet. You can put your donation (\$24) in the envelope with your dedication and place in the offering plate or give to the church office.

Discretionary Funds

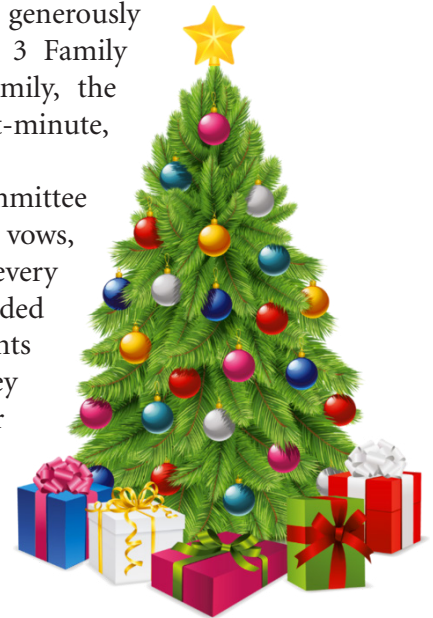
Tracie Little, our Priest, and Judy Maringo, our Deacon, both have discretionary funds. These discretionary funds can be used as either see fit for emergency situations and individual needs for people both within the parish and outside of it. The first Sunday of the month, any loose offerings go toward Tracie's discretionary fund. Beginning in January, the third Sunday of the month, any loose offerings will go toward Judy's discretionary fund. You can also donate to either fund at any time by labeling your offering "Deacon Discretionary" or "Rector Discretionary."

Christmas Families 2019

Thank You for your Loving Generosity

St. Jude's faith community shared generously this Christmas by providing gifts to 3 Family Promise families, one nominated family, the Holly Group Home residents, and a last-minute, God-moment family in need.

This year the Outreach Committee decided to follow one of our baptismal vows, which is to "respect the dignity of every person". In doing so, this year we provided gift wrapping supplies to the parents from Family Promise families, so they could see and then wrap the gifts for their children. Gifts for the parents were wrapped and taken to them with the unwrapped gifts for the children. A generous donation of 3 Honey Baked Hams also went to the 3 Family Promise families.



The nominated family chose to receive gift cards. Our good neighbors, First Presbyterian Church, donated two food baskets and two frozen turkeys. One basket and one turkey went to the nominated family.

The last-minute, God-moment family came to us looking for help. The dad, a veteran, was going to The VA in Detroit the next day for testing for PTSD. This family of 5 received gift cards plus the second basket of food and second turkey from First Presbyterian Church.

The annually supported Holly Group Home has 6 residents who received gifts and stocking stuffers, and 8 staff members who received gas cards. The Outreach Committee hosted a party which was held Wednesday December 18th at 4 p.m. to deliver and assist opening gifts, visit with the residents for about an hour, and enjoy cookie trays.

Our faith community has again met the needs of those on the margins, as we came together to generously provide a special Christmas for 25 individuals and 8 caregivers. This was our 16th year of brightening the lives of many at Christmas by the outpouring of your love.

Blessings for a Happy New Year!

Mike & Judy Maringo

John & Carol Pettipher

On behalf of your Outreach Committee – and each and every one of you!

Craft Show / Holiday Bazaar 2019

It is hard to believe just how fast 2019 went and for all the effort by many, to actually hold its first Craft Show and Holiday Bazaar at St. Jude's.

The planning started late in 2018 when the Vestry approved holding the event. The decision was made to raise funds for a future elevator for our parish. After expenses, the event, along with free will offerings, raised a little over \$2,400.00

As it turned out, the event was more than just raising funds. It brought our Parishioners together. Making crafts for the Bazaar, the planning and working the actual craft show, we were a well-oiled machine. Vandenberg Hall and our Church were filled with busy and happy individuals. The Wine and Cheese gathering was enjoyed by all in attendance. Thanks go to Lois Hartranft and Lisa Cronk for hosting the amazing environment while we were able to enjoy the background music provided by St. Jude's own Blue Grass Band. Thanks to Kathy Hopper and the Social Committee our food concessions which were a hit, the Butternut Squash Soup and Chili were fabulous! Our own Bazaar Booth lead by Megan Rosa, produced many exciting items for purchase, among them were some beautiful paintings by Shirley Gernack, quilt, table runners and other items handcrafted by Marlene Weston, plus many other hand crafted items. Thank you to all who actually did much of the manual labor for set-up and tear down of this event... so many hours by all!

I also wish to recognize all the volunteers that are not members of St. Jude's but stepped up and helped us do this event. This was truly a community event.

The greatest part of our event was the unity among our members. We actually opened the doors to St. Jude's through our Diocese and our community and surrounding communities that all are welcomed. Is this a beginning to growth?

Our Vestry at the December 2019 meeting approved holding a Craft show on the 3rd weekend in November 2020. The time is now to begin to work on the event. Much of the legwork is all ready in place. If you are willing to help plan and prepare for this exciting event please let Ron Trimmer know.

St. Jude's Rummage Sale

At the December 2019 Vestry meeting the Vestry approved holding a Rummage sale here at St. Jude's in the late spring. The Building and Grounds Team has been working on the cleaning out and reorganizing our spaces so that we may accommodate the future needs of St. Jude's.

This also may be an opportunity for parishioners to get of some of their items and donate the contributions to the Buildings and Grounds.

If you would like to be on the planning group of this event please let Ron Trimmer know.

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting for the 2019 year will take place at 10:30 on Sunday, January 19 as part of the worship service. If you are the leader of a team or ministry area, please write up a report for summing up the year (it can be a small paragraph or a more detailed report) and have it to Tracie or Liz by ASAP so that it can get in the printed booklet in time.

A potluck coffee hour will follow the meeting. There is a sign-up sheet on the board in Vandenberg Hall.

Building and Grounds 2019 in Review

The year 2019 was amazing! So much was going on, our building is alive. Thanks to the many volunteers a lot of work has taken place. The repairs of doors in our lower level,, our windows being actually washed and in Vandenberg hall it is like a new space transforming. Just take a look at our Sanctuary and how that has transformed.. Great gratitude goes to the many hours our volunteers have given to help enhance our Building and Grounds. Some of our individuals have stepped up and done a lot. You would think that they actual live in our building. Among them are Kelly and Lisa Cronk, Greg Forsyth, Dan White, Robert Simpson, Craig and Gaye Adams, Kathy Kortge, David Little, Mike Little, Paul Dolza Bill Anderson

(continued on page 7)

Building and Grounds ... 2019 in Review (continued)

(continued from page 5)

and Robert Alexander. We are able now to show respect and enjoy the peacefulness in our Memorial Garden thanks to Sarah Dolza and her team that has maintained the garden.

I would like to share two poems that were written for all our volunteers to say thank you for a job well done here at St. Jude's written and given to us by our own resident Poet David James.

My Hand To Your Hand

without you/
the earth would slowly come to a stop//
the sky would break into pieces of blue glass//
trees would give up their roots
 & topple over

without you/
the sun would hide away for days or months//
small lakes would drown themselves//
the moon would pop and fizzle out
 in between stars

but with you/
the sunrise wakes on time//houses are built
& cars are fixed//every meal is cooked to perfection//
there is clean water to drink//children are taught//
the lawn is raked/garden dug and planted
as the rain arrives
 when it's needed most

this big old world spins toward love/
with you standing there in the middle of it all/
blessing the day
 with your
 kindness

~David James

The Blessing Of You

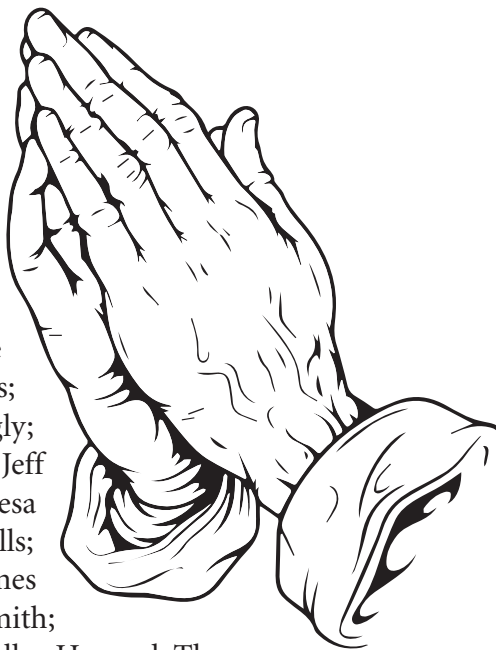
your good
hands fit
into a: Thank you
into a: Need help?
into: I can do that//
*
there's no curfew
when it
comes to following your heart//
there's no
time limit to love or kindness/
to thinking about others
when you throw
off the chains and start
to carry in the groceries /
rake the yard/
feed the dog/
shovel the snowy sidewalk//
*
your hand reaches out and fires
up a lantern to pierce through
the thick fog
//
it guides us safely
across the lake

~David James

Prayer List

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

For those in particular need of prayer: Jeff F.; Jeremy Alber; Shanin Beall; Judy Bronner; Steven G.; Harold Gray; Bunny Gladfelter; Jaqueline Hoskins; Sydnie Jane Jones; Michael Krauthofer; Lisa Langly; Leon Layman; Bill Lenny; Jeff Luebke; Mike Marinco; Theresa Maynard; Jack & Beverly Mills; Noel; Paul Riley; Mike Rose; James Simpson; Larry Smith; Sarah Smith; Stan Spicer; Mary Louise Susalla; Howard Thorpe; Patti Twombly; Jennifer Ubil; Marsha Wittig; Maureen Z.



And those in continuing need of prayer: David Barrows; Brett Beall; Butch & Julie Beuchel; Jack & Rita Bretzke; Margot Brummett; Dave Carr; Karen Cleaver; Alex Creamean; Betsy Davies; Melissa Draper; Gail Engdahl; John England; Ralph Gladfelter; Lisa & Barb Gladstone; Joan Graham; Brian Henderson; Clint Johnson; Kellie Johnson; Mindy Kania; Ev Koller; Janel Koop; Paul Koop; Angela Koresh; Leona; Cathy Niemet; Brian Paisley; Jay Rizzo; Arin Shinabarger; Nanae & Fukuko Shiraishi; Brian Smith; Sandy Train; Jill Tripp.

If you have updates or changes to the prayer list, please let Liz in the church office know. Thank you!

Pray for our St. Jude's Family:

January 5 – Scott & Sandra Smith; Ron Spaulding; Crista Spencer, Kail & Kayelynn
 January 12 – Richard Stratton; Chet & Mary Louise Susalla; Bob, Christine & Connor Szostak
 January 19 – Bruce Trimmer; Ron & Catherine Trimmer; Ellen Tripp
 January 26 – John Vitovsky; Paul & Gwyn Wagschal; Bob & Mary Warren

January Birthdays

3rd – Julian Clark
 – Jim Kortge
 9th – Fred Wright
 11th – Molly Anderson
 – Ron Spaulding
 – Lynne Ronthi
 12th – Mary Felix
 14th – Denise Rayner
 15th – Mike Marinco
 18th – Catherine Trimmer
 19th – Mike Wells
 20th – Richard Stratton
 25th – Ty Fry
 – Carl Koch
 27th – Steven Melchor
 28th – Sharon Aldrich
 – Chace Green
 – Mary Warren
 29th – Sandy Davis

January Anniversaries

22nd – Kelly & Lisa Cronk
 (43 years)



School Lunch Program

This year we would like to add some activities and/or reading books to our 'menu' for the School Lunch program. We will be looking for activity and/or coloring books with crayons or any children/youth reading books. More information will be provided in the February Beacon, so stay tuned! Thank you!

Beacon Deadlines

Submissions for The Beacon are due by the **22nd of each month**. Please submit them to Debbie Fry at debbiemcwilliams00@gmail.com.

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

Growing with God...



PUTTING FAITH INTO ACTION

VESTRY

Mark Jagos, Senior Warden
Charlie Johnston, Junior Warden
Josephine Feijoo, Clerk
Michelle Gangwer, Treasurer

2020

Sarah Dolza
Mark Jagos
Denise Rayner
Dan White

2021

Josephine Feijoo
Lynne Ronthi
Jerry Rucker
Crista Spencer

2022

Deb James
Charlie Johnston
Jack Mills
Diane Putnam

Delegates to the Diocesan Convention

Jack & Beverly Mills
John & Carol Pettipher

Alternate:

Paul & Sarah Dolza
Rex & Judi Harris