

THE BEACON

SEEKING AND WORSHIPPING GOD...REACHING OUT TO OTHERS

SEPTEMBER 2020... OUR 162ND YEAR

ST. JUDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH • FENTON, MICHIGAN

106 East Elizabeth St.
Fenton, MI 48430-2322
810-629-5681

E-MAIL:

stjudeschurchfenton106@gmail.com

WEB:

www.stjudesfenton.com

FACEBOOK:

St. Jude's Episcopal Church

The Reverend Tracie Little

810-300-9177

E-Mail: TracieLLittle@gmail.com

The Rev. Judy Marinco, Deacon

E-Mail: JAMarinco50@gmail.com

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

RECTORS REPORT

Often as I walk, I find I take pictures of things that I notice. They aren't usually anything out of the ordinary. I just find myself paying attention to them differently. Later, I take a look at what pictures I've taken and ask God to help me see why these particular things drew my attention. A couple of weeks ago, as I was walking my route from our condo to downtown Linden, around a loop and back home, I walked past a field. On my left, the field was left wild, apart from a lawnmower wide strip by the sidewalk. On my right, the field was mowed between the sidewalk and the road.

As I gazed out at the field, some purple weeds were in full bloom. You've probably seen them a hundred or more times. They really are quite beautiful. In order to unfurl their beautiful petals to the sun, they stretch up their stalks high above the grasses. With their dainty flowers free from the blades below, they stretch out their petals, basking in the warmth of the sun. They were particularly numerous on the day that I walked. Dots of purple were everywhere I looked in that field.

As I walked along the sidewalk, I began to look at the grass that had recently been mowed. I expected to see those same stalks, cut down to the height of the blades of grass. When I became a permanent resident of the United States, I felt settled enough to invest in a house and bought a short sale home. The yard had been untended for many, many years. These weeds grew throughout my yard. The only time I ever saw them flower, was on those weeks that my mowing task was delayed. Those weeds would grow up, very quickly becoming higher than the blades of grass. And then they flowered. They looked a lot like the weeds in the field. They are fast growers!



On my walk I noticed something different than I'd experienced in my yard. These beautiful, purple weeds, their stalks mowed down to their base, still found a way to flower. Their petals nestled in the blades of grass, opened to the warmth of the sun. They adapted. Their whole purpose in life is to open those dainty, purple petals to gather in the sun's rays. With their sturdy

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Rector's Report (cont'd)

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stalks cut down by the blade of the mower, it might have seemed like they just couldn't flower. The mower beat them down every single time. And yet these particular plants didn't give up. They didn't cower in the blades of grass. They struggled through the challenges. Their reward became my joy that day. Sun brightening their purple beauty.

The next time I walked past that field, none of these purple weeds was in flower. Not a single one. So, I sat down to figure out what it was I supposed to glean from my observations. As I look back on my life, there have been times when I've felt like that shorter weed, trying to grow in the mown grass. No matter what I've done, it seemed to have been for naught. Like that weed, I've found that flexibility and adaptiveness have been key. I'm stubborn. I come by it honestly and I own it. And, in those times when it feels like every time I get set to bloom, some lawn mower comes and sets me back, I step back and take a deep breath. I spend some time reflecting on my purpose. Is my purpose shifting? Or do I need to adapt so I can better bloom into that purpose? I invite God to walk with me and to reveal what I need to recognize. And I ask for God to strengthen me, and to help me to adapt. Then I give thanks. I give thanks for the challenges. I give thanks for adaptability and flexibility. I give thanks for purpose and for petals that unfurl, basking in the warmth of the sun.

I wonder, where do you find yourself? How might you invite God into your journey? What do you give thanks for?

Love and Blessings,

Tracie+

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

After taking some summer time off, we will return to prayer shawl meetings on Monday, September 14th at 1:00 p.m. It will be a virtual, phone meeting with one member of the prayer shawl group calling another. Please let Deb James (810-210-6305) or Judy Maringo (586-770-7736) know if you are interested in being a part of this group, by call or text — we would love to have you join us!

You will be notified prior to the meeting who will be in contact with you. Tracie does continue to bless our shawls before they are given to the recipients. If you have anyone in need of a shawl, you can call the above numbers, or notify Tracie.

MUSIC NOTES

Hard to believe that September is here! Morning Prayer online has been a blessing.

Since we are unable to provide live choral or congregational music, it is my privilege to contribute a piano reflection each Sunday at 8 AM Morning Prayer from my living room. The things we can do with technology! It will consist of piano settings of classic hymns and contemporary songs as well as well-known songs from other sources. I trust that this form of live music will minister to all of us at this time.

Marlene Weston



Connect to Virtual
Office Hours via Zoom

Tracie's Zoom Office Hours

If you'd like to visit Tracie in her home office, please join her on Zoom. You will need a computer or a smart phone with video and audio capability. Just click on the link below. You may need to enter the meeting number and/or the password in order to enter. You will be placed in a waiting room and Tracie will admit you one at a time.

Office hours will be held on Tuesday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to noon, and Wednesday afternoons from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

***Join Zoom Office Hours Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. until noon**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81594717198?pwd=NVVLMERCOWplZWl4NmJSaHE1dJZdz09>

Meeting ID: 6822515024
Password: St. Jude's

***Join Zoom Office Hours Wednesdays from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85744824268?pwd=MjUvQWlYRU0xNzIzbnh1maURdUllZz09>

Meeting ID: 6822515024
Password: St. Jude's

I look forward to welcoming you to my home office virtually!

Blessings,
Tracie+

**Active links are found on St. Jude's website... 'click and go' from there.*

REFLECTIONS

Submitted by Judy Maringo from "Our Daily Bread," June 17th edition

Dancing Before the Lord

Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, "Why this waste of perfume?"

Mark 14:4



A number of years ago, my wife and I visited a small church where during the worship service a woman began to dance in the aisle. She was soon joined by others. Carolyn and I looked at each other and an unspoken agreement passed between us: "Not me!" We come from church traditions that favor a serious liturgy, and this other form of worship was well beyond our comfort zone.

But if Mark's story of Mary's "waste" means anything at all, it suggests that our love for Jesus may express itself in ways that others find uncomfortable (Mark 14:1-9). A year's wages were involved in Mary's anointing. It was an "unwise" act that invited the disciples' scorn. The word

Mark uses to describe their reaction means "to snort" and suggests disdain and mockery. Mary may have cringed, fearing Jesus' response. But He commended her for her act of devotion and defended her against His own disciples, for Jesus saw the love that prompted her action despite what some would consider the impractical nature of it. He said, "Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me" (v.6).

Different forms of worship—informal, formal, quiet, exuberant—represent a sincere outpouring of love for Jesus. He's worthy of all worship that comes from a heart of love.

By David H. Roper

Reflect and Pray

**I bow before You, Almighty God, and worship You now.
You're worthy of the highest praise and adoration.**

Why do you think we're critical of unfamiliar forms of worship? How can we change our thoughts about a form of worship that's outside our comfort zone?

OUTREACH

Crop 2020 – The Show Walk Must Go On!

CROP HUNGER WALK

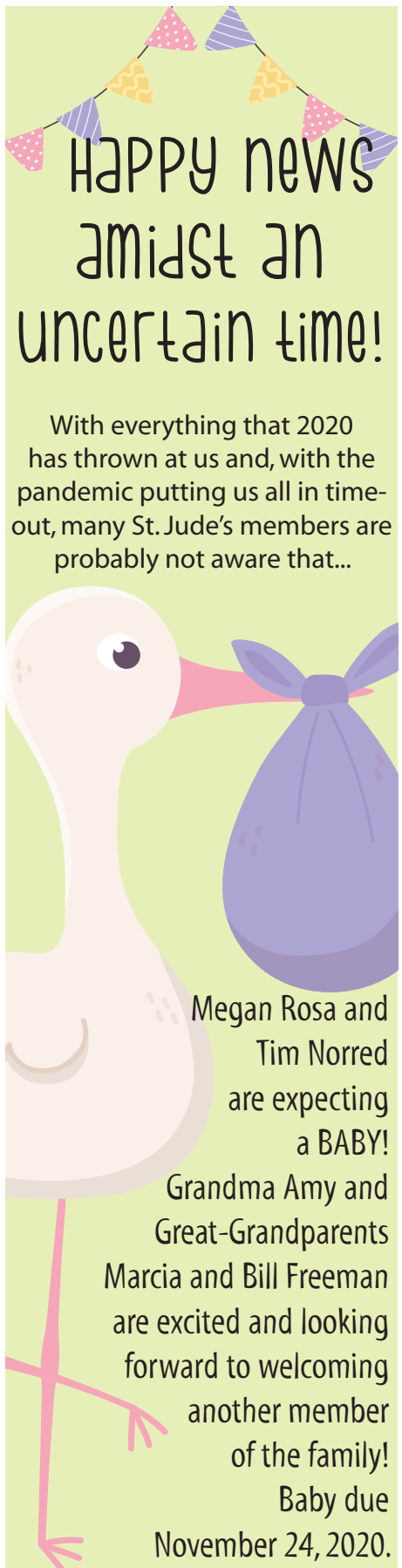
ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

Tired of being cooped up at home? Why not go for a walk, a CROP Walk! Despite the pandemic and all of its restrictions, this year's CROP Walk is still happening, albeit in a slightly different way. For the past several years we have met in Bush Park with 150 other walkers to raise money for CROP. With social distancing guidelines in place this just won't work, so instead each church will be walking their own route, starting from their own church. The walks will still take place at the same time on Sunday October 4th at 2:00 pm, but each church has laid out a route of their own that does not intersect with other walkers. For St. Jude's, the route is a 1-mile loop that starts and ends in St. Jude's parking lot, where we hope there will also be CROP Rockers. Those who choose to walk this route, will be asked to wear a mask the entire time and walk 6 to 10 feet behind the person in front of them (unless they are in the same family). Rocking chairs will also be placed at least 6 feet apart in the parking lot under a canopy. For those who are still not comfortable, you are welcome to walk your own route at home or at another location where you feel more at ease.

Fund raising will be a bit more challenging this year as well, since we won't be able to wrangle people into a corner at coffee hour and keep them there until they pledge! While accepting/collecting pledges in person will still be one way to collect money, we will also be emphasizing on-line pledging. The Fenton/Lake Fenton/Linden/Holly CROP Walk Website will provide a way for donations to be made to individual walkers or to the St. Jude's Team. We will also be providing links for donating on our Facebook Page and Webpage, and "This week at St. Jude's" will also provide a link.

This will be the 40th year for our local walk, and St. Jude's has been an active member since the beginning. In fact, we have chaired or co-chaired the event for 16 of those 40 years. During that period our walk has raised nearly \$400,000 for national and international programs to fight hunger and provide support when disasters and disease happen anywhere in the world. Of the total raised, \$100,000 (25%) has stayed right here in our community to help local causes, and for the past 8 years one of those causes has been St. Jude's School Lunch program, which has received over \$13,000. Another

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HAPPY NEWS
amidst an
uncertain time!

With everything that 2020 has thrown at us and, with the pandemic putting us all in time-out, many St. Jude's members are probably not aware that...

Megan Rosa and Tim Norred are expecting a BABY!

Grandma Amy and Great-Grandparents Marcia and Bill Freeman are excited and looking forward to welcoming another member of the family!

Baby due November 24, 2020.

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example of local support are the cleanup buckets and volunteers that were provided when the dams failed in Midland this June.

Walkers should contact Dave Rayner if they would like to sign up for this year's walk. Announcements will also be made on Sunday Mornings, in This Week at St. Jude's and on our Facebook Page. Donation envelopes are available from Dave, and he can also assist you in setting up your online giving page. We would like to encourage walkers/rockers to start early this year since face-to-face connections are a bit more difficult and infrequent. Dave may also contact you directly if you have walked or rocked in the past (or if you are still breathing and taking nourishment ??). This year's walk is more important than ever with so many of our neighbors being affected by the pandemic. Please help by walking or donating if you are able.

Our St. Jude's Team page has been set up so donations can already be accepted. Simply go to the our local CROP Walk page at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/fentonmi/>, scroll to the bottom of the page where it says "Find a Walker or Team" and type in St. Jude's.

St. Jude's Outreach Committee



Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan

Friends and Colleagues,

We are now just over two months since learning of the suspension of our bishop, the Rt. Rev. Wayne M. Houglan, Jr. The Standing Committees have been hard at work, sorting through the management of the day to day mission and ministry of the dioceses and looking ahead to the work we have to do together.

In the initial days after the announcement, we held informational sessions for clergy and senior wardens. We now invite all people of the dioceses to join us for one of three upcoming informational sessions, where members of our staffs and Standing Committees will review information about where we are now, how we expect future decisions will be made, and what it means for our commitment for our 3-5 years of intentional sharing and collaboration. Participants in the informational sessions will have the opportunity to ask additional questions that are not covered by the agenda.

Additionally, we have created a set of written Frequently Asked Questions, responding to some of the inquiries we've received over the last several weeks. These questions will be used as the framework for the upcoming informational sessions as well. We invite you to share this content with the folks in your parish, and we offer some draft language below that we ask you might include in your parish newsletters.

Thank you for your prayers and support. We continue to pray for you, all the people of our dioceses. We are strengthened by our support for one another and the dedication to mission and ministry, even in the midst of unforeseen challenges.

Peace,

Janet Huff Worvie
President of the Standing Committee,
Diocese of Eastern Michigan


Dave Croal
President of the Standing Committee,
Diocese of Western Michigan

INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS

The following sessions will be held as an opportunity to share information about our current status and to look ahead over the next several months through the remainder of the bishop's suspension. Members of diocesan staff and both Standing Committees will be present at each one. These meetings are open to all people.

- Tuesday, August 25th at 7pm
- Wednesday, August 26th at 2pm
- Saturday, August 29th at 10am
- Wednesday, September 2nd at 7pm

Please register to receive the secure link to your Zoom meeting. One meeting will be recorded for later viewing and posted to the diocesan websites. The links to register can be found in your Weekly St. Jude's emails or email Liz, our administrative assistant, at stjudeschurchfenton106@gmail.com with the date you would like to attend and she will send you the link to register.

September Birthdays

- 1st – Dave James
- Ed Weston
- 4th – Bernie Mcara
- 5th – Courtney Chambers
- Linda Chciuk
- 7th – Dee Grossmann
- 9th – Cloud James
- 10th – Lana Clark
- 11th – Diane Putnam
- Dave Rayner
- 13th – Nancy Jones
- 15th – Tracie Little
- 16th – Freya Hutchinson
- 19th – Francine Johnston
- 20th – Matthew Moller
- 21st – Joan Graham
- 22nd – Jack Mills
- Marlene Weston
- 23rd – Margot Brummett
- 25th – Mike Kearns
- 26th – Lydia Anderson
- Kayla Chambers
- 28th – Liza Dolza
- Jeff Koch
- Megan Rosa
- 30th – Pat Freeman

September Anniversaries

- 10th – Jim & Kathy Kortge
(54 years)
- 14th – Carl & Connie Koch
(63 years)
- 26th – Steve & Laura Koch
(22 years)
- 29th – Scott & Sandra Smith
(48 years)



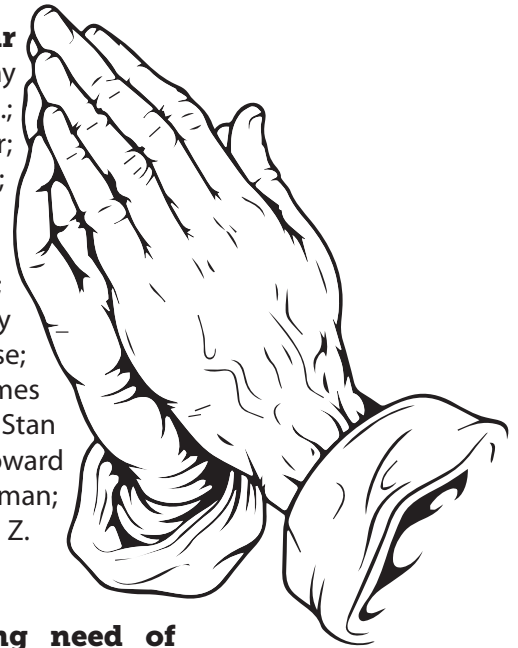
Beacon Deadlines

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

PRAYER LIST

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Eastern Michigan; Tracie, our Priest; for the Wardens and Vestry.

For those in particular need of prayer: Jeff F.; Jeremy Alber; Shanin Beall; Steven G.; Harold Gray; Bunny Gladfelter; Sarah Heikkila; Jaqueline Hoskins; Carl Koch; Michael Krauthofer; Lisa Langly; Leon Layman; Bill Lenny; Jeff Luebke; Carol MacDougall; Theresa Maynard; Jack & Beverly Mills; Noel; Paul Riley; Mike Rose; Leeanne Sanders and baby; James Simpson; Larry Smith; Sarah Smith; Stan Spicer; Mary Louise Susalla; Howard Thorpe; Jennifer Ubil; Brad Wiechelman; Lori Wilson; 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; Cathy Conn; Alex Creamean; Betsy Davies; Melissa Draper; Gail Engdahl; John England; Mary Franklin; Ralph Gladfelter; Lisa & Barb Gladstone; Joan Graham; Brian Henderson; Clint Johnson; Kellie Johnson; Sydne Kalet; Mindy Kania; Ev Koller; Janel Koop; Paul Koop; Angela Koresh; Leona; Cathy Niemet; Richard Otto; Brian Paisley; Jay Rizzo; Arin Shinabarger; Nanae & Fukuko Shiraishi; Brian Smith; Sandy Train; Ellen 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:

- September 6 – Sue Premo; Adam & Ashley Prew; Clay & Diane Putnam; Lois Putnam
- September 13 – Dave & Denise Rayner; Dustin, Meghan, Austin, Benjamin Rayner, Rylan Jones & Danyelle Morgan
- September 20 – Michael & Sue Reilly; Jackie Richardson; Troy & Kirsty, Ella & Lily Rising
- September 27 – Lynne Ronthi, Megan Rosa & Tim Norred; Jerry & Fran Rucker



St. Jude's Episcopal Church

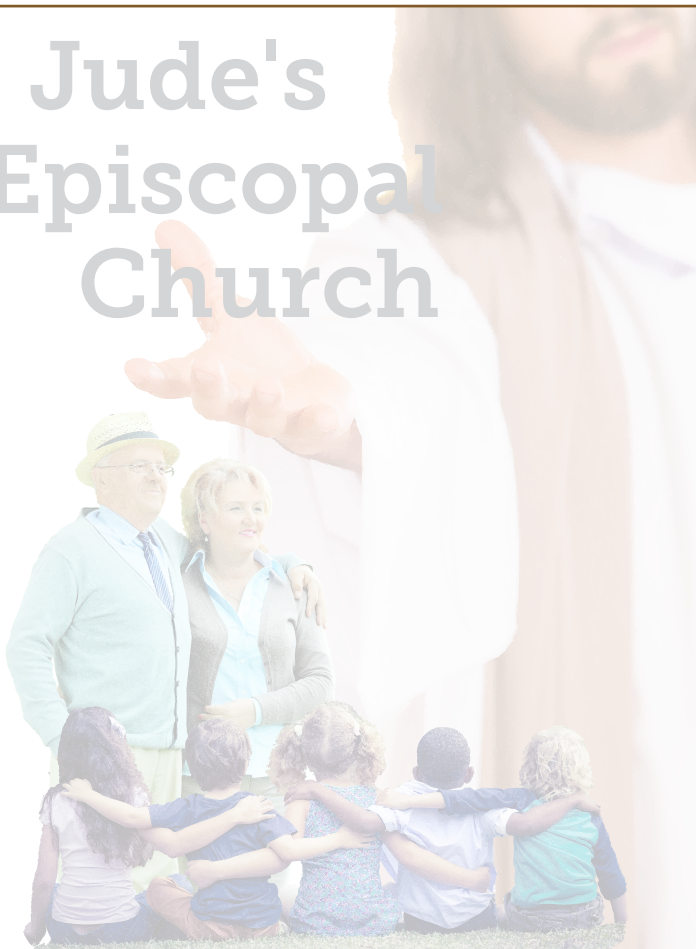
106 E. Elizabeth St.

Fenton, MI 48430-2322

Church Office: 810-629-5681

www.stjudesfenton.com

St. Jude's Episcopal Church



VESTRY

Charlie Johnston, Senior Warden

Lynne Ronthi, Junior Warden

Debbie James, Clerk

Michelle Gangwer, Treasurer

2021

Josephine Feijoo

Lynne Ronthi

Jerry Rucker

Mike Wells

2022

Deb James

Charlie Johnston

Jack Mills

Diane Putnam

2023

Nancy Day

Paul Dolza

Rex Harris

Christine Szostak

Delegates to the Diocesan Convention

Jack & Beverly Mills

John & Carol Pettipher

Alternate:

Dave & Denise Rayner

Charlie & Francine Johnston