

# THE BEACON

SEEKING AND WORSHIPPING GOD...REACHING OUT TO OTHERS

JANUARY 2021... OUR 163RD YEAR

ST. JUDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH • FENTON, MICHIGAN

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

**E-MAIL:**

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**WEB:**

www.stjudesfenton.com

**FACEBOOK:**

St. Jude's Episcopal Church

The Reverend Tracie Little

810-300-9177

E-Mail: TracieLittle@gmail.com

The Rev. Judy Marinco, Deacon

E-Mail: JAMarinco50@gmail.com

**Administrative Assistant**

Liz Sailus

**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

Today, as I sit and write this report, is the last day of 2020 and I am more than ready to embrace the possibilities awaiting us in a new year. And yet, there's a part of me that doesn't want to lose sight of all that we have experienced in 2020. Walking into a new year never removes the year gone by from reality. It's been a year like no other, that's for sure. A year filled with pain and struggle as well as a year that forced us into a place of learning so much.

As the pandemic began, I found my learning curve was very steep. I'd spent years deliberately knowing just enough to get by as far as technology was concerned. I didn't want to use technology for anything more than checking my email and maybe posting the odd thing on Facebook. When I think of the ease of which I can now set up and start an online meeting, when I look at my recent purchases of lights that brighten my home sanctuary now that the winter months have set in, I marvel at how far I've come.

When I reflect on our experiences at the church, the level of participation in online daily worship, the ever-growing list of volunteers to safely distribute food at least once a week, the new and growing community collaborations that make our outreach possible, the donations both in money and in supplies that

continue to pour in, I'm driven to my knees in awe.

I give thanks to God for all that we have been able to accomplish. I give thanks to God for each and every one of you because you are a part of why this has even been possible. It has been a challenging.....and an amazing year. I believe that we have been strengthened and equipped for all that God is doing in our church and in our community.

This time of year, I find myself always in a very reflective mind. One that examines not just the events of the past year, but also where I have been and am aware of God's presence in our midst throughout the events, the good and the challenging. It's a part of how I prepare for Annual Meeting. This year's Annual Meeting will, as you might have expected, be very different. The details about how this will unfold, can be found in another article in the Beacon.

Annual Meetings are traditionally poorly attended. Perhaps it's a part of human nature to close the book on the past and not want to reopen it. However, Annual Meetings are critically important in the life of the church. It is in these spaces where we look at the year just ended and give thanks to God. We have so much to be thankful for this year! And Annual Meetings provide us with a space to dream forward with God and to

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## Rector's Report (cont'd)

(continued from page 1)

commit to participating with God in all that God is continuing to do within and through us. We have so much to pray for and celebrate as we look forward with God.

I look forward with JOY and HOPE to giving thanks for our ministry together in 2020 as we invite God's vision into what lies ahead at St. Jude's in this next season of ministry!

*Love and Blessings,  
Tracie+*

## Dear St. Jude's Extraordinary Givers,

We were amazed and astounded by the enormous generosity shown by our St. Jude's family this Christmas Season.

When we first started planning for our annual Christmas Family outreach program in September, we were not sure how we were going to do it, because the pandemic had changed everything.

Our first thoughts were can we even do it? How can we expect people to give when so many are struggling themselves? We were not even in church! How can people even give or check lists to buy presents?

After much discussion we came up with a plan that was different from what we usually do and as usual you responded as you always do. Give us a project and we will support it and get it done.

Our hope was to take on one large family from our Saturday food program, three families from

Family Promise and the men at the group home in Holly. Our dream was to somehow help our Saturday guests if we could get enough donations.

Our St. Jude's family overachieved again. You not only helped us achieve our hope but also made our dream possible.

We were able to give \$100.00 dollar gift cards to each member

of our chosen families. Gifts were also provided for all of the Holly group home men. Because of your overwhelming generosity we were also able to give every Saturday guest family with children a \$50.00 dollar gift card and every family without children a \$25.00 dollar gas card. We also provided a \$25.00 dollar gas card to all the workers at the group home.

We wish that all of you could have been there to see the responses and tears of gratitude that we received from all those receiving gifts, it was amazing.

As always St. Jude's has come through again and made Christmas a little better for many people. Once again, the Outreach committee thanks you from the bottom of our hearts for your generous support, especially during this very difficult year of 2020.

Jesus said "I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothing. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me...just as you did to the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Matthew 25:35-36, 40s

*St. Jude's Outreach Team*





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=NVVLMERCOWpIZWI4NmJSaHE1dJZdz09>

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=MjUvQWlYRU0xNzIzY1h0aURdUllZz09>

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", December 16th edition

## Christmas Awe

*"Let all God's angels worship him."*

Hebrews 1:6



I was in London one night for a meeting. It was pouring rain, and I was late. I rushed through the streets, turned a corner, and then stopped still. Dozens of angels hovered above Regent Street, their giant shimmering wings stretching across the traffic. Made of thousands of pulsing lights, it was the most amazing Christmas display I'd seen. I wasn't the only one captivated. Hundreds lined the street, gazing up in awe.

Awe is central to the Christmas story. When the angel appeared to Mary explaining she would miraculously conceive (Luke 1:26-38), and to the shepherds announcing Jesus' birth (2:8-20), each reacted with fear, wonder—and awe. Looking around at that Regent Street crowd, I wondered if we were experiencing

in part what those first angelic encounters felt like.

A moment later, I noticed something else. Some of the angels had their arms raised, as if they too were gazing up at something. Like the angelic choir that burst into song at the mention of Jesus (vv. 13-14), it seems angels too can be caught up in awe—as they gaze on Him.

"The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being" (Hebrews 1:3). Bright and luminous, Jesus is the focus of every angel's gaze (v. 6). If an angel-themed Christmas display can stop busy Londoners in their tracks, just imagine the moment when we see Him face-to-face.

*By Sheridan Voysey*

*Reflect and Pray*

**Father, I worship You. Thank You for the gift of Your awesome Son.**

When was the last time you felt a sense of awe? How can you rekindle a sense of awe over Jesus this Christmastime?

# ANNUAL MEETING 2020

## From Pivot to Vision

**January 24, 2021 at 10:30 am**

The year 2020 has been described as year of pivot. A year where everything we knew to be normal had to shift. Those shifts have affected the church in ways we could never have imagined. Our Annual Meeting will provide an opportunity for us to reflect on and celebrate all that we have experienced – the good and the challenging.

It will, of course, have to take place differently. The meeting itself will be held on Zoom at 10:30am on Sunday, January 24. Zoom allows anyone to participate by a device hooked up through the internet, or by phone. Both links are available below.

The booklet itself will be produced early enough that it will be available to everyone well before the meeting. As in year's past, it will be available electronically and we invite you, if you are able, to view and/or print it from the link that will be sent out once it is complete. Paper copies will be available for you to request a copy. The booklet should be produced early enough for those to be delivered either by mail or porch drop.

If you are unable to join the meeting on January 24 and you have questions or comments about the booklet's contents, we invite you to email Tracie at [TracieLLittle@gmail.com](mailto:TracieLLittle@gmail.com) or to call her at 810-300-9177 with your comments/questions and she will bring those to the meeting to share with those who gather. Answers to questions will be provided shortly after the meeting.

Rather than a password, we rely on a Waiting Room from which I will admit you to the meeting. If you are planning on joining by phone, please make sure you let me know and share what number you will call in from as I plan on not admitting anyone I don't recognize. This ensures we are not "bombed" by someone inappropriate.

*Tracie+*

### **Zoom Link for the Annual Meeting:**

Topic: St. Jude's 2020 Annual Meeting

Time: Jan 24, 2021 10:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6822515024>

Meeting ID: 682 251 5024

### **Phone number for joining Annual Meeting:**

1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 682 251 5024

**If you are writing a report for our Annual Meeting Booklet, the deadline for submission is January 12, 2021. Please have your reports in to Liz before this date so we can get the booklet produced, published and delivered in time for everyone to read before the meeting itself.**



# MUSIC NOTES

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.

As we continue our online worship, we will enjoy the hymns of the church beginning with "Baptized in water." We are all called to follow Him in "I, the Lord of sea and sky." "O for a thousand tongues" eloquently speaks of physical and spiritual healing. May January be a time of contemplation and celebration.

*Marlene Weston*

## DRIVE-THRU COMMUNION SERVICE Sunday, January 3, 2021



# PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Prayer shawl meetings have started up again – they are 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.

# Happy Knitting!



## 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 – Carl Koch
- 27th – Seven Melchor
- 28th – Sharon Aldrich
- Chace Green
- Mary Warren
- 29th – Sandy Davis

## January Anniversaries

- 22nd – Kelly & Lisa Cronk  
(44 years)

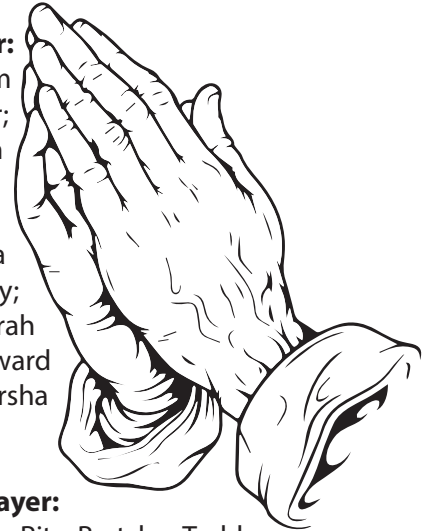


# PRAYER LIST

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; Kathy & Tom Brighton; Cindy; Steven G.; Bunny Gladfelter; Sarah Heikkila; Jaqueline Hoskins; Sharon James; Carl Koch; Connie Koch; Michael Krauthofer; Lisa Langly; Leon Layman; Bill Lenny; Laura; Liz; Jeff Luebke; Theresa Maynard; Jack & Beverly Mills; Noel; Paul Riley; Mike Rose; James Simpson; Larry Smith; Sarah Smith; Stan Spicer; Mary Louise Susalla; Howard Thorpe; Jennifer Ubil; Brad Wiechelman; Marsha Wittig; Maureen Z.



### And those in continuing need of prayer:

Bill; David Barrows; Brett Beall; Butch & Julie; Rita Bretzke; Todd Brighton; Diane Brighton-Weinman; Margot Brummett; Dave; Karen Cleaver; Cathy Conn; Betsy Davies; Melissa Draper; John England; Mary Franklin; Gabe; Ralph Gladfelter; Joan Graham; Brian Henderson; Clint; Kelli; Sydne Kalet; Ev Koller; Angela Koresch; Leona; Sherry More; Cathy Niemet; Richard; Jay Rizzo; Carol MacDougall; Linda Schupbach; Arin Shinabarger; Brian Smith; Sandy Train; Leonard Traskos; Ellen Tripp; Patti Vasquez.

**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 3 – Harry & Linda Chcuik, Lana, Marcus & Julian Clark, Kelly & Lisa Cronk
- January 10 – Sally Crouter, Sandy Davis, Nancy Day, Gail Delaney, Dee Dickens
- January 17 – Sally Diehl, Paul & Sarah Dolza, Dot Dowlan
- January 24 – Julie, Tess & Dominic DuPei, Larry & Pam Elder, Bonnie Ensign
- January 31 – Rebecca Ensign, Josephine Feijoo, Mary Felix, Gaye Lynn Foor



## St. Jude's Episcopal Church

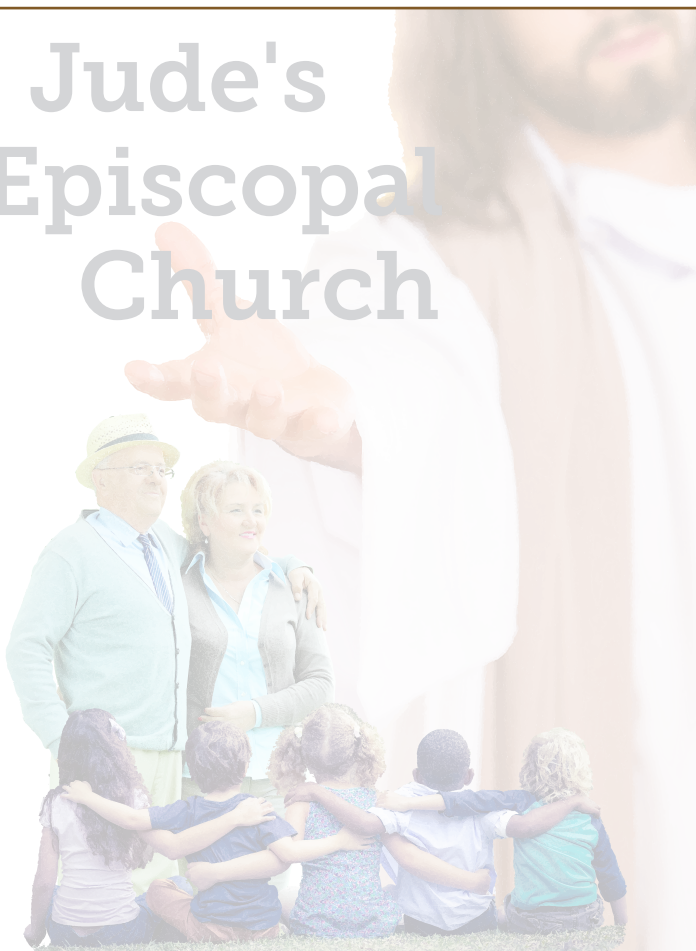
106 E. Elizabeth St.

Fenton, MI 48430-2322

Church Office: 810-629-5681

[www.stjudesfenton.com](http://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