

# THE BEACON

SEEKING AND WORSHIPPING GOD...REACHING OUT TO OTHERS

JUNE 2021... OUR 163RD YEAR

ST. JUDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH • FENTON, MICHIGAN

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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

**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:**

Daily Morning Prayer Services

via Facebook Live

8:00 a. m.

Sunday Parking Lot Communion

10:30 a.m.

## RECTORS REPORT

Last week I stopped in to Jimmy John's to pick up a sandwich for dinner and as I waited for them to create this treat, I was talking with the employees about how they have experienced Covid and what changes they were seeing now with the protocols being relaxed. The driver had an interesting reflection. He was so happy to see the lobby filled with guests as it was starting to feel like we were moving back into some kind of normalcy. That wasn't a surprising reflection. However, his description of Covid times really impacted me. He said it's been like we were all travelling in parallel universes over this past year plus.

Parallel universes. Each of us in our own silo. What a poignant and insightful image! It has felt just like that for me. Even when I've found myself in places where other people are, like the grocery store, masks seem to have locked us all away and we don't communicate with one another. We see the other but any kind of contact is out of the question. We seem to be travelling parallel to one another.

I wonder.....how do you see the Kingdom of God? Reality is we live in this time of now and not yet. The Kingdom of God is among us, at least in part, even as we wait

for the Kingdom to be complete in this world. Is the Kingdom a parallel place? Seen but not seen? Experienced but not experienced?

As we move more and more out of this time of Covid, how can our experiences about the Kingdom of God inform our moving out of our parallel universes and back into community with one another?

Moving out of this time is going to, well, it's going to take time. Some of us will be anxious to move very quickly back into a more normal time. Some of us will move much more slowly, trying something small and gradually moving back into a more normal time. All of us need to be gentle with ourselves and gentle with one another. Everyone has been impacted by this pandemic differently. Living in the midst of the monumental changes that have taken place over this year has caused a great deal of grief in everyone. And each of us will deal differently with that grief. For some of us, the past year almost didn't exist. When we speak about "March" or "April" and we are remembering things that took place, we're remembering March or April 2019 and not 2020. For some of us, the impact of the pandemic has been so life-changing that we're not quite sure how to move forward.

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## Rector's Report (cont'd)

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We are, indeed, living in complicated times. As followers of Jesus, we have a very long history of complicated times that can help us find the way forward in this time. The disciples experienced complicated times with Jesus's death, finding themselves alone in a new world with a new mission to go and be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. They found themselves behind locked doors, hunkering down, wondering if it would even be possible to find the way forward. That feeling may sound very familiar to you as we anticipate stepping into a new post-Covid world.

In the midst of their confusion and grief, they received the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit that didn't only lead them out into the world, it drove them there. The Holy Spirit that gave them the words they needed to share. The Holy Spirit that reconnected them as community and increased that community day by day.

The Holy Spirit that continues

to build community, that empowers us for mission, that directs and strengthens us for all that we are being called to do and be as we participate in God's mission.

It may feel like we are living in parallel universes. The Holy Spirit doesn't recognize the boundaries that we set up. The Holy Spirit dances between them all, connecting us, and leading us forward into the new world that is already emerging in our midst. The Kingdom of God among us, between us, within us.

The Holy Spirit is ready for this moment as we emerge from our silos. Because the Holy Spirit is ready, we are ready. We will take the time we need, we will be gentle with one another and with ourselves.

And we will emerge, transformed and made new, ready for whatever the mission of God has in store for us!

**Love and Blessings,**

*Tracie+*

## Tracie's Time Away

Tracie will be taking some time away from Tuesday, May 25 - Monday, June 7. Paul Brunell is covering for any pastoral emergencies that may arise during this time - his contact information is available on Tracie's cell voicemail and the church voicemail.

Tracie's Zoom office hours will resume when she returns.

Tracie will also be "at school" Sunday, June 20 - Sunday, July 4 for her final year to complete her DMin. More information on her time away during this time will be available as it approaches.

**Thank you for supporting Tracie as she prepares for her final residency!**

## PAY IT FORWARD

Our 2021 budget has a large, unsustainable deficit. As a result, the people of St. Jude's have been issued a challenge: If you are able to give even a little above and beyond your pledge, please consider giving that money toward reducing our deficit this year.

**You can make your donation in the manner you are most comfortable, check or online.**

If you give by check, please put "deficit reduction" or "pay it forward" in the memo line. If you give online, please select the "Custodial - Deficit Reduction" fund from the drop down menu.

**Thank you!**

### Donations Received for Deficit Reduction:

**Deficit presented in 2021 budget:**  
\$26,657

**Donated in May 2021 (through 5/27/21):** \$100

**Total Received through 5/27 in 2021:** \$1,911.00

# Sunday Help Needed

## We need your help on Sundays!

We need people who are willing to set-up and take-down our outdoor worship space every Sunday morning for 10:30 am Parking Lot church. If you (and your household) would like to sign up to help, you can sign up online: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f084daeac23a0fe3-setup>

We are also now having a modified coffee hour outside following Parking Lot Church which only coffee and juice. If you would like to prepare the beverages and set out on a Sunday, you can sign up online: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f084daeac23a0fe3-coffee>

If nobody signs up for a Sunday, we will not have coffee that week.

Or you can contact the church office to see which Sundays are available for either sign up and sign-up that way.

Though we are not ordering altar flowers every Sunday since we are outdoors and already have plenty of nature to decorate our worship space, if you would like to have altar flowers ordered for a specific Sunday, please contact the church office. The suggested donation is \$24.

## Thank you!

Thank you to Kelly & Lisa Cronk, Diane & Clay Putnam, Nancy Day & Ellen Tripp for setting-up and taking-down our outdoor worship space in the month of May!

# REFLECTIONS

Submitted by Judy Maringo from "Our Daily Bread", May 10th edition

## Singing Over Us

*[He] will rejoice over you with singing.*  
Zephaniah 3:17



A young father held his baby boy in his arms, singing to him and rocking him in soothing rhythm. The baby was hearing-impaired, unable to hear the melody or the words. Yet the father sang anyway, in a beautiful, tender act of love toward his son. And his efforts were rewarded with a delightful smile from his little boy.

The imagery of the father-son exchange bears a striking resemblance to the words of Zephaniah. The Old Testament prophet says that God will joyfully sing over His daughter, the people of Jerusalem (Zephaniah 3:17). God enjoys doing good things for His beloved people, such as taking away their punishment and turning back their enemies (v. 15). Zephaniah says they no longer have any reason

for fear and instead have cause for rejoicing.

We, as God's children redeemed by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, sometimes are hard of hearing—unable, or perhaps unwilling, to tune our ears to the exuberant love God sings over us. His adoration of us is like that of the young father, who lovingly sang to his son despite his inability to hear. He has taken away our punishment too, giving us further reason to rejoice. Perhaps we might try to listen more closely to hear the joy ringing loudly in His voice. Father, help us to hear Your loving melody and savor being held safely in Your arms.

By Kirsten Holmberg

*Reflect and Pray*

What keeps you from hearing God? How can you tune your ears to hear His delight in you?

**Thank You, God, for taking great delight in me. May I always listen to your voice as You joyfully sing over me.**

# MUSIC NOTES

It is incredible that we are in June. With the warming weather and vaccinations is coming more freedom to assemble as a body of Christ.

During this past year, several of our singers participated on special occasions and feast days to sing in a virtual choir with Greg Forsyth as the sound engineer mixing the voices together as a cohesive group. This in no way is a substitute for a real choir experience, but it did provide music in the only way we could. The results were wonderful and brought tears to my eyes to hear the choir, even if they could not be seen.

Finally, with our vaccinations, the choir met to record in person for the final two Sundays of our season, Pentecost and Trinity. Even though we felt that our voices were out of shape, it was such a joy to meet and sing together! Thank you to all!

We, as a church, will see what the fall brings. I pray that we may be able to worship and sing and play instruments together again! Have a blessed summer.

*Marlene Weston*

# PRAYER LIST

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Skip, Assisting Bishop to the Dioceses of Eastern and Western Michigan; the Standing Committees of the Dioceses of Eastern and Western Michigan; Tracie, our Priest; Judy, our Deacon; for the Wardens and Vestry.

**For those in particular need of prayer:** Martha; Jeff F.; Jeremy Alber; Sheila Baker; Shanin Beall; Laura Bentz; Kathy & Tom Brighton; Cindy; Joe Capadagli; Danielle Dixon; Steven G.; Katy Gambill; Bunny Gladfelter; Sarah Heikkila; Jaqueline Hoskins; Sharon James; Carl Koch; Connie Koch; Michael Krauthofer; Lisa Langly; Leon Layman; Bill Lenny; Laura; Liz; Jack & Beverly Mills; Noel; Paul Riley; Mike Rose; James Simpson; Larry Smith; Sarah Smith; Mary Louise Susalla; 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 Koresh; Leona; Sherry More; Richard; Jay Rizzo; Arin Shinabarger; Brian Smith; Sandy Train; Leonard Traskos; Ellen Tripp; Patti Vasquez

## June Birthdays

- 1st – Beverly Mills  
– Bob Simpson
- 2nd – Tess DuPei
- 6th – Paul Dolza  
– Lois Hartranft
- 7th – Amy Freeman
- 8th – Clay Putnam
- 10th – Linda Freeman
- 13th – Bill Anderson
- 14th – Leigha Forsyth  
– Eve Koller
- 15th – Craig Adams
- 16th – Nancy Mason
- 18th – Bob Alexander  
– Debbie James  
– Ashley Ransley
- 20th – Lynell Wright
- 22nd – Doug Koch
- 24th – Robbie Hunt  
– Christine Szostak
- 25th – John Vitovsky
- 30th – Mike Green

## June Anniversaries

- 25th – John & Carol Pettipher  
(55 years)
- 26th – Bob & Kim Alexander  
(39 years)

### Pray for our St. Jude's Family:

June 6 - Pedro Melchor, Lois Putnam, Dave & Denise Rayner

June 13 - Dustin, Meghan, Austin & Benjamin Rayner, Rylan Jones & Danyelle Morgan, Lynne Ronthi

June 20 - Tim Norred, Megan Rosa & Audrey Norred, Jerry & Francine Rucker

June 27 - Marilyn Safa, Liz & Sean Sailus, Dale & Debra Sands



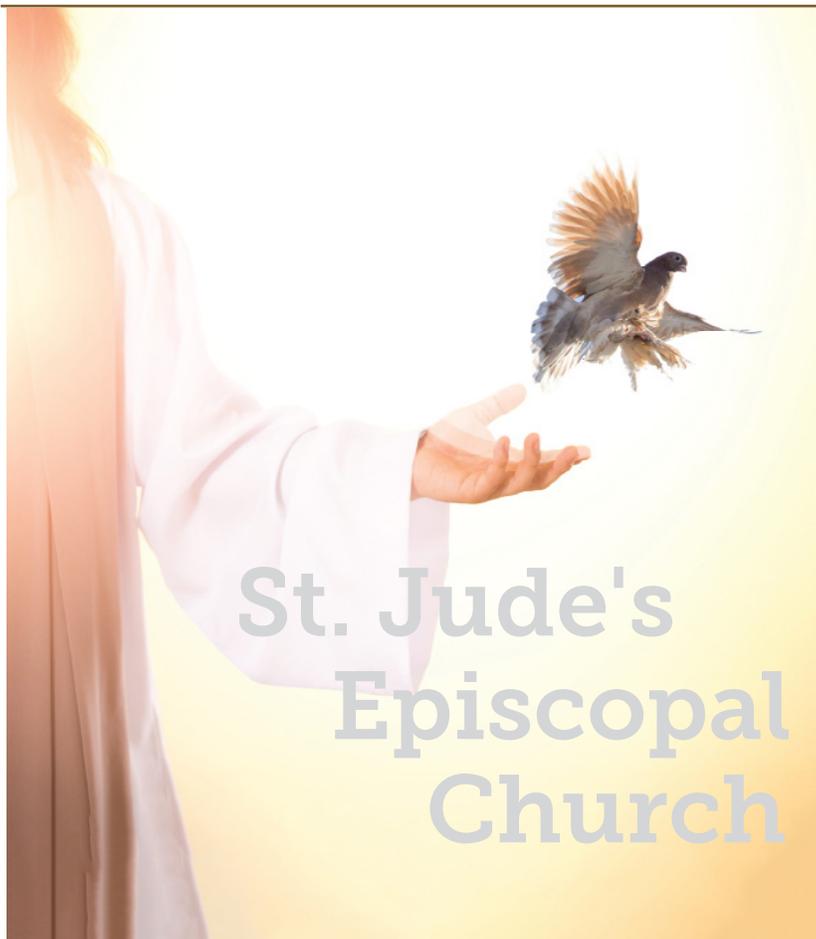
## St. Jude's Episcopal Church

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Church Office: 810-629-5681

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### **VESTRY**

Charlie Johnston, Senior Warden

Ron Trimmer, Junior Warden

Debbie James, Clerk

Michelle Gangwer, Treasurer

### **2022**

Deb James

Charlie Johnston

Jack Mills

Diane Putnam

### **2023**

Nancy Day

Paul Dolza

Rex Harris

Mike Wells

### **2024**

Dee Grossmann

Lynn Hopper

Ron Trimmer