

THE BEACON

SEEKING AND WORSHIPPING GOD...REACHING OUT TO OTHERS

MAY 2021... OUR 163RD 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

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

Spring has, I think, finally sprung! The flowering trees are in full bloom and some are winding down. The green of the trees is brightening up the landscape. The warm air is tempting us outside to enjoy the sun and soak up some Vitamin E. Some cooler nights are sprinkled in to remind us that we really do live in Michigan.

This is one of my favorite times of year as God's creation reawakens. It always brings me to a place of reflection about my own spiritual re-awakenings. Over my life, I've experienced so many of those. There's something that's common across all of them. There's always a place where I wonder what's going on in my Spirit. I know something is up. There's a kind of restlessness that begs for attention. Eventually I recognize what's going on and I invite God into the conversation that is echoing in my soul. Inevitably, that conversation leads me to the new thing that I'm being beckoned to.

The most recent awakening for me was a return to school, this time at a doctoral level. In that moment, I had to make a choice. To follow or to choose to ignore the beckoning to something new. As you know, I decided to follow and return to school.

Today I am preparing for my third and final residency! And, at the same time, I'm also delving into where my studies have brought me, leading me into my thesis topic. If I'm honest with myself, right now I'm feeling a wee bit overwhelmed.....and I'm feeling very excited about what I've learned and where it seems to be taking me.

This has felt like a spiritual awakening! Now, now I'm in the midst of the journey. A journey that I am not traveling alone. All of you have been a part of this from the beginning. And God has led the way, teasing out newness in my preaching and in my awareness. I expect more newness to emerge over this next year, both from my residency and as my thesis continues to come together.

Thank you all for all that you have done to support and encourage this new spiritual awakening in my life! It's been an amazing journey to date and, together with you and with God, I expect it will continue to be. Throughout this journey I've grown in my relationship with God. I suppose it can be said that God and I have come to know one another more deeply and I've fallen in love with God all over again! Kind of like

(continued on page 2)

Rector's Report (cont'd)

(continued from page 1)

how I feel about spring. I fall in love with God's creation all over again!

I wonder, how do you experience spiritual re-awakenings in your life? Where is your spiritual journey right now? Are you feeling restless? Looking for something but unsure what that might be? I wonder, what re-awakening is God calling you to?

Love and Blessings,

Tracie

Book Club Resumes

Here is the list for summer reading and meetings:

May 25 at Hoppers

THE SCENT KEEPER - Erica Bauermister

June 22 at Putnams

WE ARE NOT FREE - Traci Chee

July 27 at Rayners

ROSE CODE - Kate Quinn

August 24 at Hutchins

FOUR WINDS - Kristen Hannah

Reminder - we are meeting in person, outside, no food, bring your own drink.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Hopper.

MUSIC NOTES

May is a month of celebrations. On May 2 and 9, we hear about God's love for us ("God is love, let heaven adore him" and "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"). May 16 is the Sunday after our Lord's Ascension ("Alleluia, sing to Jesus").

We celebrate Pentecost on May 23, the fifty days following Passover that saw the coming of the Holy Spirit and the actual birth of the Christian church. The musical offerings include "Every time I feel the Spirit"

May 30 is Trinity Sunday. "Holy, holy, holy" and "Come, Christians, join to sing" carry this theme.

Whew! Yes, May is a month of celebrating. May we also look forward to worshiping together as a congregation as the weather warms and the numbers go down!

Marlene Weston

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 April 2021: \$600

Total Received so far in 2021: \$1,811.00

Return to Outdoor Communion

April 21, 2021

Dear Friends,

It is with great joy that I write today to invite you to Parking Lot Church! Recognizing the reality that more and more of us have received our Covid vaccinations, the Vestry has decided that, beginning May 2 we will gather in the church parking lot to celebrate Eucharist! As we have done since the beginning of the pandemic, we will still gather online on both Zoom and Facebook Live at 8am for Morning Prayer. We are hopeful that these parking lot

services will also be broadcast through Facebook Live, however the Zoom option will not be available.

Parking Lot Eucharist will take place on Sunday mornings at 10:30am. Please follow the following protocols to keep all of us safe and healthy:

- You are required to be masked the entire time you are on the property. Masks will be provided if you forgot yours. Handwashing stations will be available throughout the space.
- Please bring your own chair. There will be a limited number of chairs available for those who are unable to bring their own.
- Your household must sit at least 6 feet away from other households.
- A contact tracing sign-in will be available and you must leave us your name and phone number.
- If you are able, please print the bulletin at home or bring a device that can access it during the service. A limited number of bulletins will be printed for those who are unable to do so.
- If you are not feeling well, if you are waiting for Covid test results, or if you have been in contact with someone who tested positive, we invite you to participate in the service online only. There are several instances where church services have become spreader events and we do not wish to become one of them. In the event of inclement weather, the service will be broadcast on Facebook Live from inside the church and we will invite you to receive Communion in the pattern of our Drive-Thru Church.

We are looking forward to seeing you in person on the parking lot and we are hopeful to return to the building as soon as possible! As always, we are being cautious as we follow the Diocesan Pastoral Directive and our congregational leadership's decisions. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on my cell phone at 810-300-9177. I am also booking porch visits now! Give me a call if you'd like me to visit! If porch visits are not possible, I can schedule a visit inside, however, I limit those to minimize exposure.

Love and Blessings,

Tracie

Service Set-Up and Take-Down

We need a volunteer or family each Sunday for our 10:30 am service who would be willing to set-up our service stuff outside and then bring back into the church following the service.

Please plan to arrive by 10 am so that you have plenty of time for set-up before people begin to arrive.

If you would like to volunteer for a Sunday, please contact Liz in the church office:

(810) 629-5681

stjudeschurchfenton106@gmail.com

-or-

Sign up online:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f084daeac23a0fe3-setup>

HAPPY NEWS

Liz (our administrative assistant) and Sean Saibus are expecting a baby!

Liz plans to continue working until the baby comes at which time, she will be taking a couple months of maternity leave. We will need some volunteers to perform some of the day-to-day office tasks while she is away. We may contact you to ask if you are interested in helping out. Or, if you would like to volunteer, please contact Tracie or Liz to let us know and we can find a way to use your talents!



*Baby Due
August 31, 2021*

REFLECTIONS

Submitted by Judy Marinco from "Our Daily Bread", April 20th edition

Jesus' Promise to You

"He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever."

John 14:16



Jason wailed as his parents handed him over to Amy. It was the two-year-old's first time in the nursery while Mom and Dad attended the service—and he was not happy. Amy assured them he'd be fine. She tried to soothe him with toys and books, by rocking in a chair, walking around, standing still, and talking about what fun he could have. But everything was met with bigger tears and louder cries. Then she whispered five simple words in his ear: "I will stay with you." Peace and comfort quickly came.

Jesus offered His friends similar words of comfort during the week of His crucifixion: "The Father . . . will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the

Spirit of truth" (John 14:16–17). After His resurrection He gave them this promise: "Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). Jesus was soon to ascend to heaven, but He would send the Spirit to "stay" and live within His people.

We experience the Spirit's comfort and peace when our tears flow. We receive His guidance when we're wondering what to do (John 14:26). He opens our eyes to understand more of God (Ephesians 1:17–20), and He helps us in our weakness and prays for us (Romans 8:26–27).

He stays with us forever.

By Anne Cetas

Reflect and Pray

What do you need from the Holy Spirit today? How can knowing He's always near help you?

How thankful I am that You remain always by my side, Jesus! I need You.

New Equipment

We received a \$700 grant from the Diocese of Eastern Michigan and donations to cover the cost of all of the equipment we needed to purchase in order to begin live-streaming from the church.

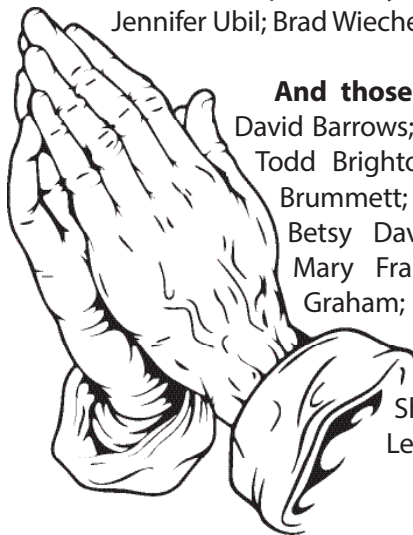
We also received a donation in the form of a laptop so that we now have a computer for the sole use of live-streaming.

Thank you for helping us to continue reaching out further and connecting with people near and far!

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

April Birthdays

- 2nd – Debra Sands
- 3rd – Benjamin Rayner
- 5th – Charles Johnston
- 6th – Dominic DuPei
- 10th – Jenne Hadden
- 12th – Carol Chambers
– Danyelle Morgan
– Sue Premo
- 13th – Sean Sailus
- 15th – Steve Koch
- 16th – Connor Chambers
- 21st – McKenna Green
- 22nd – Vance Gordon
- 24th – Lynn Hopper
- 26th – Judy Marinco
– Lois Putnam

April Anniversaries

- 5th – Mike & Peggy Kearns
(31 years)
- 10th – Dan & Angela White
(24 years)
- 18th – Mark & Lynne Ronthi
(25 years)
- 19th – Ed & Marlene Weston
(63 years)
- 20th – Glenn & Ellen Tripp
(54 years)

Pray for our St. Jude's Family:

May 2 - Evelyn Koller; Jim & Kathy Kortge; Keith & Lorie Krebs

May 9 - Jacob Kusluski; Neil Leonard; Tracie, Dave & Mike Little

May 16 - Mike & Judy Marinco; Nancy Mason; Steven Melchor; Lorraine Moller

May 23 - Brock Newcomb; Jill Perry; Vic & Michele Peters

May 31 - John & Carol Pettipher; Sue Premo; Clay & Diane Putnam

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



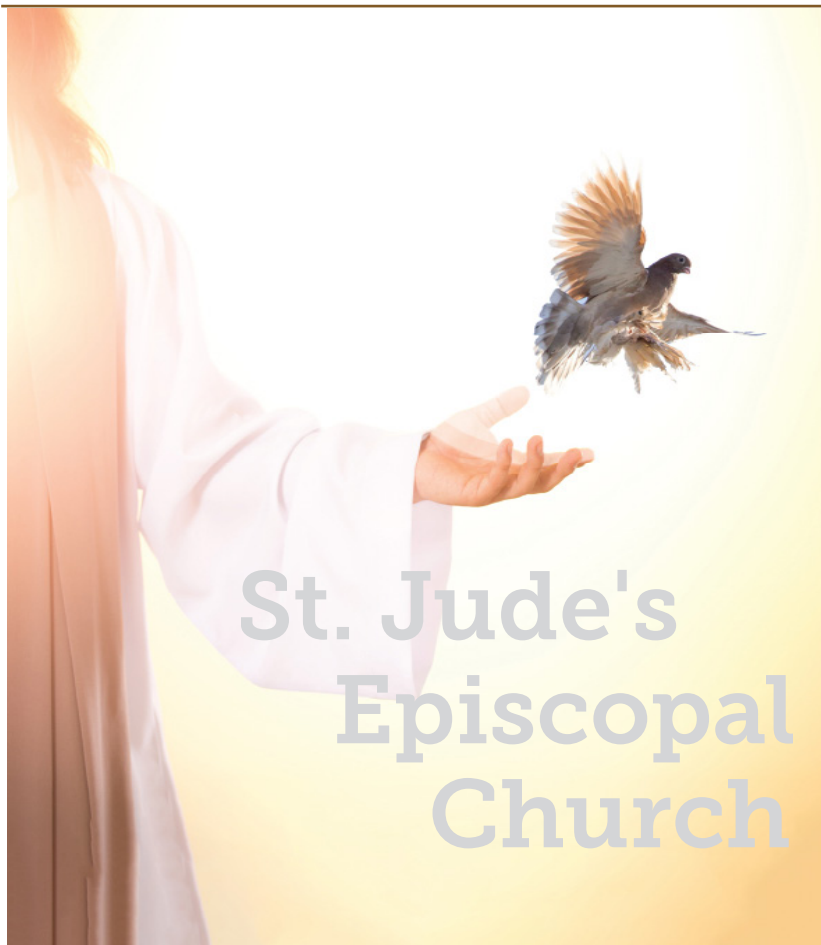
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Church Office: 810-629-5681

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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