

# THE BEACON

SEEKING AND WORSHIPPING GOD...REACHING OUT TO OTHERS

NOVEMBER 2021... OUR 163RD YEAR

ST. JUDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH • FENTON, MICHIGAN

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

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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:**  
Mondays & Thursdays:  
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Tuesdays & Wednesdays:  
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:**  
Sunday & Wednesday  
Morning Prayer Services  
via Facebook Live  
8:00 a. m.

Sunday In-Person Communion  
10:30 a.m.

## Rector's Report

How are you doing? It's a question that I find myself asking all of the time in the course of normal conversations. And it's a question that I hear often in those same conversations. How are you doing? If you're like me, you probably find yourself asking and answering that question as often as you meet or talk to other people each day. How are you doing?

How often have you asked that question of yourself? How am "I" doing? And how often have you stopped and taken the time to not only think through the answer, but put words to your answer. How am "I" doing? Especially now as we move our way through the pandemic, especially as we're all finding ourselves tired and stressed perhaps, taking the time to ask yourself that question and even more so taking the time to answer that question is essential.

At times over the course of my life, when I've taken the time to do a kind of honest, personal inventory of how I'm doing, I find that I don't really like the answer. Then I have to ask myself, so what do I need to do about it? What do I need to focus on? Who can support me in those efforts? What tools might I need to rely on to help me achieve change?

How will I hold myself accountable to paying attention to all of my health – physical, emotional and spiritual.

I think the other place we need to ask the question is here in our faith community. How are WE doing? As we approach the end of the year and especially as we approach our annual pledge campaign, I think it is essential that we ask that question. How are we doing as a faith community? How are we answering God's call to participate in God's mission here in Fenton and now in 2021 – 2022. Our pledge campaign also invites us to prayerfully consider how each of us can participate in God's mission here at St. Jude's.

As you read through this monthly Beacon you will see reports of how we are doing at St. Jude's. You'll see glimpses of what God is up to here at St. Jude's and in the greater Fenton area. I wonder....how do you see God in the midst of all that we are doing? What might God be calling us to focus on? Who can support us in this mission? How will we hold ourselves accountable to fulfilling God's call here?

Yes, it seems like this is an ideal time to be asking ourselves as

*(continued on page 2)*

## Rector's Report (cont'd)

(continued from page 1)

individuals and myself as a faith community, "How are you doing?" I wonder what God will reveal in the answers.....

*Love and Blessings,  
Tracie+*

## Building & Grounds Update

It is hard to believe that we have reached November already. How time seems to fly. Our weather this month has been extremely warm and therefore the leaves have been slow in falling. We had scheduled a fall clean up date of October 31st but the leaves remained on the trees. It was decided to schedule a date when needed. However in saying that there are areas around the church that could begin the cleanup. Why not invite a friend to help in the places that need cleanup. Sort of a head start.

Have you noticed, the steps at the main entrance have been repaired by a friend of St. Jude's and the steps at both the Library and main entrance have been painted. The lighting on the handicap ramp has been checked for the winter months along with the lighting at the main entrance to the church.

*Ron Trimmer*  
Building & Grounds Committee Chair

# PLEASE HELP US TO CELEBRATE KRIS'S TIME AND MINISTRY WITH ST. JUDE'S: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21 AFTER THE 10:30AM SERVICE

Over the past little while, Kris has been moving through a discernment process with regards to her work and ministry at St. Jude's. She has come to the realization that it is time for her to resign her position as Christian Formation Director.

Kris's time with us has awakened us to new tools of spiritual growth. I'm sure that this list is incomplete, but here are just a few of the moments that have helped to shape all of us. Kris encouraged us to color our way through various seasons during coffee hour. She packed and supplied countless Lent-to-Go and Advent-to-Go Bags so our families could journey together at home. Her Beacon articles helped us to see new realities in each season. During the summer months she went the extra mile coordinating multi-generational events that helped us all to play our way to spiritual growth. Evidence of her connecting can be found at countless places in the community as her Kindness Rocks projects brought smiles to those who found our works of art. Kris jumped on board with an already in progress Pilgrimage planning with the youth group, adjusting it to fit St. Jude's needs and walking with a small, multi-generational group of people who grew much deeper in faith through their experiences in South Carolina. Many of us enjoyed soup and baked goods from the jars she made with our youth. During the pandemic she live-streamed a few multi-generational stories, helping us all

engage differently with scripture. Many of us received Pentecost porch drops during the pandemic that helped us all to experience the holiness of that day differently and powerfully. That gift gave way to every home porch drops to connect us all during major formational times in the church year. Her work on Christmas pageants helped us all to play the story of Christ's birth during worship. Before I arrived, she brought Messy Church to St. Jude's and was a major part of our learning from that experience as we moved away from Messy Church and into Godly Play and multi-generational formation events held throughout the year.

Kris's work with us has been powerful and transformational! I will deeply miss working together with Kris and I am deeply thankful for having got to learn from her and with her over my time with her these past 5 1/2 years.

Her last day with us will be Christ the King Sunday, November 21. To give thanks for and celebrate Kris's time with us, we will share in a special coffee hour following the 10:30am service. Please join us in wishing Kris well as she leaves her position at St. Jude's!

*Love and Blessings,  
Tracie+*

# Christmas Families Giving Opportunities for You in December 2021

Dear St. Jude's caring and sharing family,

Your Outreach Committee is reaching out to you again this Christmas to provide gifts for families in our community including our Holly Group Home to help them celebrate their Christmas.

Things change every year, and this year has been no different! With your help and support, we can still reach out to those in need.

This year again, to respect the dignity of every human being, we will be asking for gift cards allowing each family the opportunity to purchase and wrap gifts for their own family. This year we are asking for donations of gift cards from Walmart, Meijer's and Target.

The Outreach Committee will provide a list of ideas/suggestions for the Holly Group Home residents. This list will be posted in the Weekly and Monthly Beacon, as well as on the bulletin board in Vandenburg Hall. It would be great if you could review the list and call Mike and Judy Marinco (810/629-8074) to sign up for the gift or gifts you would like to purchase.

Please wrap the Group Home gift(s), and place securely on the outside of your gift a tag with the resident's name. Bring your donations to the church by our deadline of Sunday, December 12th. If you need to make special arrangements to drop off your donation, please call one of the Christmas Family Committee Members listed below.

Please submit your gas and/or gift cards in a sealed envelope showing the cash value, and your name.

As an alternative to purchasing a gift(s) or gift cards, you may prefer to donate money to help our Christmas Families. If so, please write a check to St. Jude's, and note on the check memo line: "Christmas Families." Your check can be mailed to the church office. Donations could also be made on-line.

Thank you for your generosity in this always-present need to help others in our community!

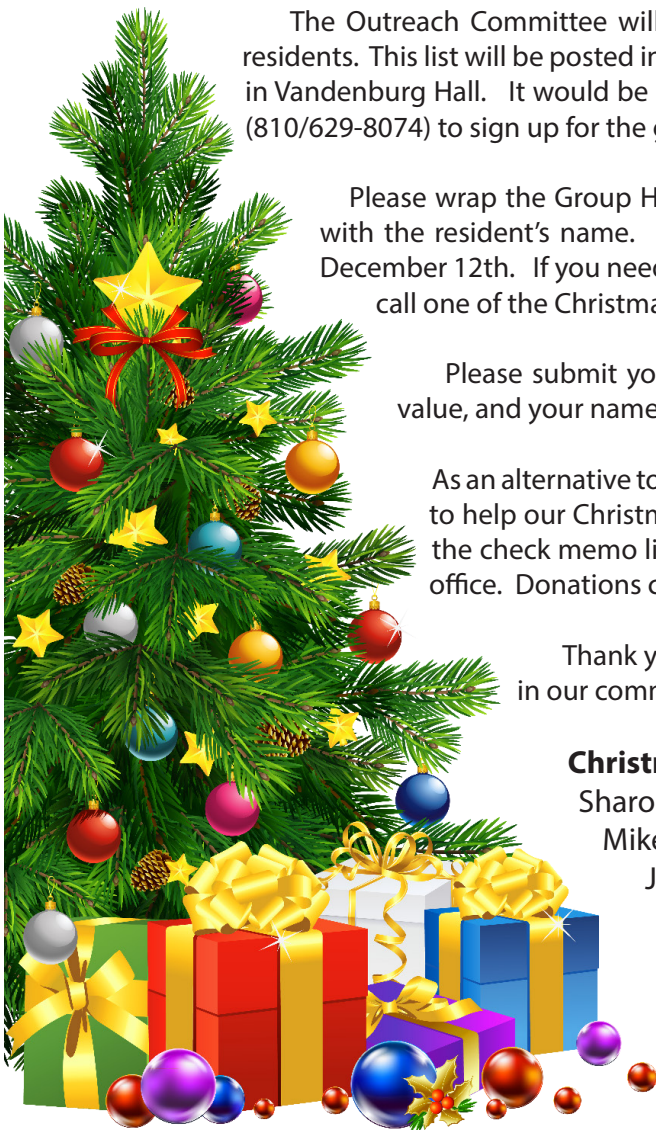
## Christmas Family Committee Members

Sharon Aldrich – 248/249-4344

Mike and Judy Marinco – 810/629-8074

John and Carol Pettipher – 248/255-2260

Dave and Denise Rayner – 248/459-1976



## 2022 Financial Pledge Drive

Thank you for all that you do to support St. Jude's mission and ministry! We would not be able to live into God's vision for us without your gifts of time, talent and treasure. We are all so grateful for all that you are able to contribute by sharing of yourselves and your financial commitment!

Last Sunday Pledge Forms were distributed in church and were mailed to those who were not present. Please watch for your form, prayerfully complete it and return it to the church by November 14 so our Financial Ministry Team can complete and our Vestry can approve our 2022 budget.

We look forward to living into all that God has planned for our mission and ministry at St. Jude's in 2022!

## Liz Back from Leave

Liz, our administrative assistant, is back in the office from her maternity leave beginning Monday, November 1. Office hours will return to Mondays & Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm and Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9 am - Noon.

Please be aware that some days she may have Jimmy, the baby, with her. Though he loves meeting new friends, he is not ready yet to greet you up close. Please continue to wear a mask and remain in the doorway when Jimmy is in the office to greet him and his mother. Thank you in advance for your understanding!

# REFLECTIONS

Submitted by Judy Maringo from "Our Daily Bread", October 22nd edition

## Live to Serve

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.*

1 Peter 4:10



After ten-year-old Chelsea received an elaborate art set, she discovered that God used art to help her feel better when she was sad. When she found out that some kids didn't have art supplies readily available, she wanted to help them. So when it was time for her birthday party, she asked her friends not to bring her gifts. Instead, she invited them to donate art supplies and help fill boxes for children in need.

Later, with her family's help, she started Chelsea's Charity. She began asking more people to help her fill boxes so she could help more kids. She has even taught art tips to groups who have received her boxes. After a local newscaster interviewed Chelsea, people started donating supplies from all over the country. As Chelsea's Charity continues sending art

supplies internationally, this young girl is demonstrating how God can use us when we're willing to live to serve others.

Chelsea's compassion and willingness to share reflects the heart of a faithful steward. The apostle Peter encourages all believers in Jesus to be faithful stewards as they "love each other deeply" by sharing the resources and talents God has given them (1 Peter 4:8-11).

Our small acts of love can inspire others to join us in giving. God can even rally supporters to serve alongside us. As we rely on Him, we can live to serve and give Him the glory He deserves.

By Xochitl Dixon

*Reflect and Pray*

How can you rely on God to help you serve others today? In what way has God been nudging you to serve Him that seems too big for you to handle alone?

**Faithful Father, please give me all I need to serve You by loving others with my words and actions today.**

# MUSIC NOTES

November is an exciting month liturgically and musically. The month begins with the Feast of All Saints on November 7. This Sunday includes some of the most thrilling music in the entire Christian year. We begin with one of the greatest hymns in the English language, For all the saints, experience the child-like faith of I sing a song of the saints of God, review the Beatitudes with the contemporary song, Blest are they and conclude with the magnificent Ye watchers and ye holy ones.

The readings for November 14 and 21 allude to the second coming of Christ in glory as we approach Advent. The final Sunday of the liturgical year, November 25, is designated as Christ the King Sunday. These days will feature music appropriate to the lessons as well as some favorite harvest themes. November 28 is the first Sunday of Advent! We will begin our anticipation for the coming of our Lord.

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE: Wednesday, November 24, is the Community Thanksgiving Service. It will be at Fenton Presbyterian Church at 7 PM.** The music will be provided by musicians from churches in the greater Fenton area. This is such a wonderful opportunity to give thanks and meet our friends from the wider Christian community and it is always gratifying to see familiar faces from our congregation. Come join with us!!

November is a packed month full of moments of celebration as well as reflection. Let us enjoy these special times as we worship together.

*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 October 2021 :** \$20

**Total Received through October in 2021:** \$2,291.00

## Holiday Bazaar & Craft Show 2022

**November 11 & 12, 2022**

It is hard to believe that we are only 13 months away from the second Holiday Bazaar and Craft Show. **We have begun to get crafters for this event.** If anyone goes to a craft show or event and finds a crafter that would be a good fit for St. Jude's, please get their card, fill them in a little on the event, and share this information with the Co-Chairs.

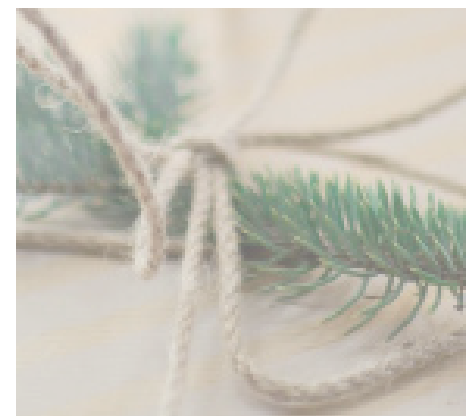
**Seed money is needed!** Any donation, no matter how small or how large, will be most appreciated. If contributing cash, please attach note indicating that it's for this event. If check, use memo line. Thank you so much!

**We also are looking for team leaders for this event.** If you're willing to be a part of this, please let us know.

Each month we will keep you updated on this event. If you have questions about the event feel free to talk with any of us!

### Bazaar Co-Chairs:

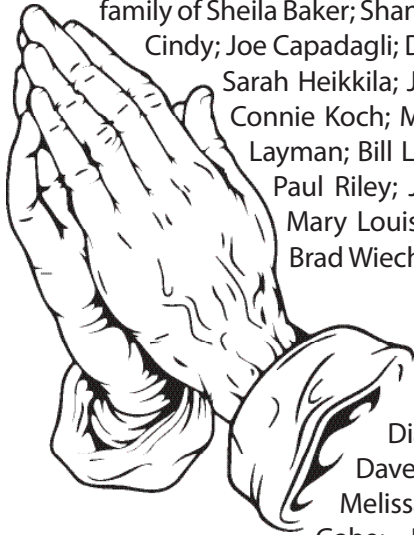
Nancy Day  
Lynn Hopper  
Ron Trimmer



# PRAYER LIST

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for 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; the family of Sheila Baker; Shanin Beall; Laura Bentz; Kathy & Tom Brighton; Cindy; Joe Capadagli; Danielle Dixon; Steven G.; Bunny Gladfelter; Sarah Heikkila; Jaqueline Hoskins; Sharon James; Carl Koch; Connie Koch; Michael Krauthofer; June; Lisa Langly; Leon Layman; Bill Lenny; Laura; Liz; Jack & Beverly Mills; Noel; Paul Riley; James Simpson; Larry Smith; Sarah Smith; Mary Louise Susalla; the family of Tim; 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; Angela Koresh; Leona; Sherry More; Vic Peters; Richard; 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!**

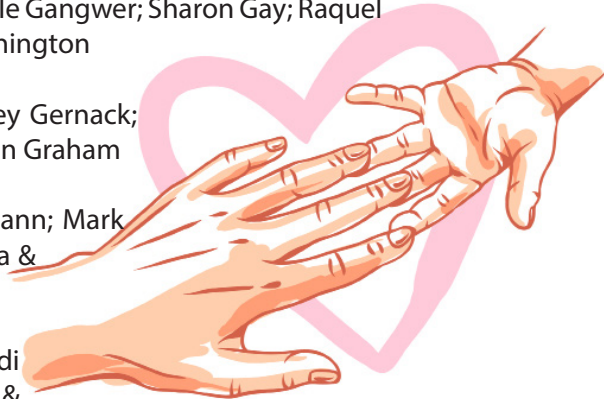
## Pray for our St. Jude's Family:

**November 7** - Doug & Michelle Gangwer; Sharon Gay; Raquel Gazzi, Gabriella & Arthur Pennington

**November 14** - Tom & Shirley Gernack; Brian & Barb Goss; Jerry & Joan Graham

**November 21** - Dee Grossmann; Mark Hamel, Mike, Chace, McKenna & Aiden Green

**November 28** - Rex & Judi Harris; Lois Hartranft; Dan & Beth Havey



## November Birthdays

- 2nd – Madison Freeman
- 5th – Audrey Norred
- 9th – Jodie Hunt  
– Dustin Rayner
- 10th – Jennifer Freeman  
– Lauren Gangwer
- 11th – Greg Forsyth  
– Sharon Gay  
– Raquel Gazzi  
– Jennifer Koch  
– Arthur Pennington
- 12th – Harry Chciuk
- 16th – Harrie Hunt
- 18th – Ann Minock
- 19th – Mary Ellen Hazell
- 20th – Barb Goss
- 21st – Jon Burroughs
- 22nd – Ellen Tripp
- 23rd – Sarah Dolza
- 24th – Jake Kusluski
- 25th – Michael Wolos
- 26th – Krystn Freeman
- 27th – Sarah Bancroft
- 28th – Angela White

## November Anniversaries

- 6th – Bob & Christine Szostak  
(28 years)
- 8th – Bob & Mary Warren  
(63 years)
- 9th – Clay & Diane Putnam  
(42 years)
- 14th – Jerry & Joan Graham  
(68 years)  
– Chet & Mary Louise Susalla  
(40 years)





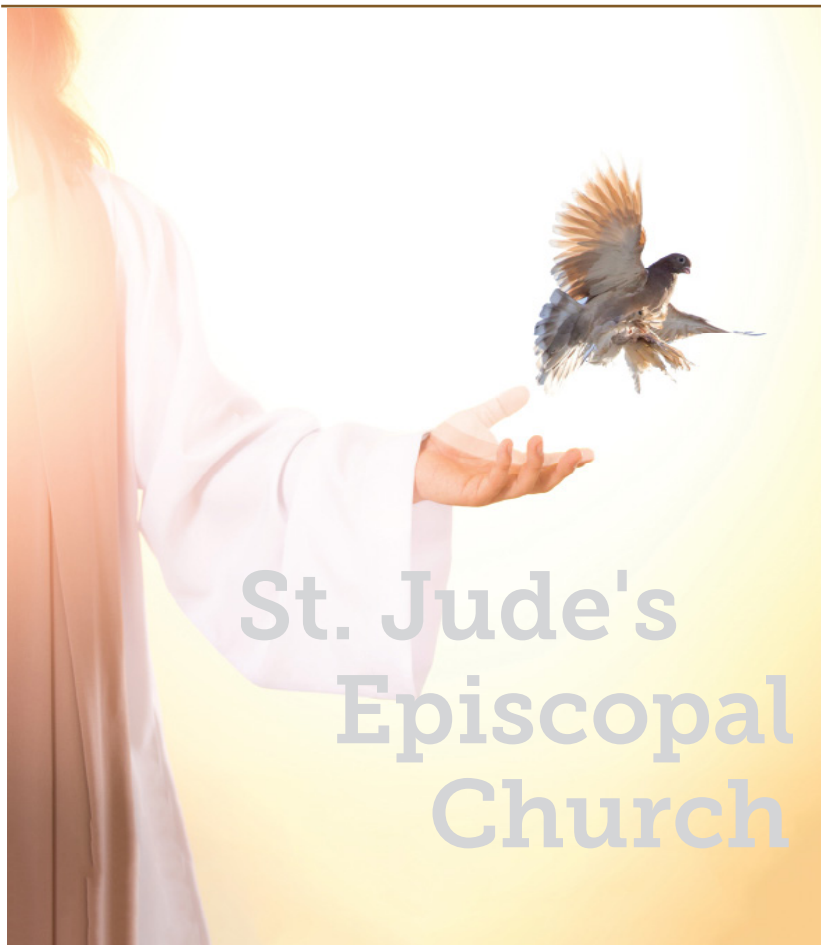
**St. Jude's Episcopal Church**

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Fenton, MI 48430-2322

Church Office: 810-629-5681

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



**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