

THE BEACON

SEEKING AND WORSHIPPING GOD...REACHING OUT TO OTHERS

MAY 2023... OUR 165TH YEAR

ST. JUDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH • FENTON, MICHIGAN

Thoughts from the Senior Warden



As I write this monthly update, I think of the amount of time I have not physically been in church in person. And yet I have felt very close to God and our parish. Our faith lives on thanks to the St. Jude's Family.

The various ministries of our parish are amazing and involve a lot of volunteer hours. The Vestry this past month has been very proactive. They approved holding a Blood Drive for the first time in years. Thanks to Heather Lugwig who will take the lead for this endeavor. Watch for future updates for this event. The Juried Craft & Holiday Bazaar is scheduled for November 10th and 11th, 2023. Our Social committee is working on other church wide gatherings. We are looking at holding Monthly Saturday Morning Breakfast gatherings for those interested.

Spring has sprung and the building and grounds clean up has been scheduled for Sunday May 7th

with a rain date of May 21st after the Sunday services. It should be noted a lot of clean up has begun already thanks to those volunteers. Hopefully we can clean a little in the church as well.

Your property committee has been getting proposals on several projects that need to take place this coming year. Among them are repairing the steps at the front of the church, replacing the door at the handicap entrance, and replacing the handicap ramp or creating a lift. We are also looking into ways to finance all of these projects. If any of you have thoughts, ideas or concerns let someone on the committee know. If you are willing to donate to a particular project let someone know.

Yes, Spring has sprung!

One last thought as we soon celebrate Mother's Day: take the opportunity to light a candle in the nave of the church with a small donation to celebrate the life of your mother or a lady that has been close to you whether in heaven and with us today. These proceeds will go to help the work of our Altar Guild.

With God's blessings!

Ron Trimmer

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Office Hours:
Mondays & Wednesdays:
9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Thursdays:
9:00 a.m-Noon

Minister of Music
Marlene J. Weston
810-658-2683

SUNDAY SERVICES:
Sunday In-Person Worship
(also livestreamed on Facebook Live)
10:30 a.m.



May Birthdays

- 3rd Benjamin Rayner
- 5th Charlie Johnston
Kelly Hopper
- 6th Dominic DuPei
- 12th Carol Chambers
Danyelle Morgan
Sue Premo
- 13th Sean Sailus
- 15th Steve Koch
- 16th Connor Chambers
David Zick
- 18th James Ramelis
- 19th Sandra Smith
- 24th Lynn Hopper
- 26th Judy Marincio
Lois Putnam

May Anniversaries

- 3rd William & Deborah Davies
(37th)
- 5th Mike & Peggy Kearns (33rd)
- 19th Ed & Marlene Weston (65th)
- 20th Glenn & Ellen Tripp (56th)



Spring Clean Up!

Following the service **Sunday, May 7**, we will have our annual spring building & grounds clean up day! The weather for this weekend is looking good so wear your grubby clothes to church (we won't mind) and join us!

A special coffee hour will begin the work. If it does rain, we will reschedule our clean up to May 21.

MUSIC NOTES

THANK YOU to all our musicians for their dedication and talents for helping to make Holy Week and Easter so special.

These Sundays that follow Easter are very joyous while illustrating scriptural truths. On May 7 Christ states, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." *Christ is made the sure foundation* and *Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life* speak to this theme.

May 14 is the traditional Rogation Sunday (*All things bright and beautiful*). Jesus teaches us in the gospel lesson, "If you love me, keep my commandments."

Tracy Dunlop will join us this day for a special service of music. The hymns, bell and choir anthems, solo by Greg Forsyth, and prelude and postlude will all be with the violin.

On May 21 as we celebrate our Lord's ascension and May 28 is Pentecost with its wonderful, joyous music. This is a busy month. May it be a blessed one for all.

Marlene Weston

Retirement Party for Marlene Weston

Sunday, June 4 is Marlene's last Sunday serving as the Music Director at St. Jude's!

To celebrate her retirement, we are going to host a potluck coffee hour. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Vandenberg Hall for a dish to pass.

If you would like to contribute toward St. Jude's gift to Marlene, you can give by offering plate or by getting your donation into the church office. Please note in the memo line or elsewhere that the donation is for "Marlene".

We are sad to see Marlene (and Ed) go, but we are excited for their next chapter and overjoyed to send them off right on Sunday, June 4! Please plan on attending!



Family Promise TRAINING

As we are preparing to get back to our rotation it is helpful that Family Promise (National) launched a new online training platform. Training will be available online 24/7 and accessible from your computer, tablet, or cell phone.

The enrollment link for the Family Promise National Volunteer Training Platform is listed below. Please use the link below to sign up on the platform and start your journey by taking our training courses.

<https://family-promise.cooassemble.com/unlock/pZa8yFQ>

Please note, the platform allows you to stop or pause your training at

any point and then quickly resume the training module you were on. After you complete the Volunteer 101 training course, you will be prompted to complete a feedback survey and volunteer information form – these forms are embedded in the training, no additional steps are needed. Volunteer data will not be shared, sold, or used for solicitation at any point. Privacy and security are of the utmost importance to us at Family Promise.

If you have any questions about the training platform, please contact Diane Putnam (810) 938-5307.

We hope you enjoy your online training journey and are excited to get back to hosting families!

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN ANNUAL MEETING

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) members from across Eastern and Western Michigan are invited to gather together for an annual meeting on Saturday, May 20th from 9-3:30pm at St. David's, Lansing. Our theme is, "Empowering Women of Faith: Call her Blessed."

Beyond our business meeting, our time will be spent in worship together, led in Holy Eucharist by the Rev. Wendy Brown of St. John's, Charlotte, and with keynote from Katie Forsyth, Canon for Evangelism and Networking for the Episcopal Dioceses of Eastern and Western Michigan.

Founded in 1871 as a churchwide network, the Episcopal Church Women have championed women's rights in the Church, celebrating our loving, liberating, and life-giving God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. ECW members feed, educate, and provide community grants around the world.

The cost to attend is \$40/person. Financial assistance is available and requests must be submitted by May 1st.

There is a registration form to fill out and the form and payment must be received by May 15th. Please make checks payable to "St. Molly's ECW." Forms and checks should be mailed to: Marilee Roth, 10519 California Road, Bridgman, MI 49106

Questions about this event? Please contact Western Michigan ECW President Marilee Roth at mjrothfarm@gmail.com or at 269-465-5155.

APRIL COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Thank you to those who hosted coffee hour in the month of April:

Sue Premo; Katie Young; Via Stebbins; Diane Putnam

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Vandenberg Hall if you wish to sign up to host a Sunday Coffee Hour. You don't need to do anything elaborate. Just maybe a simple snack and coffee.



St. Jude's awesome Youth Leaders came out to support the Youth Group by attending Tess and Dom's Fenton High School's Spring Concert! Tess and Dom are both in Wind Ensemble, and Dom is in the Jazz Band!

This was a special concert for both - Tess, as her last high school concert (the departing Seniors were honored); Dom, for his solo in the FHS Jazz Band's newest song, "The Pink Panther," that will be performed at the 3 area elementary schools to promote the program

Julie Wood

Graduation: Congratulations Tess!

Tess DuPei is graduating high school on May 25th! She will get a diploma, and is an IB (international Baccalaureate) candidate, as well. She is currently 2nd in her class, with a 4.418 GPA.

Tess applied to a few universities and is waiting on results for two of them. She is planning to start in the college of LSA (Letters, Science & Arts), with hopes of entering the Ross School of Business at a later date.

Tess has very broad interests. She plans on studying Marketing/ Communications with a minor in Asian Studies/Chinese language, but also has an interest in philosophy, fine arts, and psychology, so, she could change her direction.

Tess will be living on campus, making lots of friends, enjoying her studies, dreaming big dreams, and hopefully, coming home to visit her Mom, her family, and her church family at St. Jude's!



BI-DIOCESAN GRADUATION PARTY

Our high school and college graduates and those who love them are invited to join our bi-diocesan community to celebrate the closing of a chapter!!

Please join us on Saturday, May 20th from 3-6pm at St. John's Episcopal Church in Midland for food and fellowship, celebrating our scholars as they embark on new journeys. A benediction will be offered by our bi-diocesan Regional Youth Missioners at 5pm.

All are invited to attend and celebrate our friends. The graduates being honored are asked to RSVP. General attendees do not need to register.

Questions about this event? Please contact either the Rev. Radha Kaminski at rkaminski@edwm.org or Beckett Leclaire at bleclaire@eastmich.org, two of our regional youth missioners.

REFLECTIONS

Submitted by Judy Marinco from "Our Daily Bread", April 23rd edition

Loving Like Jesus

Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

John 3:18



While waiting for a train at a station in Atlanta, Georgia, a young man wearing dress pants and a button-down shirt sat on a bench. As he struggled with his tie, an older woman encouraged her husband to help. When the elderly man hunched over and began teaching the young man how to knot the tie, a stranger took a photo of the trio. When this photo went viral online, many viewers left comments about the power of random acts of kindness.

For believers in Jesus, kindness to others reflects the self-sacrificing care that He showed for people like us. It's an expression of God's love and what He desired His disciples to live out: "We should *love* one another" (1 John 3:11 emphasis added). John equates

hating a brother or sister to murder (v. 15). Then he turns to Christ as an example of love in action (v. 16).

It doesn't have to be an extravagant display of sacrifice. Selfless love simply requires us to acknowledge the value of all God's image-bearers by placing their needs above our own . . . every day. Those seemingly ordinary moments when we care enough to notice the needs of others and do what we can to help are selfless when we're motivated by love. When we see beyond our personal space, step out of our comfort zones to serve others, and give—especially when we don't have to give—we're loving like Jesus.

By Xochitl Dixon

Reflect and Pray

When have you experienced selfless love from someone? How can you love others selflessly this week?

Loving Father, please help me see people with a heart ready to extend compassion and selfless love wherever You send me.

Prayer List

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Prince, our Bishop Provisional; Judy, our Deacon; for the Search Committee and Vestry.

For Al; Bill; Laura; Rita; Kathy & Tom; Todd; Diane; Sue; Barbara & Joe; Cindy; Cathy; Molly; Dale; Sue; Linda; Marcia; Gabe; Kady; Rose; Joan; Rex & Judi; Jim; Jim; James; Sharon; Mia; June; Barbara & Ed; Carl; Sydne; Becky; Laura; Mike; Mary Lou; Randy; Jack; Sherry; Kathy & Tom; Pam; Marsha; Chet; Leonard; Ellen; Glenn; Jim; Patti; Brad; Vince; and Zack.

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



Pray for our St. Jude's Family:

- May 7** Carl & Connie Koch; Steve, Laura, Evan & Ella Koch
- May 14** Jim & Kathy Kortge; Keith & Lorie Krebs
- May 21** Jacob Kuslusi; Dave, Tracie & Mike Little
- May 28** Heather Ludwig; Mike & Judy Marinco

What On Earth Is A Truckload Giveaway?



For many years St. Jude's has been working with other organizations in the community to provide food and other basic needs. Since the onset of the pandemic there are some of these programs that we have had to curtail. For example, we have not had a "Truckload Giveaway" since February of 2019, over 4 years. That's about to change, since we have scheduled a Giveaway for May 13th. It's been so long since we have held one of these events many of you may not be familiar with what we do (and others may have forgotten). So here is a brief overview of what we call a "Truckload Giveaway".

First and most important, this is truly a community effort. We purchase significantly discounted food from the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan (through their Mobile Pantry Program). Our host for the program is The Fenton Fire Department, and they are also a major source for volunteers. We receive support from Play Like Jackson and many student volunteers from the schools. St. Jude's role is one of coordination, advertising

& promotion, registration, setup, cleanup, and distribution of any leftover items to other local food pantries.

Around 7:30 am on the 13th a semi full of food weighing several tons will arrive at the Fire Hall. The food will be unloaded by volunteers and the truck driver. We will set up long tables in a 'U' shape inside the hall with the food in the middle. Volunteers will then fill the tables with food in preparation for our guests. While all this is going on our neighbors from the community will begin lining up in the Fire Hall parking lot. At 9:00 the doors will open, and guests will come in single file and register. Once registered, they will pick up a box(es) and a volunteer to help them shop. They will make a loop around the tables, selecting items of their choice. When they reach the end, a volunteer will help them carry the groceries to their car. This process will continue until 11:00 or until we run out of food.

Once the doors close we will need to find a home for whatever food remains. We have a long list of local charities that we will connect with and then load up the trucks/vans of St. Jude's volunteers to deliver what remains.

A sign up list is in Vandenburg Hall asking for help with setup, registration, distribution, clean up and delivery. If you have the time and energy please consider signing up. You will find it to be a rewarding morning, especially the opportunity to interact with our guests.

Building & Grounds

The building & grounds committee will be meeting **Saturday, May 6 at 9 am in Vandenberg Hall**. Breakfast will be provided.

New-comers to the building and grounds team welcome!

Please RSVP to Ron Trimmer if you plan on attending.



3rd Annual Craft Show & Holiday Bazaar

Our 3rd Annual Craft Show & Holiday Bazaar will take place on Friday, November 10th and Saturday, November 11th, 2023.

The event is co-chaired by Ron Trimmer, Lynn Hopper and Heather Ludwig. Heather is also the chair of the St. Jude's booth. Those interested in doing crafts for the church booth should get in touch with Heather.

We are looking for others to help plan this year's event. If you are interested, please contact one of the co-chairs.



St. Jude's Episcopal Church

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VESTRY

Ron Trimmer, Senior Warden

Clay Putnam, Junior Warden

Dee Grossmann, Clerk

Michelle Gangwer, Treasurer

2024

Dee Grossmann

Lynn Hopper

Ron Trimmer

2025

Julie Wood

Lois Hartranft & Arlo

Francine Johnston

Clay Putnam

2026

Bill Anderson

Paul Dolza

Heather Ludwig

Dave Rayner

Delegates to the Diocesan Convention

Charlie & Francine Johnston

John & Carol Pettipher



St. Jude's
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