



November
2019
Volume LVI

THE EPISTLE

St. Paul's
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"Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many." - 1 Corinthians 12:14

Friends,

I am so grateful that we now have our new Sexton, Terry Treadway and Kitchen Manager, Jeremiah Hephzibah among us. It's feeling like we finally have a full team coming together as our St. Paul's staff! We do need to hire a new nursery worker (ideally two new workers) as Courtney has given us her notice. Please let friends, college students, and anyone who might be interested, know of this position and have them call the church office. It takes lots of dedicated folks (both paid and volunteer) to do ministry together in St. Paul's and I am grateful for all of them!

Another ministry is being restarted at St. Paul's, namely the Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEV'S) these folks are trained in taking the sacrament out into the homes of our parishioners who cannot regularly attend worship due to physical limitations. They have also taken Safe Church training from our Diocese and will be making appointments with our parishioners who need their services. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please call the office and let me know or talk with Bob Fowler who is a LEV Trainer.

Seminarian Melissa Congleton and I have been working with our St. Paul's Youth, we are small but mighty! to prepare them for Confirmation in a couple of years, train them as acolytes, and form a solid Youth Group. Their hearts and minds are being formed each day and we're so grateful to help them develop as Disciples of Christ at this tender age. This group is open to 5th Graders and up, and meets during the Christian Ed hour beginning in the church office, and then going to various church locations based on the activity of the day. Please pray for Melaina, Sam and Henry as we begin this journey with them!

Finally, we are looking forward to our Fall Pledge Ingathering on Sunday Nov. 17th and the Harvest Dinner at noon. Please prayerfully consider your financial support of our growing and active parish and do sign up for our Harvest Dinner. Our pledges make up the bulk of our yearly budget and we are excited for the opportunities for service and worship God is leading us to together. Thank you for your prayer and support! Joined together, we make the body of St. Paul's Church thrive.

Faithfully,

Sarah+





You are invited to the
St. Paul's Episcopal Church Annual
Harvest Dinner

Join us for Sunday Dinner after the 10:30 service as
we give thanks for our many blessings.

Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019

309 S. Jackson St.

Jackson, Michigan



Make plans to attend this annual event and bring your family and friends to join in fellowship and food. Please bring a passing dish. Turkey, potatoes, dressing and gravy will be supplied by the church.

Please sign up to indicate your attendance or if you can help with any of the following: Decorating or cleanup

For more information, please call or text Rhonda Rudolph at

(517) 474-4368 or email to rhrudolph61@gmail.com



Meet some new faces working here at St. Paul's!

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We are so glad to welcome our new Sexton, **Mr. Terry Treadway** and have put him to work already at Trunk or Treat! Terry is from Jackson, and lives here in town with his wife and six children. He also works part-time at Gene Davis Catering in Security. Terry will meet with our staff for a calendar meeting each week for planning and support. Please welcome him when you see him.

We're happy to have him on our St. Paul's Staff Team!

We are blessed to have **Marco Shehab** on our finance team as our new St. Paul's Treasurer & Bookkeeper! Here is what he shared with us about himself...

- *I graduated from Jackson college and Siena Heights University (BA in Accounting and Business Administration).*
- *I am the owner of The Accountant LC- specializing in Bookkeeping and Tax Preparation, and the controller/accountant for 2 local manufacturing companies.*
- *In addition to being the treasurer and bookkeeper for St. Paul's, I am also the bookkeeper for the Jackson Symphony Orchestra.*
- *15 years ago I met the love of my life Erin while she was vacationing in Rome, Italy and since then Jackson has been my home town.*
- *I am the father of 3 beautiful daughters Mara, Diana and Romina.*
- *I love my community and I am always looking to make a difference and help others.*



-Marco Shehab



Meet the Hephzibahs!

Your Vestry and I worked many months to find a solution to better support the organization of our ministries involving food. The need is especially apparent in the number of bereavement lunches we put on. To that end we have hired Jeremiah Hephzibah as Kitchen Manager. He is a trained chef, having worked in several restaurants in Jackson, and now a chef at the University of Michigan Dining Facilities. Jeremiah and his wife, Ella, run Big Guy Catering in Jackson and have already catered two meals for us, including the recent wonderful retirement dinner for Bishop and Karlah

Gibbs. Jeremiah will meet each month with our newly formed "Kitchen Cabinet" consisting of members of Vestry, Bereavement and Hospitality Committees to plan with and support these ministries. He is SafeCert trained with the Health Department and will be working to reorganize our kitchen, storage and keep our food ministries safe and up to code. Jeremiah and his family live in Jackson (though he is originally from Houston). He's looking forward to meeting many of you in the coming weeks!



Building & Grounds



Summer has passed. The change over from the air conditioning system to the heating system is complete. Filters are changed, inspections complete, and we are ready for another heating season. There has been a piece of good news. A new Sexton has been hired. Terry Treadway is from the Jackson area born & raised. He will be a valuable person joining our family at St. Paul's. Please welcome Terry as he learns the Sexton's position. A work description has been shared with Terry to help to prevent any confusion for our new Sexton.

Requesting quotes for improvements of our heating and air conditioning for the Sanctuary area is still on-going, no firm number to share with the vestry at this time.

Thanks to Harry Strait for tending the watering of the beautiful flowers and plant's this past season. Blessings need to be offered to Helen & Ed Green for their tireless devotion , taking special care of the flowers in front of the church bulletin board. Without mention, Susan Smar has been the silent warrior defending against the weeds. Others have helped, however all are encouraged to find some time to contribute in the beautification of our special place blessed by God. Please make your intentions known to me.

Finance Committee: The committee, Treasurer Marco Shehab Joe Lathrop, Jim Grace, and Kyle King have been compiling from past and current finance information to present a complete recommendation report to the vestry prior to the November vestry meeting. The most difficult line items are being worked on. Pledges are a important component for future planning. Your input is needed. Please reference the letter sent out this week from Reverend Sarah.

Sincerely,
Kyle King, Chairperson, B & G

United Thank Offering (UTO)

Corner

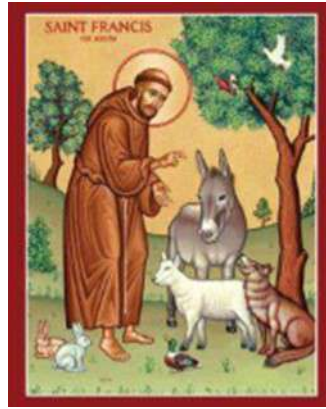


In this month of being thankful, we are thankful for YOUR generosity. A total of almost \$600 was collected for the UTO Ingathering!



St. Francis Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 6, 2019



*"The Lord
God Made
Them All"*





Jackson Interfaith Shelter

Thank you all!

Deanna Leicht
(517) 937-2657

Hello my fellow parishioners:

The next Interfaith dinner will be held on the Tuesday prior to Thanksgiving, November 26th . Due to this fact, we will be buying and cooking lasagna and garlic bread, and the shelter will provide the salads. I will be posting a sign-up sheet for help that will include asking for cash donations to purchase these items from Gordon's food service. If you are writing a check please make it out to St. Paul's and in the memo put "Interfaith November dinner".



Barbara Lock	November 2
Janet Sue Patch	November 9
Clark Hutchens	November 13
Barney Rudolph	November 16
Ryan Thomas	November 21

Ronald & Barbara Markowski
November 19





The Women of St. Paul's Episcopal Church - ECW



Happy Fall everyone! The November Epistle is about to hit the newsstands! I hope by now you have all had a chance to enjoy our Michigan fall and the hand of God in it's beauty. Walking among trees in full fall display is like walking in nature's own cathedral. I think this will be a busy article for ECW so let's get right to it!

The October meeting of ECW was held at Ella Sharp House and Museum. Most of those (like myself) who attended, had not been through the house in many years and so it felt fresh and informative. As most of you know, the Merriman-Sharp house was part of Hillside Farm which ranged over 530 acres. Being a very civic minded woman, Ella gifted her home and farm to the city of Jackson in 1912 with the proviso that all could enjoy it going into the future. Today it is a gem in the crown of the parks system of the city. The house and outbuildings have been a museum since 1965. The house is deceptive from the outside and covers three floors in addition to the cupola. The original home had additions made over the years as the family outgrew the space. As well as the house tour, we were treated to a very rare visit to the storage rooms of the museum proper. It was so interesting to see the space of the rooms and all the wonderful items just waiting for their turn to be displayed again. It is such a rich history of Jackson preserved for all to remember and enjoy! Our tour was finished off by a lunch at Knight's restaurant where food and service were wonderful as usual.

At our November meeting, Christy Randall will lead us in a Taize candle-lit service which will include reading, prayer and music. These services are very spiritual and often deeply moving. This is to help us prepare our hearts and minds for the upcoming season of Advent. Music will be provided by Christy on violin and Janet Hughes on piano. Candles are needed to help enhance our experience. Anyone willing to loan candlesticks along with candles, please let us know and we will arrange to get them to the chapel prior to the service. There will be a brief business meeting and our usual social time, and then we will adjourn to the chapel for the service. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the glass narthex and we look forward to seeing you all at this special meeting.

Looking even further forward, our December meeting will be our annual Holiday/Advent luncheon at the Country Club of Jackson. We will announce the cost at a later time, but it will likely be either the same as last year, or a tad bit more. We are asking all those who attend to bring a child's hat, mittens and socks. These will be donated to The Priceless Gift Toy Store. Wendy Wight, the program director, was thrilled last year and said they did not stay on the shelves long. There is a real need and we know you will all rise to meet it. If you are unable to attend, you can still donate by bringing in your hats, mittens and socks ahead of the luncheon. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Speaking of the Christmas season, the St. Nicholas party will be December 1 this year. Please watch announcements and sign-up sheets for volunteer opportunities to help prepare for this important event in the lives of both our own church children, and those from outside the church family, as all children are welcome to attend. Donations to offset the cost of gift bags will be gladly accepted – please see Peggy Wilds. Also, nuts and calendars will be arriving soon and will be distributed according to the order sheets. Dates for pick up will be announced in church.

And finally!! It's "pay your dues" time. Dues are due and are \$10 per person. Please give your money to Cheryl Gumper who will mark you as "paid". Dues or no dues, ALL WOMEN are welcome to attend any and all ECW meetings. We look forward to seeing many of you at our very special November meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Rowley, Vice President, ECW

New Lay Preacher at St. Paul's



Over the course of this year, Natalie Magnusson will be exploring the practice and gift of preaching with our community. Natalie is preparing to preach at a conference next fall at Rochester University, and appreciates occasional time in the pulpit at St. Paul's. She received a bachelor's degree in Youth and Family Ministry from Abilene Christian University in 2003 and a master's in Spiritual Formation and Leadership from Spring Arbor University in 2010. She has plans to begin her Doctor of Ministry degree and Certificate in Spiritual Direction from Lipscomb University in July 2020. She has been serving as the Director of Spiritual Formation for the Masters in Missional Leadership at Rochester University since 2011.

Choir News...

The choir is busy preparing anthems. Soon to start on Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas!

Genette (choir director)



Mark your calendar: During Advent we will be having Book study and Soup Supper on Thursday nights during the month of December.



Church School News



PARENTS Please feel free to join us any Sunday, and we always invite you to substitute whenever you'd like. ACTUALLY.... We need two substitutes for Sunday **December 1st** or we will have to cancel Sunday School for the day. Both Kim and Zoe will be out of town and unable to teach. This gives everyone a month's notice, so if you taught this summer you already know how the curriculum works and could jump right in! Please let us know as soon as possible if you are able to teach the kiddo's that Sunday.

Movie nights have been a blast!!! The last one on October 25th we hosted **15** kiddos, (two from the "Get Real" program, hallelujah!) watched "Halloween Town", and painted pumpkins for decorating the hall on Halloween night. What creative and fun imaginations Gods' children have! The next movie night is **December 6th**, so get it on your calendar! You don't want your children to miss this fun!

This year we are continuing with "Whirl" curriculum, but moving to a lectionary based teaching plan that has a three-year cycle, as does the Church. So, the lessons the Kiddo's study in class will coincide with the lessons during Service.

(They'll already know the Gospel before the reading) 😊

- Zoe Baldwin and Kim Perlos



Mission & Outreach



Mission and Outreach News

Another SUCCESSFUL Trunk or Treat is behind us! Even though the weather was HORRENDOUS, we had a fabulous turn out!! I would like to thank everyone who volunteered to make this a SPOOKTACULAR event!

We wanted to get more people involved in our Halloween Outreach party, so we decided to kick it up a notch! And WOW!! Did we ever!! The kids who attended Movie Night went to work painting many real pumpkins for our decor. Thank you to Zoe and Kim for overseeing that project and THANK YOU, KIDS, for your artistry! The pumpkins look fabulous!

We made some pretty awesome decorations and it took many hands to "carve" our tombstones! A very special THANK YOU to Jaclyn Bayliss for her immense creativity and generosity in leading our decorating parties! You are SO AWESOME! Thank you to Anita Bayliss, Chris Simpson, Brandi Bruckler, Paige Carpenter, Marcia Hudson, Barb Duke, Dee Hurlbert, Tara Bayliss and Bristen Cekander, Sue Hammett and to all who contributed their time and talent!



THANK YOU to my extremely talented daughter, Melissa Hall, for painting our spooky "photo booth" backdrop! It is AMAZING!!

THANK YOU to everyone who donated pumpkins and ALL THAT CANDY!! WOW!!

THANK YOU to Johnson Sign Co. for the outdoor banners! They are beautiful and we can use them every year to advertise our event!

THANK YOU to all who volunteered in the kitchen, servers, set up and clean up: Barb and Bob Duke, Clark Hutchens, Sue Hammett, Janet Hughes, Steve and Zoe Baldwin, Kim Perlos, Kyle King, Christie and Loren Swanson, Tom Holsinger-Friesen, Diana Sinclair, Brandi Bruckler, Paige Carpenter, Michael Carpenter, Laura Rende, Marcia Hudson, Tara Bayliss and Bristen Cekander, Jaclyn Bayliss, Anita Bayliss, Chris Simpson, Debbie Batchelder, Cheryl Gumper, Ed and Helen Greene and to everyone who worked with us on this enormous community outreach! You are all ROCKSTARS!!!!

I know I may have forgotten some names here, but please know how valuable you are to this project and to this church in everything you do and give to our Mission and Outreach projects!

Mission & Outreach cont...



With the generous support of all of you, Mission and Outreach delivered **106** pairs of new snuggly pajamas to the Dept. of Health and Human Services!!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR OUTPOURING OF GENEROSITY on behalf of St. Paul's!!! Sadly, Angela told us that they will go through these pajamas quickly because of the increase in child removals from their homes. Please pray for these scared children, healing for their parents and the families, compassion and love by the care providers.

Looking ahead into November, we will be getting ready to put up our Angel Tree for Christmas giving. We are once again working with AWARE and will be getting names of the single women who live there, as they are often forgotten in the Christmas giving.

Hopefully, next year we can also work with SOAR Cafe and Farms to remember the women who will be living in their new home at 300 S. Brown St.



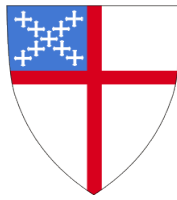
With November being the month of remembering our blessings with gratitude, our committee has been truly blessed to work with all of you on Mission and Outreach on behalf of this awesome congregation. **WE THANK YOU** for the amazing support you give us in all our outreach endeavors! **YOU** truly bless us, this church and our community. Thank you!

Barb Markowski



**Trunk
or
Treat
2019 !**





St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Pledging FAQ's

Your commitment in response to God's blessings makes our worship, community life, and outreach possible. We hope these "frequently asked questions" will be helpful to you as you consider your pledge.

What is a pledge?

A pledge is your commitment to make a financial gift that supports the mission of St. Paul's. Pledging is a response to God's abundance in our lives. It is both a statement of thanksgiving and a lived decision to give others as God gives to us.

Why do we need annual pledges?

Your pledge supports everything we do – from paying the salaries of our staff to supporting our outreach ministries, our pastoral care, our worship, our education programs, and our music. In order to know what we can do each year, we need pledge commitments to develop an annual budget.

Can't we just rely on our endowment?

We do have an endowment generously left to us by previous generations of St. Paul's parishioners. It would quickly disappear, however, if we relied on it as our primary source of parish support.

How much should I pledge?

At St. Paul's, every pledge, no matter what amount, makes a valued contribution to our mission and ministry. We ask each parishioner to prayerfully consider making a pledge that is both responsible and significant based on their financial situation.

Our standard of giving should reflect our standard of living. A tithe (10% of your income) has long been held as the standard of each Christian giving. For most it is a goal to be reached through incremental increases each year. To calculate your pledge or tithe, the following chart may help:

Annual Gross Income	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%	12%
\$10,000	\$200	\$400	\$600	\$800	\$1,000	\$1,200
\$20,000	\$400	\$800	\$1,200	\$1,600	\$2,000	\$2,400
\$30,000	\$600	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$2,400	\$3,000	\$3,600
\$40,000	\$800	\$1,600	\$2,400	\$3,200	\$4,000	\$4,800
\$50,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,000
\$75,000	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$9,000
\$100,000	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$12,000
\$150,000	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$9,000	\$12,000	\$15,000	\$18,000
\$200,000	\$4,000	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$16,000	\$20,000	\$24,000

When and how should I pledge?

Pledges are welcome throughout the year, but we would prefer to receive them before December 1st so we can plan for next year. You can make a pledge by bringing pledge card to church, by mailing it in, or by contacting a staff person or member of the Vestry.

Do I have to pay when I pledge? Can I pay in installments?

A pledge is a promise to pay. You may fulfill your pledge with as many or few payments as you wish. Pledges are to be fulfilled on a calendar year basis, beginning January 1.

Can I pay by a gift of stock, a donor-designated fund, or through other means?

We welcome all kinds of pledge payments. You may pay by a gift of stock or financial securities, or through a donor-designated fund. To find out how, contact Diane Billingsley.

What happens if I can't give as much as I pledged?

While it's a commitment to your church and your fellow parishioners, God's grace abounds. If your circumstances change, let the church know that you need to change your pledge. If you've received unexpected additional income, you are always welcome to increase your pledge.

Who knows how much I pledge?

We hold all pledge amounts in the strictest confidence.

Thank you for all you do to support the mission and ministry of St. Paul's. For more information, please contact our Sr. Warden, Michelle Gibson (832) 445-4461 or Treasurer, Marco Shehab (517) 937-4912, financial@stpauljxmi.org or any of the St. Paul's Vestry Members.

NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					ALL SAINT'S DAY	
3 All Saint's Sunday	4	5 ELECTION DAY	6	7	8	9
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 9:15 am Church School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour		10:30 am Bereavement Group 5:15 pm Cardio Drumming 5:30 pm M&O Meeting 6 pm Toastmasters 6:30 pm Kitchen Cabinet	11 am Bible Study 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 6:30 pm Choir Practice	5:15 pm Cardio Drumming 6 pm Handbells		10:30 am ECW
10 Noisy Sunday	11	12	13	14	15	16
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 9:15 am Church School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour /Worship Committee	Veteran's Day 	10:30 am Bereavement Group 5:15 pm Cardio Drumming 6 pm Toastmasters 6 pm Finance Committee	11 am Bible Study 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 6:30 pm Choir Practice	5:30 pm Building & Grounds Mtg 5:15 pm Cardio Drumming 6 pm Handbells		
17 Stewardship Sunday	18	19	20	21	22	23
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 9:15 am Church School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Harvest Dinner 		10:30 am Bereavement Group 5:15 pm Cardio Drumming 6 pm Toastmasters 6:30 pm Vestry Mtg	11 am Bible Study 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 1 pm Brownell Lunch 6:30 pm Choir	5:15 pm Cardio Drumming 6 pm Handbells		
24 Christ the King	25	26 INTERFAITH DINNER	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 9:15 am Church School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour		10:30 am Bereavement Group 5:15 pm Cardio Drumming 6 pm Toastmasters	11 am Bible Study 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 6:30 pm Choir	OFFICE CLOSED 	OFFICE CLOSED	