

April
2023
Volume
LXXXVII

THE EPISTLE

St. Paul's
Episcopal Church
309 S. Jackson St.
Jackson, Michigan 49201
Phone 517-787-3370
Email: church@stpauljxmi.org
Website: www.stpauljxmi.org



Inside this issue

Rector's Corner.....	2
Organist's Corner.....	3
Sr. Warden.....	4
Treasurer's Report.....	4
Mission & Outreach.....	5
ECW.....	6,7
Behind the Scenes.....	7
Worship/Formation.....	8
Building & Grounds.....	9
Holy Week Schedule.....	10
Announcements.....	11,12
Easter Brunch.....	13
Birthdays.....	14
Calendar.....	16



Rector's Corner

For me, one of the most meaningful prayers of the entire church year is the last of the “solemn collects” that we pray on Good Friday:

“O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.”

Christians have been praying this prayer for a very long time. While the exact date of its writing is unknown, it is at least 1200 years old and was probably written at least several centuries prior to that. Indeed, not just this prayer but many of the unique liturgies and rituals that we celebrate during Holy Week are found among the earliest recordings of Christian practice and have accompanied the faithful year after year after year. Participating in them helps us remember, to become one with generation after faithful generation who have worked and struggled to follow Jesus amidst the changes and chances of life.

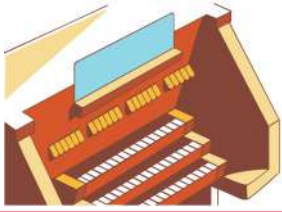
But as I do that each year, this particular prayer reminds me that our faith is not just, or maybe even not primarily, about remembering or staying the course. This prayer reminds me that God is always doing new things and that our work is to look for signs of God's renewal and re-creation and welcome them, wholeheartedly. Doing that may require giving other things up, things we may have come to love. This is what makes true sacrifice so hard... and so uncommon.

So as we approach and then celebrate Easter together this year, I want to invite you to open your thoughts and prayers and senses to what is changing around you... in your life in general, and especially in your life of faith. Instead of assuming that these changes are in spite of God, what would happen if we assumed that God was somehow at the center of them... and is calling us to find “him” in them... as the radical, incomprehensible, life-altering promise of Easter dawns on us anew, both as individuals and as church.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John" with a small cross or plus sign at the end.

Organist's Corner



Go to Dark Gethsemane

While planning the services for Holy Week, I was pleased to find out that Fr. Jadon and I share a fondness for the hymn “Go to Dark Gethsemane, #171 in The Hymnal 1982. I have loved this hymn since childhood and always looked forward to singing it during Lent. Then I could not exactly describe why I found the hymn so appealing, except that I remember finding it beautiful in a kind of mesmerizing way. It seemed to just embody Lent.

As a musician, I now appreciate the simplicity of the tune of this hymn. The first and last lines of the tune are almost identical. The middle line of the tune is made up of a short, two-measure phrase that repeats itself. This makes the hymn very easy to learn and sing. Only seven notes make up the entire tune. In keeping with Lent as a time to clear our lives of distractions and to focus more clearly and humbly on the journey of our Lord to the cross, it seems appropriate to have a humble, simple hymn to help us.

The text of “Go to Dark Gethsemane” was written by James Montgomery (1771-1854), who was born in Scotland. He was the son of Moravian parents who died while they were on a mission trip to the West Indies. James was in boarding school when his parents died. He is said to have grown up with “a strong religious bent, a passion for missions, and an indecent mind.” These characteristics led him to be briefly imprisoned twice for his work as a newspaper editor who espoused radical causes. Among other things, he protested against slavery, the situation of chimney sweep boys, and lotteries. He published eleven volumes of poetry, mainly his own, and about four hundred hymns. More than one hundred of those are still in use. In describing “Go to Dark Gethsemane,” The Hymnal 1982 Companion says: “The hymn meditatively reflects the Moravian observance of Holy Week reading services in which the reading of a harmony of the Passion narrative is interspersed with hymn stanzas and anthems.” There is a final stanza (omitted from our hymnal) that brought the meditation to Easter morning.

*Early hasten to the tomb,
where they laid his breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom;
Who hath taken him away?
Christ is risen? – He meets our eyes.
Savior, teach us so to rise.*

-Julie J. Baglien, Organist/Director of Music





From our Sr. Warden...

As we make our way through Lent and on to the Easter Celebration things continue to be tweaked and changed at St. Paul's. Some are apparent as you see the difference in the services we have become accustomed to. Though similar, they are different and do tend to give a new and fresh look at the way we do church. Rev. Jadon, Organist Julie, and Choir Director Jeff have put in many hours arranging inspiring changes to the music. Whether a large or small change, it is only a change to those of us already here. Newcomers to our church will see what we are doing today and assume this is the way we do business and presto, evolution has happened.

As a congregation we need to make small changes to the way we do business at the church. Our budget is, as most of you know, underfunded. This is a recent problem that seems to have come about in the past year. An extra \$10 a week would go a long way toward this problem.

As our congregation shrinks, we must become more proactive in attracting more members. There are churches closing, and unhappy people looking for a church just like ours. My feeling is that most people do not think of us. They do not see us on Facebook, Google or other places online. We put banners outside the church, not to sell people on our church, but to make them curious enough to look us up. I am asking you all to Google St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Jackson, MI and write a good review. You can do the same on Facebook or LinkedIn or whatever platform you are on. The review they read online may be the first impression they will get of our church and we want it to be positive and current. I believe most people that visit us will like us...maybe enough to return!

Gods Peace,
Barney

Treasurer's Report

Pledges and Tithes received as of 2/28/23 were \$58,054 compared to \$59,375 at 2/28/22. Thank you to EVERYONE for your gifts and faithfulness to St. Paul's.

Year-to-date expenses are down \$4,680 compared to YTD 2022. Most of the decrease came in payroll, especially the Rector's and Sexton's wages.

Our bank accounts are moving from Comerica to County National Bank (CNB) effective April 1. We will be able to get interest on our checking account that we could not get at Comerica. The ECW's checking account will remain at Flagstar.

I will have a full quarterly report in May's Epistle.

Respectfully,

Joe Lathrop, St. Paul's Treasurer

Note: There will be no Noisy Offering in April, but please continue to save your pennies and change for the one in May!

Mission & Outreach

Embracing our COMMUNITY

A huge thank you to St Paul's for the loving and tangible support for Mama Tu-Tu's Easter outreach. Each year Mama Tu-Tu shares Easter Baskets with more than 200 neighborhood children. The 20 baskets and goodies collected through St Paul's will be assembled and wrapped by our youth group on April 1st for delivery to Mama Tu-Tu. Each basket will also contain a colorful card from St Paul's with the message: "Be You. Be Loved. Belong."

Please mark your calendars! **St Paul's is participating in a Ward 5 Cleanup Day on Saturday May 6.** Ward 5 is our church neighborhood, encompassing Jackson Street to West Ave, and Ganson Street to Glenwood / Harwood / and Morrell Street. Cleanup Day is being organized by a resident of Ward 5, Christy Davis – a working single Mom who also leads a Girl Scouts troop – who has been inspired to reach out and serve her neighbors in tangible ways.

The planning for May 6th so far includes a morning shift and afternoon shift of volunteers who will help individual homeowners and business owners in Ward 5 with anything from picking up trash, raking leaves / weeding / mowing, hauling larger items to a central location for recycling, etc. In the evening a simple dinner of grilled hot dogs / chips / fruit / brownies will be served in 3 different locations around Ward 5 to enable neighbors and workers to fellowship over food. Volunteers to help grill hotdogs and serve food will also be needed. **We will share additional details as they become available.**

Throughout the month of May our congregation will be enthusiastically involved with St Paul's ECW collection of Baby Pantry items for Jackson's "Together We Can Make a Difference" program. Items needed include: Powdered formula (any brand); Size 6 diapers (other sizes are already provided); wipes; Baby blankets and baby quilts; New or gently used clothing for children under 2 years of age. Let's make a difference for this important and necessary ministry.

In faith,

Dana Burkey and Heidi Lathrop



Be You
Be Loved
Belong

The Women of St. Paul's Episcopal Church

ECW

Spring is finally here people!! The crocuses have bloomed and it's a delight to see. We made it through the winter and now warmer and longer days are our future. Bring it on, I say.

April is a busy month on the religious calendar. Our Muslim brothers and sisters continue to celebrate Ramadan, our Jewish friends will celebrate Passover and we Christians look toward to Holy week and Easter Sunday.



Holy week starts with Palm Sunday when Jesus is welcomed by a jubilant crowd waving palms and shouting "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" Ironically in a few short days these voices will also be crying, "Crucify him!" The week also contains the well-known and widely celebrated, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Lesser known is Holy Wednesday or spy Wednesday.

Holy Wednesday is a time that is often observed with the service of Tenebrae – Latin for darkness. Psalms are read along with other readings while candles on a candelabrum or 'Tenebrae hearse', are extinguished slowly symbolizing the growing darkness of the days to come. Something to perhaps meditate on this coming Holy Wednesday.

We were blessed with a visit by Sister Esther Kennedy, a Dominican nun from the Convent in Adrian. Her presentation has been described as refreshing, uplifting and forward thinking. She gave our usual and tired view of the Catholic church a whole new and welcome perspective which was well received by the women of St. Paul's. We look forward to having Sister Esther join us in the future.

As I've mentioned previously, the Baby Pantry drive has been moved to May. The items needed are diapers size 6 ONLY, baby wipes, powdered baby formula, gently used or new baby clothes from newborn to age 2, and baby blankets and quilts. Any items you could supply would be greatly appreciated.

Normally at this time we would be asking for people to step up for the new board which will start in September for the year 2023-2024. At the moment all current board members have agreed to continue in their various roles. We would, however, ask you all to consider where it is you see ECW going in the upcoming year? What would you like to see done differently? Where would you like to go for field trips? All input is welcome, and we hope you will consider the questions and let us know your thoughts.

You might remember Cathy Filter who made a presentation in November of 2019 at Sarah and Dee's home. She talked about the project that her church, Christ Lutheran supports, Little Dresses for Africa. They are having a fund-raising luncheon at their church on April 22, at 12 noon. Lunch will be catered by Jean Davis and the cost is \$20. All other information is contained in the flyer on the bulletin board in the glass narthex and towards the end of this Epistle newsletter.

ECW continued...

Looking forward, we will have **Dr. Cathy Glick presenting on Women's Heart Health on April 15.** As usual we expect it will be a very informative session. Signup sheets will be available in the glass narthex, and we hope to see many of you there. Also, get ready for our painting session on May 13. Based on last year, this promises to be a lot of fun. We will have the Get Real kids presenting on June 10. It will be a welcome departure to have such young people as presenters. The annual picnic will be at the home of Michelle Gibson on July 8. Save all the dates ladies and remember as always, all women are welcome to participate in all our meetings so invite your friends and family.

I hope the remainder of the Lenten season is a spiritual and meditative one for you all as we look forward to the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Respectfully submitted, Valerie Rowley, Vice-President ECW



Behind the Scenes at St. Paul's...

Did you ever walk into church on Sunday morning and notice the hangings, candles, and Chalice on the altar and wonder how they all got there? This is the work of the altar guild that serves in teams with one team coming in every Saturday to set up the altar, bread, and wine for Sunday and at other times for special services. The priest is the head of the altar guild and they serve at his or her discretion and direction. Cheryl Gumper and Christie Swanson serve as Co-Directors, making sure that all things run smoothly and supplies are kept up. The most unsung job is that of laundress. Helen Greene takes the dirty linens (purificators, corporals, and towels) home and washes them, folds and irons them neatly with the creases as you may have noticed and returns them for use on Sunday. Other members of the guild are Jeanne Draper, Barb Duke, Sheryl Foor, Sue Hammett, Janet Hughes, Dennis Marsh, Sally McKinnon, Rhonda Rudolph, and Sandra Kilian.

--Sandra Kilian, St. Paul's Altar Guild



"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

Christian Education/Formation

Results of Dissertation on St. Paul's and Racial Justice

Discussions continue during the 9:15 am Adult Education hour:

April 2, and April 16 - Adult Forum Discussion of Dissertation Details

April 23rd (In Holy Spirit Hall) - Reflection Forum:

How do we think and feel about the results?

May (TBD) - Interim Forum with Pastor Jadon: What Should We Do?



Church School News...



- **Saturday, April 1st** - We would like all of our Sunday School kids to join Mission and Outreach in making Easter Baskets for Mama Tutu. We will meet in Holy Spirit Hall at 10:00 am. Kids will be finished by 11:00 am.
- **No Children's Sunday School will be held on Palm Sunday (Apr. 2) or on Easter Sunday (Apr. 9th).**
- **Easter Egg Hunt** for all kids after the 10:30 service on Easter.



Our St. Paul's youth represented at the EDOMI Night Watch at the Cathedral. Along with other middle school and high school students from the Diocese, they visited the Detroit Institute of Art (DIA), attended worship at the Cathedral, and participated in fellowship, worship, and games.



Pictured (l-r): Zoë Magnusson, Tom Holsinger-Friesen, Samuel Holsinger-Friesen & Melaina Magnusson





Building & Grounds

Hello everyone! The B & G team has been at it again, in a good way. A few items were cleaned off the "to list" in March. The table top for the ladies bathroom sinks has been reinforced. It appears when it was originally installed they cut some corners, we hope there won't be anymore issues with it. You may notice the laminate top in the back has some separation so please refrain from sitting or leaning on the sink top. Another item, replacing the ceiling light above Alice's work station is complete. The area next to the steps going up to the balcony has been cleaned up as well. Other projects to start/complete are, replace the flood light bulbs shining on the Lectern's, replace/convert two "can" lights in the hallway north of HSH, repair a leaking faucet in the kitchen, replace garbage disposal, and clean the grease trap.



Our hats off to Ace Roofing for fixing the leak on the flat roof, and Aladdin for the repairs in the boiler room behind the ladies bathroom. The roof repairs were about \$800, as the boiler room pipe cost was higher due to the asbestos abatement needed.

It's time for the outdoor spring clean up. We will need a few folks to help out as we clean up the property. We need to be laying down more mulch, so bring your gloves a shovel or rake. Weather permitting would like to start at 9AM the first Saturday after Easter April 15th.



I would like to thank Barney Rudolph, Ben & Henry Themm for their hard work and ideas these past few weeks.

Blessings to you all,
Kyle King, Chairperson, Building & Grounds



Safe Church Training will be held on Saturday, April 22nd at 9 am here at St. Paul's in the Small Dining room.

There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board. There will be at least one other date later this spring. Contact Jr. Warden Elaine Themm (517) 414-8484, or the church office for more info.

Come celebrate Easter with us!



**ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**309 S. JACKSON ST
JACKSON, MI 49201**

www.stpauljxmi.org

PALM SUNDAY

**APRIL 2ND • 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
WITH PALMS AND PASSION READING**

HOLY WEEK

APRIL 5TH • 12:15 PM CHAPEL EUCHARIST

**APRIL 6TH • 7:00 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY EUCHARIST
OVERNIGHT PRAYER VIGIL**

**APRIL 7TH • 12:15 PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
6:00 PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

EASTER SUNDAY

**APRIL 9TH • 8:00 AM SERVICE OF LIGHT
10:30 AM FESTIVAL EUCHARIST
WITH TRUMPET, CHOIR, AND INCENSE**

Be You. Be Loved. Belong.



Join us for in-person services at 8 am or 10:30 am.

Or Join us online Sundays at 10:30 am:

For the Facebook Livestream of our service follow the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/stpauljxmi>

Sunday Worship Bulletins are on our website at <https://stpauljxmi.org/>

You can also view our services later on Facebook.

(You do NOT have to have a Facebook account to view our videos.)

Adult Forum

9:15 am-10:15 am on Sundays in the small dining room.

Email Eric Magnusson: emagnusson75 at gmail.com for more info or questions.

Bible Study



Join us for a lively Bible Study Group, led by Natalie Magnusson, on Wednesdays at **10:30 am** in the Small Dining Room.

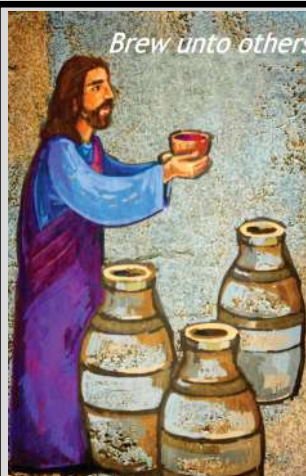
No Bible Study on Wed. April 5th



Wednesday - Holy Eucharist Schedule

**There will be Communion on:
April 5th (Holy Week)
April 12th**

***No Communion 4/19 & 4/26**



All are welcome to join us for a 'Pub Theology' evening.

We meet at Ironbark Brewery **every Wednesday at 6:30 pm. ***

***No Pub Theology during Holy Week on Wednesday, April 5th.**

Questions? Email Tom at: [holsingerfriesen at gmail.com](mailto:holsingerfriesen@gmail.com).



"Can you not watch with me one hour?"

We are having an all-night watch after the Maundy Thursday service on April 6th, until noon on Good Friday. A sign-up sheet is posted in the glass narthex.

Note: The church doors will be locked and someone will be at the church at all times to let people in and out and watch them safely to their cars.



On Good Friday, offerings are collected across the Episcopal Church to support the four dioceses in the Province of Jerusalem and in the Middle East.

Funds are used to promote peace and mutual understanding through pastoral care, health care and educational programs throughout the region.

To learn more please visit:

www.episcopalchurch.org/goodfridayoffering.



Meet our special guest musician joining us on Easter!

Trumpeter Dr. Matthew Dueppen will be sharing his talents with us at our 10:30 am service on Easter. Currently, Dr. Dueppen is an Assistant Professor of Music and the Department Chair at Spring Arbor University, where he Directs the Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, Jazz combo (Arbor Jazz Cats), and the Percussion Ensemble. He also teaches Music History, Conducting, Applied Brass (horn, trumpet), & Music Education courses. Matt specializes in classical, jazz, lead trumpet, and various other musical styles. He also teaches privately and conducts educational clinics/masterclasses around the country.

Help us make the Second Sunday of Easter a special day!

Come and take part in a special service at 10:30 am on **April 16th** when we will be celebrating the baptism of Madisyn Kay Hughes, grand-daughter of Janet Hughes.

She will be the 4th generation to be baptized in her family - Jack Schultz, Janet, James and now **Madi!**





You are invited to attend the
St. Paul's Easter Celebration on
Sunday, April 9th, 2023
 Immediately after the 10:30 am Service.



Please sign up to attend
 with your party count. If
 you think you might attend,
 please sign up so we have a
 count for Big Guy.

Help would also be appreciated in decorating on
Saturday, April 8th, 2023. Sign up please.

We look forward to a blessed Easter Brunch.



If you have any questions or comments,
 please contact Rhonda Rudolph,
 (517) 474-4368
rlrudolph61@gmail.com





Roy Rider	April 1
Jackie Blake	April 3
Eli Bowman	April 3
Jon Gould	April 6
Janet Wesch	April 7
Xavier Radabaugh	April 12
Diana Sinclair	April 20
Christopher Lock	April 23
Elizabeth Middlebrook	April 25
Ron Rowley	April 30



Knitting group

The Knitting Group is meeting at St. Paul's on Tuesdays at 6pm. Please contact Melissa Velandra at 517-581-0805 for more info.



Calling all singers!

Rehearsals are Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm.

It's a fun group, check us out!

Questions? Please see choir director Jeff on Sunday or email him at: Jeff at stpauljxmi.org



Note: New Church Office Hours!

**Mon-Thurs from 10 am-2 pm
Closed Fridays**

Parish Administrator Alice will be trying out a new schedule for the next couple of months. She may be working other hours at home or at the office, but this will consolidate her work time more efficiently.



Thursday evenings, from 5:30-6:30 pm in the chapel. All are welcome! For details or questions, contact Michelle Gibson (832) 445-4461.

LITTLE DRESSES FOR AFRICA

FUNDRAISER LUNCHEON

SPONSOR A WELL



Help Lena Wright, member of Christ Lutheran Church, raise funds to sponsor a well.

Primarily girls average 5 miles to draw water. Having a local well can keep them in school and encourage proper sanitation.



Guest Speaker Rachel O'Neill

The founder of Little Dresses for Africa will speak on their well outreach.

April 22, 2023 | 12 pm

Christ Lutheran Church
4250 Page Ave, Michigan Center, MI

Lunch Catered by Gene Davis and Sons & Silent Auction

Tickets: \$20

RSVP: Cathy 517-812-5256 or Robyn 517-499-2205

Borehole Wells

Clean water ensures that children are healthier, cleaner, and happier. This promotes good sanitation and prevents the spread of disease. Around the well, people gather to wash clothing, bringing the community together. It is Lena's goal to raise the \$5500, the cost to provide a well. This will serve 3,000 people in remote regions of Africa.



Little Dresses for Africa

This 501c3 creates little dresses for less fortunate little girls in Africa and around the globe. Christ Lutheran Church has joined in this ministry for the past 10 years. We make dresses out of cotton fabric and pillowcases. We also make Sani-pads for the Dignity Program, helping to keep young girls in school.




WWW.LITTLEDRESSESFORAFRICA.ORG



APRIL

16

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 PALM SUNDAY	3	4	5	6	7	8
8 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour		6 pm Toast-masters 6 pm Knitting Group	12:15 pm Holy Eucharist No Bible Study	7 pm Maundy Thursday Service Overnight Watch until noon Friday	12:15 pm Good Friday Service 6 pm Stations of the Cross	
9 EASTER SUNDAY	10	11	12	13	14	15
8 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour	6 pm Search Comm Mtg	6 pm Toast-masters 6 pm Knitting Group	10 30 am Bible Study 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 6:30 pm Pub Theology at Ironbark Brewery	4:30 pm Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Hand-bells 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal		9 am B&G Spring Clean-up 10:30 am ECW Meeting
16 BAPTISM	17	18	19	20	21	22
8 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour 12:30 pm Vestry Meet-	6 pm Search Comm Mtg	6 pm Toast-masters 6 pm Knitting Group	10 30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Pub Theology at Ironbark Brewery No 12:15 Eucharist	5:30 pm Hand-bells 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal		9 am Safe Church Training
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
8 am Morning Prayer 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Reflection Forum 10:30 am Morning Prayer/ Coffee Hour	6 pm Search Comm Mtg	6 pm Toast-masters 6 pm Knitting Group	10 30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Pub Theology at Ironbark Brewery No 12:15 Eucharist	5:30 pm Hand-bells 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal		
30						
8 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour						