

April 2019
Volume L

THE EPISTLE

St. Paul's
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*"I am the
resurrection
and the life."*
JOHN 11:25



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Rectors Corner

“Repent therefore and be converted that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.” Acts 3:19

Friends,

I pray you are finding refreshment in your life right now. Spring is coming forward and the birds, chipmunks and squirrels are on the move. Hopefully, you’ve used this Lent to make more space for prayer and being in the presence of God in your life. If you have I know you’ve found refreshment there. God’s presence, though it may seem daunting at first, is a place where we are refreshed as we confess our sins, recognize God’s unfailing forgiveness and mercy and bask in the love of our Creator. We were made for love...We forget that because of our own failure to love and the failure of others to love us. When we fail we hide, when others fail us we shut up our hearts. Thankfully, God comes seeking us again and again to remind us that we are known intimately for all our faults and joys and God made us to love and be loved.

We’ve been looking at joy as a spiritual practice in our Lenten book study and we find it is a practice. We can develop “spiritual immunity” (just like we develop strength in our muscles through exercise) when we make and take time to meditate on our thoughts and on God’s promises for us. What we learn is that life is 10% what happens to us and 90% how we respond to it. If you want to be more like Jesus then spend more time with God. If you experienced a Lenten practice that really worked for you continue it after Easter! Don’t pick up something you dropped and let old habits creep back into your life and rob you of the joy you seek. Create more space in your life for God and you will be richly rewarded with Easter Joy!

I invite you to experience as much of Holy Week as you can with us or around our community. Our Holy Week schedule is full of opportunities to pray and participate as we walk the Way of the Cross with Jesus. We experience the sorrows of sin and death with the One who knew no sin so that His resurrection will plant itself firmly in our hearts as the source of life and love for us. We walk His way of suffering so we are reminded He walks ours with us and we have the power of the resurrection available to us to find forgiveness, mercy, love, joy and peace in our own lives. God be with you as we walk together and I look forward to celebrating with you on Easter Day.

Faithfully,

Sarah+

From Our Sr. Warden

My heart breaks for the world. Now more than ever, I need God's grace to see me through. I don't have eloquent words to express how I feel. I just know I'm sad, and I hurt. There is so much overt hatred today. I suppose it has always been there but in my own little corner of the world, I can say it has never been in my face. With so much social media, we are inundated with all the bad in the world. Now, it is all up in my face and almost impossible to escape.

I suppose that I do find that God works in mysterious ways. He has put me directly in the path of a renewed hope through our Vestry focus, Fire of Renewal. Determining who God is calling us to be. Defining our mission as it relates to the Good News, Serving & Loving and Justice & Peace. The opportunities are endless, and I think now, more than ever, our own parish is ripe with focus and energy to take on this mission. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry talks about "following Jesus into a loving, liberating and life-giving relationship with God, each other and with the earth." At the Vestry Retreat, we were reminded that if what we do is not loving, liberating or life giving, it's not love. If it's not love, it's not Jesus and if it's not Jesus, it's not love.

The Fire of Renewal is centered around Ephesians 4: 1-7; 11-16.

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Now, more than ever, we must focus on discipling by helping people live into the loving relationship of God's Kingdom. I ask, how are we creating and supporting loving relationships? How are we helping people become disciples? How are we sending people forth to love and serve others?

I am interested in hearing your thoughts. Please let me know if you have any ideas you would like to share as we work towards becoming more Christ centered and promoting love and peace in this world.

Shalom,
Michelle



HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 14th	Palm Sunday 8:00 am & 10:30 am
April 18th	Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm
April 19th	Good Friday Stations of the Cross 12 pm Liturgy 7:00 pm
April 21st	Easter Sunday 8:00 am & 10:30 am

We will need extra readers for Palm Sunday, April 14th. Please sign-up on the sheet in the glass narthex or contact the office to volunteer.



We will be offering an all-night watch after the Maundy Thursday service until 9:00 am Good Friday. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the glass narthex.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Parish Secretary Alice will be out of the office on vacation from Wednesday, March 27th-Friday, April 5th. Rev. Sarah will be out of the office on Monday, April 1st - Wednesday, April 3rd for the EDOMI Clergy Retreat.

*There will be no Bible Study or Holy Eucharist on Wednesday, April 3rd.

Choir News:

The choir has been working on Holy week music.

This is such an important time, and making a meaningful experience for all of us is our goal.

Our trumpeters will herald in Palm Sunday and Easter!

Join us for the inspirational music!

Genette Gillard,

Choir Director



Mission & Outreach

MISSION AND OUTREACH NEWS...

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

presents

“HANDBAGS OF LOVE”

**Inaugural Luncheon and
Designer Handbag Auction**

all proceeds go to

SOAR Cafe and Farms



Saturday, May 11, 2019
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
309 S. Jackson St.
Jackson, MI 49201



Tickets: \$20.00

Table sponsors: \$160.00 (fill 8 seats)

SOAR Ambassador: \$100.00

Catering underwriting opportunities

Handbag donation: minimum \$50.00 retail

For more information, call

Barbara Markowski: (517) 206-0064 or

Brandi Bruckler: (517) 240-2441



SOAR Cafe and Farms.

**Providing Healing, Housing, & Employment
for Women Survivors of Human Trafficking, Sexual Abuse,
and Trauma**

Our goal is to provide free, two-year residential housing, medical and mental health services, personal and spiritual development and employment through our social enterprise. While we lay the framework, we are honored to connect with and serve women who are currently incarcerated, through SOAR-On the Inside.

SOAR
Cafe & Farms

#LoveRises

SOAR CAFE AND FARMS

Providing Healing, Housing, & Employment for Women Survivors of Human Trafficking, Sexual Abuse, and Trauma

DID YOU KNOW

Michigan is ranked in the top 5 in the nation for Human Trafficking?

Jackson County had 30 deaths from overdose in 2016, as of March 2018, we have had 25?

The average survivor of sexual violence is first raped between the ages of 7-11 and typically hit the streets between the ages of 14-16 years old?

SOAR Cafe and Farms is a new organization in Jackson, Michigan.

SOAR exists to provide healing, housing, and employment for women survivors of human trafficking, sexual abuse, and trauma. We will be following the model of Thistle Farms as we work to become a sister organization in the Thistle National Network.

Our goal is to provide free, two-year residential housing, medical and mental health services, personal and spiritual development and employment through our social enterprise. While we lay the framework, we are honored to connect with and serve women who are currently incarcerated,

through SOAR-On the Inside.

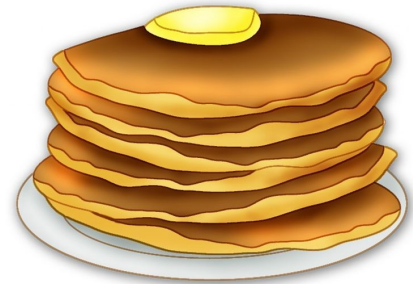
For more information on how you can connect, collaborate, or

contribute: www.soarcafeandfarms.com

Email: admin@soarcafeandfarms.com

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

March 5, 2019



Additional Announcement for 'Handbag of Love' SOAR event May 11th...

We are gathering quality jewelry that may be sitting in your drawers hanging on jewelry holders, rings, bracelets, watches and necklaces.

We will have 2 tables at the event, a \$5 and \$10 table, all donated by anyone that wishes to clean out their stuff. I have 4 of my friends who are donating unused and things that are not being worn. If you have it in your heart and your time to go through and do spring cleaning on your own jewelry all donations will be greatly appreciated!!

In God's love for the benefit of SOAR.

-Deanna Leicht



Jon Gould	6-Apr
Janet Wesch	7-Apr
Christy Randall	15-Apr
Steve Baldwin	20-Apr
Diana Sinclair	20-Apr
David VanLoo	26-Apr
Ron Rowley	30-Apr

The Women of St. Paul's Episcopal Church

ECW

Lent offers us a time of reflection and in the end, RENEWAL. Natalie Magnusson helped to start the Women of St. Paul's ECW on that journey at our meeting on March 9, 2019. Natalie took us through a reflection utilizing "The Prayer of Examen" from St. Ignatius of Loyola. The process involves taking two questions and reviewing your day and time with God and the answers. Example questions include "When was I happiest today?, When was I saddest?" or "For what moment today am I most grateful?, For what moment today am I least grateful?". Natalie offered numerous more similar couplets and I'm sure she would share them with you if you ask or see me and I can make copies. This is a great resource for meditation through Lent. We enjoyed Natalie's time with us immensely and we hope to have her back in the future.

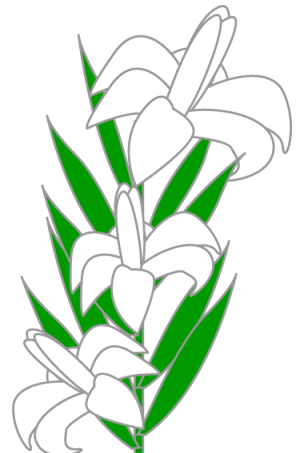
Our meeting on April 13 features Connie Fridd who will speak from a personal perspective on the Opioid Crisis in Jackson. Social time at 10:30, meeting at 11 in the small dining room. All women are welcome.

We are joining Mission and Outreach in a fundraising luncheon for SOAR Cafe and Farms. We would love to have everyone participate. The luncheon will be on May 11 and men are invited to join their wives or friends. At the luncheon we will raffle off designer purses. You can help by purchasing a ticket for the luncheon (\$20.00/ticket, \$160.00/ per table of 8), donating a new designer purse with a minimum value of \$50, Buying raffle tickets at the luncheon, or becoming a SOAR Ambassador and donating a \$100 or more (we will put your name or the name of a company on the table). If you know any corporations or businesses that might donate please speak to them. There are also sponsorships for the food (i.e. pay for the desserts, the entrees or sides, etc.) Please see Barb Markowski, Sandra Kilian, Donna Thomas, Janet Wesch, Deanna Leicht , Brandi Bruckler, Jo Alipit, or Heidi Hosler-Lathrop with questions.

Much of this will be repeated in the M & O section also.

Other future meetings are June 8 and July 13.

-Sandra Kilian
President, St. Paul's ECW



Pastor Sarah's Picks!



A Raisin In The Sun

Ok, I know I've confused some of you...No there's not been a movie made recently of this incredible play, but I was able to go see a community theater production of it in Lansing recently and was blown away. Written by Lorraine Hansberry, the play debuted on Broadway in 1959 and made Hansberry the first black female author to have her play performed on Broadway. There have been many revivals on Broadway and countless little community productions like the ensemble I saw last week. The subject matter is set in the era of civil and women's rights and yet remains, at its heart, the development of the human character. Three generations of one black family share pain and joy, hope and desolation as their fortunes rise and fall together. The famous 1961 film version with Sidney Poitier in the lead male role is the archetype for all productions that followed. His struggle as a black man trying to make a better life for his family and prove himself a man is one of the most brilliant roles ever played. But the women around him...oh my, they are pillars of strength, grace and lament as they struggle in a world changing around them and not always in the right ways. For most of the play, the family is trying to escape life in the slums and find their own little house in a quiet neighborhood in Chicago. Dealing with the exclusion of black families in neighborhoods is central to their struggle. Lorraine Hansberry's own family experienced this and her father was part of a famous legal battle that went to the U.S. Supreme Court in the 1940 case *Hansberry vs. Lee* where the court found in favor of the rights of black families to challenge racial segregation in suburban communities and led the way for more families to escape the inner cities of America.

Whether you watch it on Netflix, read the play or see a live production, get to know this seminal story of America and the powerful characters Lorraine Hansberry creates. Your soul will be glad!



You are invited to attend the

**Annual St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Easter Sunday Brunch on
Sunday, April 21st, 2019**

Immediately after the 8:00 Services (9:15ish a.m.)



*Join us as we rejoice in the Risen
Christ through food and fellowship.*



Make plans to attend this annual potluck event and bring your family and friends to join in fellowship and food.

Please sign with your party count and what you would like to bring. Help would also be appreciated. Sign up please.



For more information, please contact
Rhonda Rudolph at (517) 474-4368 or
the Church Office at (517) 787-3370





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
<p>* Alice out of office April 1st thru 5th.</p> <p>**Rev. Sarah out of office April 1st thru April 3rd for EDOMI Clergy Retreat</p>	<p>5:30 pm Safety Committee</p> <p>6 pm Knitting & Crafting</p>	<p>10:30 am Bereavement Group</p> <p>5 pm M & O</p> <p>5:15 pm Cardio Drumming Class</p> <p>6 pm Toastmasters</p>	<p>6:30 pm Choir</p> <p>No Bible Study or Eucharist today</p>	<p>5 pm Cardio Drumming class</p> <p>6 pm Lenten Book Study/Soup Supper</p> <p>7 pm Handbells</p>		<p>8 :30 am EYSJ</p> <p>10 am Worship Committee</p> <p>10:30 am ECW</p>
7 Birthdays & Anniv	8	9	10	11	12	13
<p>8am Holy Eucharist</p> <p>9:15 am Adult Forum</p> <p>9:15 am Church School</p> <p>10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee</p>	<p>5:30 pm Safety Committee</p> <p>6 pm Knitting & Crafting</p>	<p>10:30 am Bereavement Group</p> <p>5 pm Judson Center</p> <p>5:15 pm Cardio Drum</p> <p>6 pm Toastmasters</p>	<p>11 am Bible Study</p> <p>12:15 pm Holy Eucharist</p> <p>6:30 pm Choir</p>	<p>5 pm Judson Center</p> <p>5:15 pm Cardio Drumming Class</p> <p>5:30 pm B & G</p> <p>7 pm Handbells</p>		<p>10:30 am ECW</p>
14 PALM SUNDAY	15	16	17	18	19	20
<p>8am Holy Eucharist</p> <p>9:15 am Adult Forum</p> <p>9:15 am Church School</p> <p>10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour / Episcopal 101</p>	<p>5:30 pm Safety Committee</p> <p>6 pm Knitting & Crafting</p>	<p>10:30 am Bereavement</p> <p>5 pm Judson Center</p> <p>5:15 pm Cardio Drumming Class</p> <p>6 pm Toastmasters</p> <p>6:30 pm Vestry Mtg</p>	<p>11 am Bible Study</p> <p>12:15 pm Holy Eucharist</p> <p>1 pm Brownell Lunch</p> <p>6:30 pm Choir</p>	<p>5 pm Judson Center</p> <p>5:15 pm Cardio Drumming Class</p> <p>6 pm Handbells Practice</p> <p>7pm MAUNDY THURSDAY</p>	<p>12 pm GOOD FRIDAY 7 pm GOOD FRIDAY</p>	
21 EASTER SUNDAY	22	23	24	25	26	27
<p>8am Holy Eucharist</p> <p>9:15 am Easter Brunch</p> <p>10:30 am Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>5:30 pm Safety Committee</p> <p>6 pm Knitting & Crafting</p>	<p>10:30 am Bereavement Group</p> <p>5:15 pm Cardio Drumming Class</p> <p>6 pm Toastmasters</p>	<p>11 am Bible Study</p> <p>12:15 pm Holy Eucharist</p> <p>6:30 pm Choir</p>	<p>5 pm Big B/S</p> <p>5:15 pm Cardio Drumming Class</p> <p>6 pm Handbells Practice</p>		<p>8:30 EYSJ</p>
28	29	30				
<p>8am Holy Eucharist</p> <p>9:15 am Adult Forum</p> <p>9:15 am Church School</p> <p>10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour</p>	<p>5:30 pm Safety Committee</p> <p>6 pm Knitting & Crafting</p>	<p>10:30 am Bereavement Group</p> <p>5:15 pm Cardio Drumming Class</p> <p>6 pm Toastmasters</p>				