

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Jackson, Michigan

Stewardship Yearbook 2023 - 2024



*But who are we . . .
to be able to give as
generously as this?
Everything comes from
you, O God, and we
have given only what
comes from your hand.*

- 1 Chronicles 29:14

November, 2023

Dear Friends in Christ,

This little booklet is our first annual stewardship yearbook. It's a way to remember and honor all that we have done over the past year, as we look at the new year ahead.

It is also a way to honor the time, talent, and treasure that so many have given to support this church and our ministry in 2023. Thank you! If your name isn't listed somewhere here where it should, please let us know. Everyone's time and talents are important and valued.

Our gifts of treasure are also necessary. They pay our priest and staff, keep the building open and in good repair, and allow us to buy all the supplies and materials that we use for worship, formation, and so on.

At the end of each year we ask our members to pledge the amount they plan to give in the year to come. Some pledge the minimum they are comfortable with and hope to give more. Others make an aspirational pledge that stretches them. Some tithe a certain percentage of their income. Whatever the method, we hope you will pledge something. It will help our vestry know who considers themselves an active member of the parish, and it will help you feel like a true partner in all the ministry that flows from St. Paul's.

People give for a wide variety of reasons. Some are motivated by the need to cover our overall budgeted expenses. Some are motivated by certain programs, like our music program, or our programs for children and youth, or our mission and outreach efforts. Some give simply because someone taught them that supporting the work of the church is important. Some give/tithe because there is a clear Biblical mandate to do so. All of these are good reasons.

Thank you for the gifts of time, talent, and treasure that you have made in 2023 and those you look forward to giving in 2024.

Sincerely,

The Rector, Wardens, and Treasurer of St. Paul's



WORSHIP



Thank you to all who have given their time and talent this year!

Worship Volunteers

Altar Guild - Co-Directors: Cheryl Gumper & Christie Swanson
(Team 1) Dennis Marsh, Rhonda Rudolph; (Team 2) Janet Hughes,
Sue Hammett, Sandra Kilian; (Team 3) Christie Swanson,
Barb Duke, Sheryl Foor; (Team 4) Cheryl Gumper, Sally McKinnon,
Jeanne Draper; Helen Greene (Laundress)

Acolytes - Bill Boody, Sue Hammett, Leah Holsinger-Friesen,
Samuel Holsinger-Friesen, Sandra Kilian, Joe Lathrop, Melaina
Magnusson, Zoë Magnusson, Dennis Marsh, Sally McKinnon,
Loren Swanson

Lay Readers / Intercessors – Barb Duke, Bob Fowler, Wayne
Frey, Sue Hammett, Leah Holsinger-Friesen, Samuel Holsinger-
Friesen, Tom Holsinger-Friesen, Joyce Grace, Joe Lathrop, Deanna
Leicht, Chris Lock, Eric Magnuson, Melaina Magnusson, Natalie
Magnusson, Zoë Magnusson, Dennis Marsh, Sally McKinnon, Pat
Reynolds, Barney Rudolph, Loren Swanson, Harry Strait, Teri Utz,
Jennifer Yocum

Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs) - Bill Boody, Bob Fowler,
Sue Hammett, Tom Holsinger-Friesen, Samuel Holsinger-Friesen,
Sandra Kilian, Joe Lathrop, Melaina Magnusson, Natalie
Magnusson, Dennis Marsh, Sally McKinnon, Loren Swanson

Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs) - Bob Fowler, Natalie Magnuson,
Teri Utz

Tech Committee - Carrie Heider-Grant, James Grant, Rhys Grant,
Sandra Killian, Dominic Themm

Ushers - **8:00 am:** Harry Strait (Head Usher), Bill Boody,
Wayne Frey, Sue Hammett, Deanna & John Leicht;
10:30 am: Debbie Batchelder, Dana Burkey, Floyd & Barb Covey,
Barb & Bob Duke, Samuel Holsinger-Friesen, Tom Holsinger-
Friesen, Ron & Kathy Kapuga, Kyle King, Dennis Marsh,
Cullin Morgan, Laura Orr, Jan Osborn, Christie Swanson,
Ben Themm, Henry Themm

MUSIC



St. Paul's Choir , led by Jeff Wilkinson
Easter 2023



Rommelle Frey, flautist
Julie Baglien, St. Paul's
Organist
Easter 2023



St. Paul's Handbells



Guest Musicians
The Kingsmen Trio
Nov. 1, 2023



Thank you to all who have given their time and talent this year!

Choir - John Alipit, Debbie Batchelder, Dana Burkey, Sally Benedict, Wayne Frey, Carrie Heider-Grant, Michelle Gibson, Samuel Holsinger-Friesen, Tom Holsinger-Friesen, Janet Hughes, Chris Lock, Sally McKinnon, Pat Reynolds, Barney Rudolph, Loren Swanson, Timothy Wilson, Jennifer Yocum (Music Librarian)

Handbell Choir – Michelle Gibbs (Director); Dana Burkey, Barb and Bob Duke, Sue Hammett, Heidi Hosler-Lathrop, Janet Hughes, Kim Perlos

Special Musical Offerings - Romelle Frey (Flute), Michelle Gibson (Recorder/Piano), Clark Hutchens (Saxophone), Timothy Wilson (Organ)

Formation, Fellowship, and Mission

Mission & Outreach Coordinators - Dana Burkey, Heidi Hosler-Lathrop, Janet Hughes and Marianne Fowler

Education and Formation Programs

Adult Forum Leader - Eric Magnusson

Wednesday Bible Study Leader - Natalie Magnusson

Children's Formation Leader - Kim Perlos

Youth Formation Leader - Tom Holsinger-Friesen

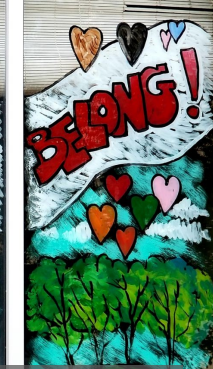
Hospitality and Coffee Hour - Rhonda Rudolph, Debbie Batchelder (Leaders); Jo Alipit, Romelle Frey, Sally McKinnon (Monthly Hosts); Jeremiah & Ella Hephzibah (Big Guy Catering)

Koinonia Coordinator - Sarah Holsinger-Friesen

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Board - Sandra Kilian (President), Valerie Rowley (Vice Pres.), Cheryl Gumper



Episcopal Church Women (ECW)



Sharon Sunday added color to our Jackson street windows

BUILDING & GROUNDS



Ridge & Eston working on Memorial Garden Updates



Our B&G team hung the memorial plaques in the sanctuary and work hard year around with maintenance projects.



New Youth Lounge



Thank you to all who have given their time and talent this year!

Governance, Administration and Finance

Vestry - Barney Rudolph (Sr. Warden); Elaine Themm (Jr. Warden); Joe Lathrop (Treasurer); Dana Burkey (Secretary); Tom Bowman, Deanna Leicht, Chris Lock, Melaina Magnusson (Youth Member), Natalie Magnusson, Jan Osborn

Personnel and Safe Church Committee – Debbie Batchelder, Elaine Themm

Finance/Budget Committee- Barbara Duke, Joe Lathrop, Deanna Leicht, Dennis Marsh, Barney Rudolph

Stewardship Committee – Barbara Duke, Tom Holsinger-Friesen, Joe Lathrop, Barney Rudolph

Offering Counters - Barney Rudolph (In Charge), Debbie Batchelder, Harry Strait, Barb Duke, Jeanne Draper, Jan Osborn, Christie Swanson, Sandra Kilian

Office Volunteer – Jan Fater, Rhonda Rudolph

Endowment Committee - Jeanne Draper, Jim Grace, Joe Lathrop, Dennis Marsh

Building & Grounds Committee - Kyle King, Ridge Frew, Barney Rudolph, Loren Swanson

Diocesan Convention Delegates – Natalie Magnusson, Barney Rudolph, Elaine Themm, **(Youth)** Melaina Magnusson

Rector Search Committee - Michelle Gibson (Chair), Tom Holsinger-Friesen, Eric Magnusson, Sandra Kilian, Pat Reynolds, Debbie Batchelder, Christie Swanson

Vestry Nominating Committee – Jan Osborn, Barney Rudolph, Elaine Themm

SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY



Save Our Youth Concert June 2023



Mama Tutu Back to School collection
August 2023



Mama Tutu 4th of July BBQ



Neighborhood
Clean-Up
Day
Spring 2023



"Get Real" Youth Summer Program 2023

Plate and Pledge

The vast majority of our mission and ministry each year is funded through the undesignated contributions of our members.

At the end of each calendar year we ask members of our church family to pledge the specific dollar amount that they can commit to give to fund the work of the church in the following year. This helps the vestry plan the coming year's program and budget with confidence.

Some people are hesitant to pledge because their finances for the coming year are uncertain. In these cases we encourage you to pledge an amount that you feel confident about, even if it is less than you hope to be able to ultimately give.

Pledging is not just about the church budget. Everyone who considers St. Paul's to be their church home is highly encouraged to pledge, as a meaningful sign and symbol of their membership and belonging.

You may make a new pledge at any time of the year. Pledges may always be increased and you may of course give more than you pledge. And, if your circumstances change, you may also decrease your pledge if need be.

In 2023, parishes in the Diocese of Michigan reported 3,491 individual pledges, with an average pledge of \$3,173.





Episcopal Youth Event Summer 2023



YOUTH OF ST. PAUL'S



EDOMI Night Watch



Epiphany Pageant



St. Nicholas Party



Other Financial Gifts

Christmas and Easter Special Offerings

Special offerings at Christmas are used to bolster and increase our assistance to neighbors in our community who are in need. Special Easter offerings and dedications allow us to fund additional music and flowers for major holidays throughout the year.

Noisy Offering / City Bus Tickets

The tradition of collecting alms for the poor is as old as Christianity itself. Each month we have a special “noisy offering,” usually on the second Sunday of the month. Some people save their coins and bring them to the noisy offering. Others offer cash or checks for this special collection. We use these funds primarily to purchase city bus tickets that we distribute to folks in need. If you shop at Kroger, ask for free bus tickets when you check out and put these in the noisy offering too!

Discretionary Fund Contributions

Every Episcopal church has a rector’s discretionary fund, a fund for a wide variety of charitable support and a way to help folks in need, in a quiet and confidential manner. From help with eviction notices, overdue utility bills, emergency shelter, and so many other needs, St. Paul’s gets many more requests for help than we have funding to cover. All contributions marked “Rector’s Discretionary” go to this important aspect of our mission and outreach.

Altar Flowers and Aumbry Candles

Altar flowers and aumbry candles are given by parishioners nearly every week to honor loved ones or mark special occasions. After church on Sunday the flowers remain in the chapel for the Wednesday service and/or are sent to parishioners who are ill, hospitalized, or homebound.

The aumbry is the small cabinet hanging on the wall to the right of the altar, where a small quantity of consecrated Bread and Wine is kept in reserve. The candle next to the aumbry burns whenever there is reserved sacrament in the aumbry, to remind us of the enduring presence of Christ in our sanctuary, in our world, and in our lives.

If you are interested in giving either altar flowers or the aumbry candle, contact Cheryl Gumper. Altar flower costs are paid directly to Brown’s Floral. Aumbry candle contributions are made to St. Paul’s and marked “aumbry candle.”



Choir Picnic Sept. 2023



FELLOWSHIP



Koinonia



St. Paul's charity golf team



Coffee Hour



Legacy Gifts and Bequests

St. Paul's would not be the church we are today without the final gifts and bequests of parishioners who came before us. Whether it is an undesignated bequest, a gift specifically naming our endowment, a gift toward a capital project, or the inclusion of St. Paul's as a beneficiary in a trust or personal foundation, legacy gifts are a way to help ensure the strength of St. Paul's for years to come and help continue its mission and ministry into eternity.

Maximizing Tax Benefits

All contributions to St. Paul's are considered charitable gifts. In January of every year we send contribution statements to assist you with your tax preparation. Some people may benefit further by considering the options below. Please consult your tax or investment professional for specific details.

IRA Charitable Rollover

If you are 70 ½ or older, you can make a contribution to St. Paul's directly from your IRA, simply by instructing the plan administrator to make the transfer. You are allowed to transfer up to \$100,000 a year to the charities of your choice. Your gift will not be reported as taxable income and will count toward your minimum distribution requirements.

Gifts of Stock

Giving appreciated stock directly to St. Paul's may have very favorable tax implications for you. Please consult both your investment advisor and advise the church bookkeeper PRIOR to making a gift of stock.

Pooled Giving

Due to higher IRS standard deductions, many people no longer qualify for charitable tax deductions unless they pool several years of giving into one year, allowing them to reach their deduction threshold by making larger gifts to St. Paul's every few years instead of annual gifts. In this case we can set aside "pre-paid" pledges and draw the funds from a restricted account in a later year. For more information, talk with your financial advisor and be sure to notify our church bookkeeper so we can properly coordinate your gift with your annual pledges.



St. Paul's Jackson, Michigan Pledge Commitment for 2024

Name(s): _____

Home Address: _____

Email: _____

Total pledge commitment for 2024 is \$ _____

This pledge represents _____ adults and _____ children/youth.

Signature _____

I/We will pay electronically. I have remembered St. Paul's in my will.

Please place this card in the offering plate, mail it to the church, or email it to our bookkeeper Carolyn Moser: carolyn@stpaulsjxn.org

Please return your pledge card by mail or offering plate by the Pledge Ingathering on Sunday, December 3rd.

FEAST OF SAINT

NICHOLAS

**Pledge Ingathering Evensong
and All-Parish Party**

SUNDAY | 3 | DECEMBER

4:00 p.m. - Ingathering Evensong in Church
4:30 p.m. - By-Request Hymn and Carol Sing
**5:15 ish - Potluck Dinner, with Brisket and
Mac and Cheese by Big Guy Catering**

BYOG Game Night Following Dinner
"Bring Your Own Games"

*Please sign up on in the glass narthex
or contact the parish office.*