

January
2020
Volume
LVII

THE EPISTLE

St. Paul's
Episcopal Church
309 S. Jackson St.
Jackson, Michigan 49201
Phone 517-787-3370
Fax 517-787-8424
Email: church@stpauljxmi.org
Website: www.stpauljxmi.org

Welcome, 2020



Inside this issue

Rector's Corner	2
Sr. Warden	3
Seminarian.....	4
M & O	5
Choir News	6
Birthdays.....	6
ECW	7
Fitness at St. Paul's...	8
News from the Diocese	9
B & G	10
Announcements	11
Calendar	12



Rector's Corner

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

-2 Corinthians 5:17

Friends,

What a beautiful Christmas we've had! A beautiful church filled with old friends and new, bursting with children leading us in worship and gathering around the Creche, joyful singing and hearts full of love. Such a blessing to be a part of it all with you! Great thanks go especially to everyone who helped with Valerie Bullen's funeral. Larry and the whole family are very grateful for the way we honored her life together.

As we begin this New Year I'll tell you I'm not much for New Year's resolutions. They're usually too high to attain or too easy to forget. It's been my practice for a number of years to ask God's guidance during Epiphany in thinking what I should work on during Lent. How is my life contrary to my faith and values? What is getting in the way of God's love be experienced by me and through me to others? What have I neglected in my study, my health, my prayers and how can I begin again to build a life with Christ? Each year we have an opportunity to dust off our Christian practice and renew it through the power of the Holy Spirit. I pray you will be led to new depths in your own faith and all your relationships in 2020.

On Sunday January 19th we'll have our Annual Meeting with lunch following the 10:30 service. We will be electing 3 new vestry members to serve 3 year terms, 1 new member to serve a year's term and 1 alternate. We will also be electing people to serve as delegates from this parish to Diocesan Council in October. This will be a great opportunity to get to know the governance of our Diocese and the breadth of our parishes. We will need 3 delegates and 1 alternate. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for vestry or as a delegate to council.

In this New Year I do encourage you to take up one practice daily or weekly, name your gratitude to God. Name it out loud with your loved ones or write it down and stick it in a jar that you keep in an important place. Each day we have so much to be grateful to God for in our lives. When we don't practice gratitude, no matter how rich we are, we are impoverished in our spirits. Make sure to include the children in your life in this important practice as well for they learn from us what we truly believe about life and God.

May this be the best year yet in our lives together and God bless each one of us in this bright New Year!

Faithfully,
Sarah+

From your Sr. Warden...



Happy New Year, St. Paul's!

I'm not one for making a resolution at the beginning of the year. I am not sure I can claim success for any that I have ever tried. I recently read something a friend posted on Facebook and I know that I have no more eloquent words than these. And this, this is not a "new year" resolution, this is a daily declaration, an earnest intention to live a more Christ filled life.

And so, I leave this with you...

"I will try this day to live a simple, sincere and serene life, repelling promptly every thought of discontent, anxiety, discouragement, impurity, and self-seeking; cultivating cheerfulness, magnanimity, charity, and the habit of holy silence; exercising economy in expenditure, generosity in giving, carefulness in conversation, diligence in appointed service, fidelity to every trust, and a child-like faith in God.

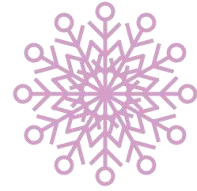
In particular I will try to be faithful in those habits of prayer, work, study, physical exercise, eating, and sleep which I believe the Holy Spirit has shown me to be right.

And as I cannot in my own strength do this, nor even with a hope of success attempt it, I look to thee, O Lord God my Father, in Jesus my Savior, and ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Amen."

-Michelle Gibson
Senior Warden



Seminarian's Corner



“He answered, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.’”

-Luke 10:27

Need a New Year's Resolution You Can Keep? How about being an everyday minister? Being an everyday minister has nothing to do with being ordained and everything to do with living out our Christian values. In fact, each of us is part of the priesthood of believers and with that, we have the opportunity to be ministers in the ordinary and extraordinary times, spaces, and places we find ourselves every day.

Dictionary.com says being a minister means, “a person acting as an agent or instrument of another.” And many of you know that being a police officer is part of my everyday ministry when I'm not at St. Paul's. When I think of policework, it first comes to mind that I am acting as an agent of the government. But I also strive to ensure how I do policework is acting as an agent of Jesus.

Sadly my police career has had me see people at their very worst. Dealing with homeless, going on calls of domestic violence, taking traffic crash reports, responding to serious medical situations, and people engaging in unlawful protests and civil disorders (riots) are a few things that come to mind. I have personally witnessed people lying in the street in order to block the response of fire trucks and ambulances during riots. I've seen furniture burned in the street, cars being flipped over and set on fire, windows of businesses broken, and officers and others assaulted by people or objects thrown. And at times like these that it admittedly gets a little harder to treat others as with the same respect as someone who is polite, law abiding, and cooperative. However, seeing people at their worst gives me a unique opportunity to love my neighbor as myself.

If there is a verse from scripture or a Christian value that is special to you, think about how you can live this out each day in 2020. Some thoughts I like to turn to are, love your neighbor as yourself, or my favorite line from our baptismal covenant, to “strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.” To keep the resolution fresh, pick something that resonates with you from the sermon each week and find a way to be an everyday minister in that way. And just when you don't think you have time or energy for anything more, remember that praying counts toward being an everyday minister!

I'm looking forward to hearing your story about being an everyday minister in 2020. Godspeed.

Your Seminarian,

Melissa

Mission & Outreach



2019 is in the rear-view mirror! Wow! That is hard to believe!! As I look back over the achievements of Mission and Outreach, I am in awe of the generosity and dedication of our congregation!

Here is a recap of our activities in 2019:

- Collected and delivered over 200 pairs of warm socks to the Interfaith Shelter.
- Collected and delivered healthy snacks, diapers, cleaning supplies, etc. to Children's Aid/ Family Services for their visitation room.
- We partnered with ECW to Create and Host the inaugural "Handbags of Love" fundraiser for SOAR Cafe and Farms. We sold out our seats and raised over \$12,125 for SOAR!
- We donated \$600 to help a neighboring church send kids to camp last summer.
- We transported and fed over 100 kids plus chaperones from both Get Real and Save Our Youth to Lake Michigan in July.
- We collected and delivered 107 pairs of pajamas to DHS for children who must be removed from their homes by Protective Services.
- We hosted Trunk or Treat and served over 600 hotdogs, popcorn, apples on one of the worst weather Halloween nights in memory! We made decorations, tombstones and a photo booth for all our "goblins" to enjoy!
- We collected and delivered food, personal care items, and fresh produce to the Jackson Community Food Pantry.
- We donated and delivered Christmas presents to residents of the AWARE Shelter.
- We shopped for and delivered stocking stuffers to Jackson High for 30 homeless and/or "family-less" students.
- We cooked and served six healthy home cooked meals for over 110 residents and neighbors of the Jackson Interfaith Shelter.

We received a grant from the Jackson Community Foundation for \$12,500 for the year 2020, as well as a generous \$3000 grant from a St. Paul's parishioner. **Thanks be to God** who continually provides, for now we have the funds needed to continue to serve our community.

The programs we have offered this past year have been life changing for so many at-risk children and young adults in our community. It is our goal to keep these programs in place for 2020 and to look for new and varied ways to better serve those in need in the coming year. If you know of a worthy cause, please let someone on M&O know, Better yet, become a member of our committee! We welcome you and the gifts you bring to the table! WE are St. Paul's! That includes YOU! Please join us!

On behalf of Barney, Brandi, Garry, Heidi, Laura, Melissa, Pastor Sarah and myself, we thank you for your generosity and enormous hearts for our missions of love in Jackson. We make a difference to so many in need. ALL GLORY TO GOD for the privilege of doing work in His name.

Yours in Christ,

Barbara Markowski and Barney Rudolph Mission and Outreach Co-chairs

Choir News...

Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas! We sure would like to see more of you singing in the choir. Our numbers are dwindling. Come Wed night at 6:30 for a trial run!

*-Genette Gillard
Choir Director*



Peggy Wilds	January 6
Dee Hurlbert	January 10
Laura Rende	January 13
Josephine Alipit	January 14
Dana Burkey	January 19
Sandra Kilian	January 20
Kim Perlos	January 22

The Women of St. Paul's Episcopal Church ECW



I hope you all had a blessed Christmas and continue to enjoy the Christmas season as we approach the Epiphany or Little Christmas. 2019 is behind us now and we face a brand-new year and new decade. Our ECW year was certainly a fun and busy one. Look out for the year in review in the Annual Meeting report.

Our December meeting was our annual holiday luncheon at The Country Club of Jackson. We had a great turn out and all the women enjoyed a wonderful lunch. It is such a welcome change from the usual monthly business meetings. Our thanks to Helen Greene for securing the date and venue.

The nut sale was winding down at the time of this writing and a full accounting will be available for the annual meeting. It was a success and our great thanks and appreciation goes out to all who supported this annual fundraising event.

Please join us for our January meeting on January 11 when we will have Dot Tetreault, LMSW, who will talk to us about the effects of social media on children including cyber-bullying. Hopefully we will see a lot of moms of young children who might benefit greatly from this discussion.

We wish you a very Happy New Year and look forward to seeing even more of you as we set out on our 2020 journey.

Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Rowley, Vice President, ECW.





January Fitness at St. Paul's

Persist

With the support of the community of St. Paul's, Persist Movement + Mindfulness LLC is celebrating a first anniversary! Look for a PERSIST supported coffee hour sometime soon!

DID YOU KNOW that St. Paul's has a WELLNESS ROOM on the 2nd floor? It's true! Group fitness, education, and private training are available right here at St. Paul's.

PERSIST is now a Silver Sneakers® partner! Approved courses will be FREE for those who qualify. \$8 for members of St. Paul's who do not qualify for SilverSneakers®. \$10 all others. You may be eligible if you are over 65 and participating in a Medicare Advantage or Medigap programs. Call Dee for assistance!

Services by Appointment

- **Private Fitness Training & Senior Active Living Companionship.** In Home Options Available Based on your fitness needs and interests. Scheduled at your convenience. Available in your home, at St. Paul's, or another public location. Indoors or outdoors.
- **Wellness and Fitness Consultation.** Always free for members of St. Paul's.

January Classes at St. Paul's

Mondays

6:00 pm **Low-Impact Whole Body Workout for Women (BunCamp)** @ St. Paul's. RSVP required.

Tuesdays

5:15 pm **Cardio Drumming Happy Hour** with Michelle Gibson @ St. Paul's. for Adults and Kids. FREE! Drop-ins welcome.

Wednesdays

12:00 noon **Mind+Body Movement (SilverSneakers® BOOM Mind)** for stability, balance and strength. FREE for qualifying older adults. Open to ALL who need a gentle mid-day reset.

Thursdays

1:00 pm **Low-Impact Core and Upper Body Strength for Everybody** @ St. Paul's. This class is booked as package. No drop-ins.

5:15 pm **Cardio Drumming Happy Hour** with Michelle Gibson @ St. Paul's. for Adults and Kids. FREE! Drop-ins welcome.

www.persistmbm.com

517.290.0305 deepersists@gmail.com



**Call for Volunteers
For the Service of Consecration and Ordination
of the 11th Bishop of Michigan**

The Transitions Team is inviting members of our congregations to fill a variety of roles for the Consecration of the Rev. Dr. Bonnie A Perry as the 11th Bishop of our Diocese on Saturday, February 8, 2020! The committee is hoping for a broad cross section of volunteers from across the diocese, representing the entire geography and demographic composition of our household.

All volunteers must be willing to arrive at the Consecration site by 7:45 am and be prepared for rehearsals, briefings, orientations and instructions at 8:00 am. [Click here to sign up!](#)

We are looking for...

- **Acolytes** – torches (24) will need own vestments, and torch.
- **Acolytes** – crucifers (12) will need own vestments and cross.
- **Vergers** (12) – must have own vestments and verge.
- **Ushers** (20) – well experienced in giving directions; Must be able to navigate stairs.
- **Eucharistic Ministers** (44) – clergy and currently licensed lay persons needed; Must be able to navigate stairs.
- **Hospitality Volunteers** (20) – Greeters, direction givers, hospitality for reception following the service (may be seated).
- **Security Team** (8) – Work with professional specialists at entrances, the parking lot, and throughout the site. Security team may miss the actual Consecration service!
- **Stage Crew** (6) – Assist in carrying and setting furnishings and equipment for the service. Will also reset the “stage” at the mid-point during the consecration service.
- **Altar Guild** (4) – well experienced; will be responsible for assisting with set up and clean up. Must be able to navigate stairs.
- **The Consecration Choir** (all voices are welcome) – singers must be willing to attend a rehearsal on Saturday, January 25, 10 am – noon at St. Paul’s, Brighton*, as well as the rehearsal on the day of the service at 8:00 am.

*Additional Consecration Choir rehearsal locations, dates and times may be added, based on the responses received.

The Consecration of the 11th Bishop of Michigan
Saturday, February 8, 2020
The Ford Community & Performing Arts Center
15801 Michigan Avenue
Dearborn, Michigan
10:30 am

All Are Welcome!

For more info go to: <https://www.edomi.org/event/consecration/>
Link to sign-up: <https://edomiforms.formstack.com/forms/>



Building & Grounds

Happy New Year to all!

A full report from Building & Grounds for the past year and future expenditures will be provided at the annual meeting on January 19th.

Kyle King
Building & Grounds

2020 RESOLUTIONS

1. LOVE MORE Matthew 22:39
2. SERVE MORE 1 Peter 4:10
3. SACRIFICE MORE Hebrews 13:16
4. PRAY MORE 1 Chronicles 16:11
5. TRUST MORE Proverbs 3:5-6
6. SEEK THE PRIZE Philippians 3:12-15
7. DREAM BIG Philippians 4:13



Please join us at 10:30 am this Sunday, January 5th for our annual Epiphany Pageant. There is one service only, NO 8 AM SERVICE. (No Adult Forum or Church School this Sunday also as we prepare for the pageant.

Please plan to stay after the service and help us remove the greenery from the church. We would love for you to help!

THANK YOU!!

To everyone that helped make the Advent and Christmas Eve Services, Christmas Day, and Christmas Lessons & Carols Service go smoothly. You did an incredible job!!!



AND... to

The Alter Guild, Choir, Acolytes, Readers & Ushers; and a very special shout out to the wonderful children of St. Paul's who helped out on Christmas Eve.



Reminder:

Our Annual Meeting will be on Sunday Jan. 19th after the 10:30 am service with lunch provided.

Committee leaders please email your annual report to alicemulhearn@stpauljxmi.org **no later than Jan. 15th.**

We need people who are willing to serve on the Vestry and 3 members of St. Paul's to be our delegates for the annual Diocesan Convention.

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Office Closed	5:15 pm Cardio Drumming 6 pm Handbell Practice	1 pm Funeral Service Natalie Warrick	10 am Epiphany Pageant Practice
5 Birthdays & Anniversaries	6	7	8	9	10	11
10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour Epiphany Pageant		10:30 am Bereavement 5:15 pm Cardio Drum 5:30 pm M & O 6 pm Toastmasters 6:30 pm Kitchen Cabinet	No Bible Study or 12:15 pm Eucharist 6:30 pm Choir Practice	5:15 pm Cardio Drumming 5:30 pm Building & Grounds 6 pm Handbell Practice		10:30 am ECW
12 Noisy Offering	13	14	15	16	17	18
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 Drum pm Toastmasters	11 am Bible Study 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 1 pm Brownell Lunch 6:30 pm Choir Practice	11:30 am Staff Meeting 5:15 pm Cardio Drumming 6 pm Handbell Practice		8
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 9:15 am Church School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Annual Meeting & Lunch		10:30 am Bereavement 5:15 pm Cardio Drum 6 pm Toastmasters	No Bible Study or 12:15 pm Eucharist 6:30 pm Choir Practice	5 pm Big B/S 5:15 pm Cardio Drumming 6 pm Handbell Practice		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 9:15 am Church School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour		10:30 am Bereavement 4 pm Interfaith Dinner 5:15 pm Cardio Drum 6 pm Toastmasters	11 am Bible Study 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 6:30 pm Choir Practice	11:30 am Staff Meeting 5:15 pm Cardio Drumming 6 pm Handbell Practice		