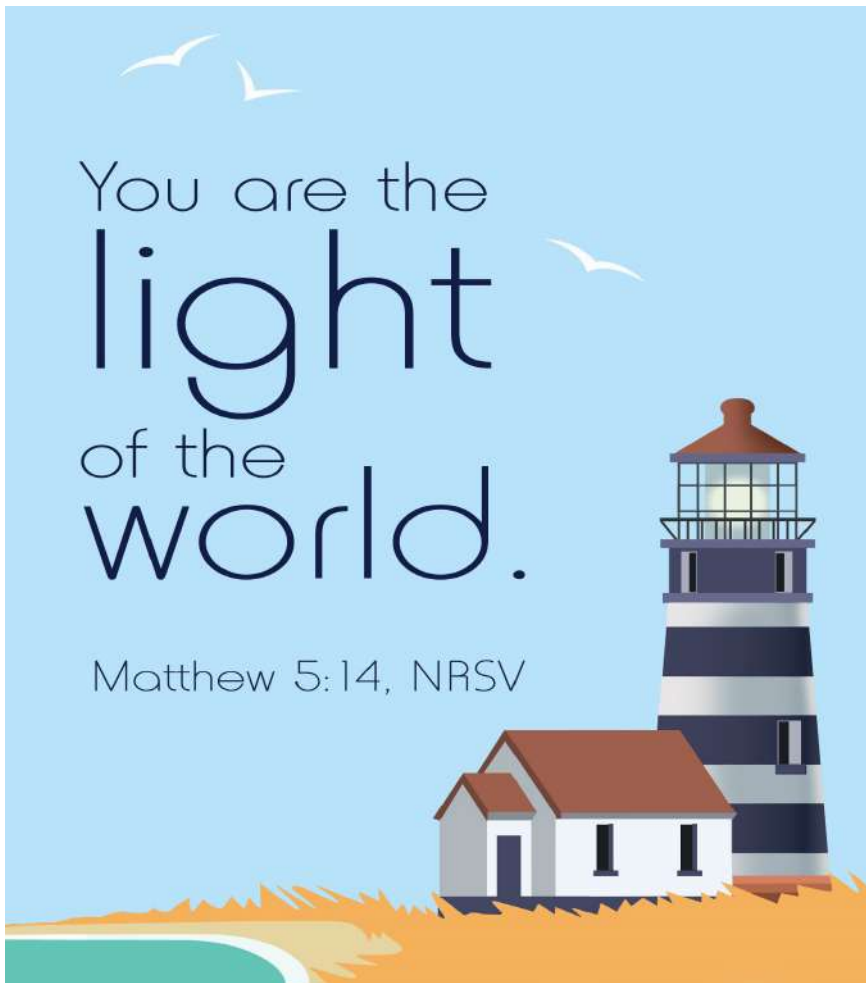


July
2022
Volume
LXXXIV

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.....	2,3
Sr. Warden.....	4
ECW.....	5
Organist's corner.....	6
VBS Photos.....	7
Conversation Starters.....	8
Announcements.....	10
Birthdays & Anniversaries.....	11
July Calendar.....	12



Rector's Corner

Saying goodbye is so very hard, especially when we love someone. I use this phrase when counseling people who are grieving, "Grief is the price we pay for love, and we pay it at the end." Now, no one is dying! Dee and I are moving away but we still hope to hear from you all from time to time and we hope you'll come visit us in Asheville. We fell in love with you all when we moved here, and we are grieving the loss of this community and our friendship. We plan to do all in our power to make meaningful connections with you as you are able and before we go. Please know we will carry you in our hearts and have learned a lot at St. Paul's.

More to come next month as we part so for now, let's focus on pulling together to raise up lay leadership for ministry after I leave. Your Wardens, Vestry and Parish Admin. Alice will need your help to plan, manage, schedule, and do ministry together. Please offer your support to them during this transition and know each gift of your time is precious, especially now as it's most needed. St. Paul's will thrive during this transition, and you'll see the talent and heart of this parish rise to the occasion. I have no doubt!

Faithfully,
Sarah



St. Paul's is once again sending our Get Real kids to Lake Michigan for their last day of the program. We have grant money for the buses and would love to get them a pizza lunch at the Silver Beach Pizza restaurant right on the beach.

If you'd like to donate to this cause, please make a check payable to St. Paul's with "Get Real" in the memo line. It's about \$350 to buy pizzas for all the kids and we thank you for your support!



A Message from Pastor Sarah...

Friday July 8th, 2022

Dear St. Paul's Family,

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Your commitment in love to one another and to St. Paul's makes it easier to say what I need to in this letter to you all. At the beginning of this year a friend of mine posted a search process for the Dean of the Cathedral of All Souls in Asheville, N.C. When I read this posting, I was struck by it and felt my heart pulled to find out more. As I investigated, I conferred with Dee, and we felt this opportunity was one we were both called to explore. For the last several months I've gone through a process of discernment, application, interviews, advice, and lots and lots of prayer. I got the news late Friday, July 1st that I've been called as the new Dean of the Cathedral of All Souls in Asheville, which is the Diocese of Western North Carolina.

I am so grateful to serve with such dedicated folks who are known for hospitality to all who enter our doors and faithful outreach in Jackson as well. Amid a world pandemic, national strife and the host of family and personal concerns we each have, you have persevered and thrived. I have seen you all manage the stress and suffering of our age by choosing healthy, loving partnerships with each other. This foundation of love is the basis for the hope we all feel as we come through the pandemic and see what God has in store for us in the years to come.

Please know that I love being your rector and I was not engaging in a wide search putting my resume out all over the place. This is literally the one place I was drawn to apply. As excited as I am about this new call, I am grieving the loss of this community and your friendship. We've truly become partners in ministry, and I am sad to leave you all. The Vestry and I have met, and they are in contact with the bishop's office especially the Rev. Canons Ellen Ekeveg and Susie Shafer. They are brilliant and loving and will help you all through this transition. Bishop Perry has asked me to tell you of her great love for the people (and especially the kids) of St. Paul's. She will make sure you have all the support you need.

My last Sunday with you will be August 14th and diocesan staff will be with you the following Sunday to introduce themselves to the whole parish. Thankfully, Canon Ekeveg led our vestry retreat last Fall so several of your leaders know her already. Meanwhile, I hope to have meaningful time with you as we begin the process of saying goodbye. Thank you for your love and support of me and Dee over these past five years and I am confident in the future God has for St. Paul's Church.

Faithfully,
Sarah+

From our Sr. Warden...

Once again, we find ourselves saying good-bye to cherished members of our church community. Pastor Melissa last month, the expected exit of the Randall family, and now Pastor Sarah and her wife Dee. Though Pastor Sarah's departure came as a surprise and a shock to me, in retrospect it should not have been. We all knew what a treasure we had in Pastor Sarah, and we will miss her. North Carolina will be well served, and I wish her the best. We knew she was special when we called her. She has proven it repeatedly during her tenure here. We were making great gains during her first years before Covid changed the world. We are on the verge of wonderful things happening in this church, and we can thank Pastor Sarah for leading us to this point.

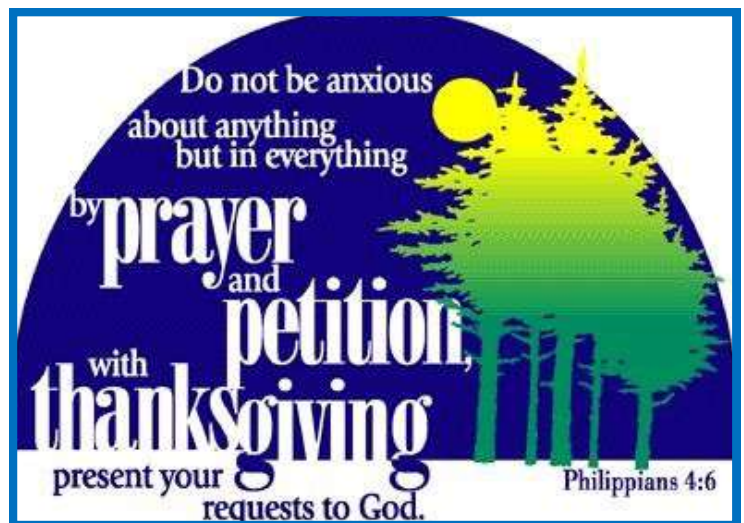
The downside of this is the need to find an enthusiastic Rector to replace a Pastor that we have grown to love, trust, and depend on. It means a lot of work, but it also means working toward a goal together as a team. A process that we started in 2015 and ended with the calling of Pastor Sarah. That process went a long way toward mending wounds that had festered for some time in this church. Those wounds are no longer a factor but the process will be similar and will involve teamwork and discernment, and lots of prayers.

As of this writing now, I have not spoken with the Diocese about the process. I will be in touch with them soon and pertinent information will be forthcoming. Today there is a different Bishop and staff in the diocese, although the necessary steps we take to get back to a full time Rector may not have changed. I am hopeful that this process will be shorter than last, as the church is in a much better position.

Finally, I know you all must feel the same sense of loss as I. We will persevere. We had several highly qualified people apply for this position last time and we will have great prospects again. In the meantime, let us use these few weeks we have to say our good-byes and well wishes. We will prepare for this challenge, and make a smooth transition to a new chapter in this Parish. I encourage your prayers as we move forward, blessing Reverend Sarah on her new calling and on our new discernment process.

God's Peace,

Barney



The Women of St. Paul's Episcopal Church

ECW

Hello friends. I hope everyone had a great Independence Day on July 4 and stayed safe as you celebrated. Summer is in full swing now and the weather is beautiful. We are blessed to live in such a wonderful state – not overly hot and not overly humid.

Also in July, northern Irish celebrate what they call the glorious 12th. It celebrates the victory of William of Orange over the Catholic king James II at the battle of the Boyne in 1690. It also marked the acceleration of the planting of the north as land was forcibly taken from Catholics and given to Scottish protestants. Lands that were majority Catholic owned were reduced to just 14% as a lucky few managed to hold onto their property. And so, the North was set to be sectarian for centuries to come.

St. Swithin's day is celebrated on July 15. The superstition holds that whatever the weather on St. Swithin's day, it will continue for 40 more days. We shall see.

Our June meeting marked the election of the new board. The board now is Sandra Kilian, President, Valerie Rowley, Vice President, Cheryl Gumper, Treasurer, Peggy Wilds, Liaison to the diocese, Christy Swanson and Romelle Frey, members at large. The position of secretary remains vacant. Sandra Kilian gave a very interesting presentation on the Old Testament which can be most confusing. She did a great job of working through it and picking out the most important sections. She has a wonderful knowledge and grasp of the material and her presentation was well received.

Our next meeting on July 9 will be our annual picnic. It will be at the Rowley home from 11 am until whenever. All are welcome. We hope you can make this meeting as we enjoy a traditional summer feast of grilled hamburgers with all the fixings. Please sign up in the glass narthex so we know how many to expect or call Sandra or myself to get your name down.

Please remember there will be no meeting in August as we all go about our summer plans and enjoy the heat. We look forward to seeing you all at the picnic. Otherwise have a wonderful summer and we will see you all again in September.

Respectfully submitted, Valerie Rowley,
Vice President, ECW.



"St. Swithin's day, gif ye do rain,
for forty days it will remain;
St. Swithin's day, an ye be fair,
for forty days 'twill rain nae mair."



Singing the Music of the Church with Children

For the last two weeks, our facility at St. Paul's has been alive with the voices of children. We had our shared Vacation Bible School/Summer Art Camp that we shared with two other congregations. In addition, we are hosting older youth in the "Get Real" Summer Program. As a former elementary school teacher, I love the energy, joy, and sense of wonder that our children and youth bring to any situation.

The music of the church is something that can also be enjoyed by children and youth, especially the hymns that we sing. There are certain hymns, though, that appeal more to our younger members. These hymns often have less complex melodies, shorter stanzas, and simpler language. They can make great lullabies for babies or good songs to sing when a child is just learning to speak. The hymn "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb" is often a nostalgic favorite. The theology is sincere and simple with some concrete images, as seen in the first verse.

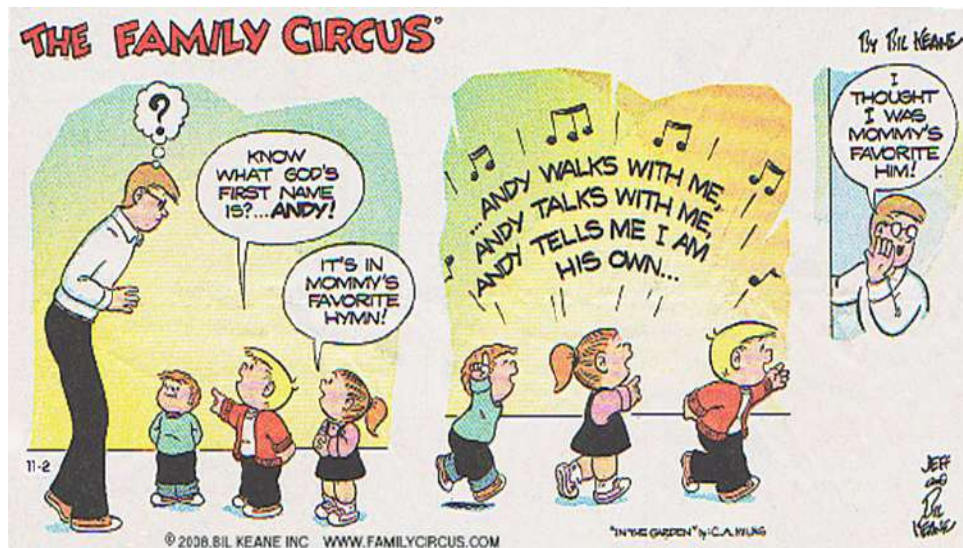
I am Jesus' Little Lamb, Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me, Knows my needs and well provides me,
Loves me every day the same, Even calls me by my name.

This hymn text was written by Henrietta von Hayn (1742-1782).

"Jesus Loves Me" is also a favorite hymn to teach to children. This hymn text was also written by a woman, Anna Warner (1827-1915), but the refrain "Yes, Jesus Loves Me, The Bible Tells Me So" was added by William Bradbury, who also composed the tune. Each verse begins with the reassuring words, "Jesus Loves Me." The rest of each verse tells of the things that Jesus has done for us in language understandable to all. It is a lovely setting of John 15:9 where Jesus tells us "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love."

Our liturgy is also an important part of our children's church music lives. This is music that they will hear repeatedly every Sunday during a certain season of the church year. It becomes internalized by rote repetition yet the Fraction Anthem or the Sanctus or the Doxology can teach important concepts to our children as they grow in their faith.

-Julie J. Baglien, Organist





VBS/Summer Art
Camp
2022



“IN THANKSGIVING”

This month we are grateful for:

- **All who Assisted with VBS/Summer Art Camp**
- **Pastor Sarah - from the Bible Study Group**
- **The Rowleys - for hosting July’s ECW gathering**

Conversation STARTERS

Dwelling in the Word:

Each Sunday between June 26 and August 7 during the church class hour, Natalie Magnusson will be hosting a special class called Dwelling in the Word. This is part of her research project for her doctoral work, and the class is open to anyone. Each week we will read all or a portion of Luke 14 and spend time listening to one another share what stood out to us from the text that day. The practice is simple and requires no preparation before or in-between classes. To have enough space, we will meet in the library during these Sundays.

Listening Opportunities:

This summer, we will have the gift of three different listening opportunities and conversations with some Black leaders from our area. Kesha Hamilton is the owner of “Diverse Minds Consulting” and a Trustee on the Jackson Public School Board. Kesha will be with us on June 26. Tony Gant is a Policy Analyst and regional coordinator for “Nation Outside,” which seeks to create better support for formerly incarcerated persons. For those who read the book *Just Mercy* just before the pandemic began, Tony joined us on zoom for conversation and is thrilled to be able to have that in-person conversation we hoped for two years ago. Tony will be with us on July 10. And the Reverend Sister Veronica Dunbar, known as Sister Vee, serves as the Missioner for Spirituality and Race in the Diocese of Michigan. **Sr. Vee will be with us on July 24.** All three of these conversations will happen in Holy Spirit Hall following the 10:30 worship service. Light refreshments will be served during coffee hour, and then we will get started.

Natalie Magnusson has coordinated all three of these listening opportunities as a portion of her research project, and there will be an anonymous survey offered at the end of each one. The purpose of Natalie’s project is to offer opportunities that help us to discern how God might be calling St. Paul’s to partner in the work of racial justice here in Jackson, MI. Please make plans to attend, as the more participation we have, the more it will deepen the findings of her research as well as our church and the flourishing of our local community.



Please continue to check the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board and sign up yourself &/ or your family for jobs needed for Sunday worship (readers, LEMs, Acolytes, etc.) We can always use help ushering and on the tech team as well!



Lots of folks are inquiring about plans for saying farewell to Pastor Sarah and Dee. Stay tuned as our Vestry and hospitality folks work together to make a plan. We will keep you all posted and details to come very soon!



Make a Difference! Become a Hospice Volunteer

Careline Hospice gives patients who are facing a life limiting illness the freedom to live all the days of their lives by offering comfort, dignity and quality of life. As a hospice volunteer, and as an important part of our hospice care team, you can help improve the quality of life for our patients, as well as their families and caregivers.

Hospice volunteers can make a difference in many ways, including:

- Visit patients and families and provide a listening ear
- Provide respite visits so caregivers may get a much needed break
- Life review
- Veteran to veteran visits
- Pet therapy visits
- Accompanying and assisting patients with activities
- Music at the bedside
- Assist in clerical support for hospice staff
- *And so much more!*

Training is provided at no cost to you and hours are flexible.

Time is valuable.

Consider giving some of your time to make the lives of hospice patients brighter.

Office Locations

Clarkston, MI • Jackson, MI • Grand Rapids, MI • Saginaw, MI

**For more information contact (800) 961-7650
or volunteer@carelinehealthgroup.com**

CH-136



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

Masks are recommended, but not required.

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.)

Bible Study



Bible Study is in person on Wednesdays at **10:30 am** in the Small Dining Room.

(It will continue to be on Zoom also for those who would like to still attend online.)

Follow this link to Zoom in: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83005898502>

No Password required



**Wednesday @ 12:15 pm -
Holy Eucharist in the chapel**



Join Pastor Sarah each **Wednesday at 8pm** on our St. Paul's

Facebook page for the service of Compline from the Book of Common Prayer with the commemoration of saints that day.

All are welcome to join us for a 'pub theology' evening. We meet at Ironbark Brewery **every other Wednesday at 6pm**. Questions? Email Tom at holsingerfriesen@gmail.com.

Adult Forum

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

Email Eric Magnusson (emagnusson75@gmail.com) for more info or questions.



Jeff Thomas	July 6
Natalie Magnusson	July 9
James Grant	July 10
Parish Secretary Alice's Birthday	July 19
Romelle Frey	July 24
Sheryl Foor	July 24
Jeanne Draper	July 26

Ron & Valerie Rowley	July 8
Bob & Barbara Duke	July 11



The Church office will be closed on **Monday, July 4th** in observance of the Independence Day Holiday.

Holding Unto God's Promises

- Day 1:** Isaiah 40:29-31
- Day 2:** Exodus 14:14
- Day 3:** 2 Chronicles 7:14
- Day 4:** James 1:5
- Day 5:** Philippians 4:19
- Day 6:** Psalm 37:4
- Day 7:** John 14:13-16
- Day 8:** Luke 11:9-13
- Day 9:** Matthew 6:31-33
- Day 10:** Proverbs 3:5-6
- Day 11:** Romans 10:9-10
- Day 12:** Revelation 3:5
- Day 13:** John 8:36
- Day 14:** Deuteronomy 31:8
- Day 15:** James 4:7
- Day 16:** Isaiah 61:1
- Day 17:** Isaiah 54:17
- Day 18:** 1 Peter 4:1-2
- Day 19:** 2 Corinthians 4:17-18
- Day 20:** Colossians 3:3-4
- Day 21:** Revelation 2:7
- Day 22:** Isaiah 43:2
- Day 23:** John 3:36
- Day 24:** Malachi 3:10
- Day 25:** Psalm 18:3
- Day 26:** Ephesians 3:16-19
- Day 27:** Psalm 103:2-5
- Day 28:** 2 Samuel 7:28
- Day 29:** Psalm 19:7
- Day 30:** John 10:10
- Day 31:** Isaiah 54:10





JULY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					11 am Bullen	
3 Birthdays & Anniv	4	5	6	7	8	9
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 9:15 am Dwelling in the Word w/ Natalie M. 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour	Office Closed 	11:00 pm "Get Real" Program 6 pm Toastmasters	10 :30am Bible Study 11 am Get Real Program 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 8 pm FB Compline	11:00 pm "Get Real" Program		11 am ECW picnic 
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult 9:15 am Dwelling in the Word w/ Natalie M. 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour/ Listening Opportunity	12:00 pm "Get Real" Program	11:00 pm "Get Real" Program 6 pm Toastmasters	10 :30am Bible Study 11 am Get Real Program 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 8 pm FB Compline	11:00 pm "Get Real" Program		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 9:15 am Dwelling in the Word w/ Natalie M. 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour		11:00 pm "Get Real" Program 6 pm Toastmasters 6:30pm Vestry Mtg	10 :30am Bible Study 11 am Get Real Program 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 8 pm FB Compline	11:00 pm "Get Real" Program		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 9:15 am Dwelling in the Word w/ Natalie M. 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour/ Listening Opportunity		11:00 pm "Get Real" Program 6 pm Toastmasters	10 :30am Bible Study 11 am Get Real Program 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 8 pm FB Compline			
31						
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 9:15 am Dwelling in the Word w/ Natalie M. 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour						