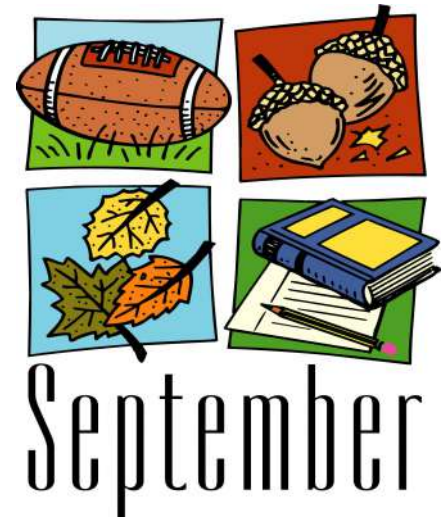


September
2022
Volume
LXXXVI

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



September



"Be thou an
example of the
believers, in word,
in conversation,
in charity, in spirit,
in faith, in purity."

1st Timothy 4:12



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A Letter From Pastor Sarah to the Jacksonians:

Grace and peace to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I will remember you in my prayers and believe that God is leading us both into new ministry for our mutual good.

I remember my first Sunday with you all and the hopeful expectation as well as fear of our new relationship. You had been through so many trials and tribulations that left you at enmity with former rectors and each other.

I didn't feel up to the task of beginning the work of healing among you. Then I remembered that I was not the healer! Any of us, who live long enough will experience hurt and pain, and if we know the Lord Jesus, can experience healing if we are willing to be healed!

Remember though, our faith and life are a partnership with God and our brothers and sisters in Christ. We must be willing partners because God does not violently lead us. God is gentle and kind with us and leads us with love.

All who call ourselves followers of Christ must, therefore, live lives of love and compassion for ourselves and our neighbors. God is so generous in forgiveness and lavish in grace. Let us pray to live with these attributes ourselves.

We have experienced so much together. Life and death, joy and pain, happiness and fear. Through all times we have been knit together by the Lord Jesus so we could be of use and service to others.

Healing had to happen first and then we ventured forth into the broken world around us. As we got to know the needs of our community we were fearful of not being up to the task.

Again, God reminded us that we alone are not responsible for the healing of the world. We are called to live in love and seek healing of ourselves from God so we can help God in repairing this world.

It is still up to us to act as adults, seeking healing and wholeness, so we may serve as Jesus did. I am proud to say I have seen this in St. Paul's throughout these past 5 years.

Having suffered the loss of each other's company during the pandemic, we have come to value even more our time together here at church, with our families and our friends. Let us never forget the great privilege of being together.

Finally, sisters and brothers, I have seen us begin to look within ourselves and in our community for the truth about the causes of the suffering around us. This work is especially frightening for those who have never explored issues of race and culture before.

Once again we are not called to heal ourselves or the world of racism. We are called to pray and show up with God to do this important work together. God will show us the way just as we have been guided before, with grace and gentleness.

I leave you my blessings and ask your prayers for me on the next leg of my journey. Be assured you are always in my prayers and I give thanks for you and your partnership with God. You are a blessing to me and this community. Amen.

Dear Friends,

Dee and I are eternally grateful for our time with you all and especially for the fantastic party on my last day! So lovely to spend time with you and remember such great stories and experiences together. We treasure those memories. Thanks so much for your incredible generosity to us as we leave and please keep in touch as you can.

My new address at the cathedral is:

The Very Rev. Sarah Hurlbert
The Cathedral of All Souls
9 Swan St.
Asheville, N.C. 28803
sarah.hurlbert@allsoulscathedral.org



From Mission & Outreach...

We had a wonderful response to our collection for "Mama Tutu's" neighborhood ministry! The August "noisy offering," combined with direct donations from our congregation, resulted in delivery of (approximately) 35 spiral notebooks, 10 packs of notebook paper, 200 pair of children's socks and underwear, and several large packages of sanitary pads. Thank you, St Paul's, for your loving and generous support!

A team from St Paul's Mission and Outreach recently were given the opportunity to tour the renovated Jackson Interfaith Shelter and meet with the Shelter Director, Steve Castle. What a blessing that facility is to our community! We learned much about the Shelter's history and current ministries. More info from that visit will be shared in next month's Epistle.

One thing we learned is that the Shelter provides 3 meals a day - not only for residents but for anyone who may be hungry. Keeping the shelter pantry stocked with breakfast items is an ongoing need.

Throughout the month of September St Paul's will be collecting the following food items for the Interfaith Shelter: **Ground Coffee, containers of Quick-Cooking Oats, bags of white sugar, and boxes of breakfast cereal.** Please bring any donated items to the collection bin in the church's glass entrance. If you prefer to donate cash toward the purchase of these items, please reach out to Dana Burkey (517-315-1350) or Heidi Lathrop (517-740-8362). Thank you!

From our Sr. Warden...

Congratulations to all at St. Paul's. After what for many was devastating news of Pastor Sarah leaving the church, we have said our good-byes and continue the work of the church while looking forward to a new and exciting future. The send-off party was great with both laughs and tears. We wish Sarah and Dee the best of luck in the future. They, at last report, will be leaving town for North Carolina this weekend.

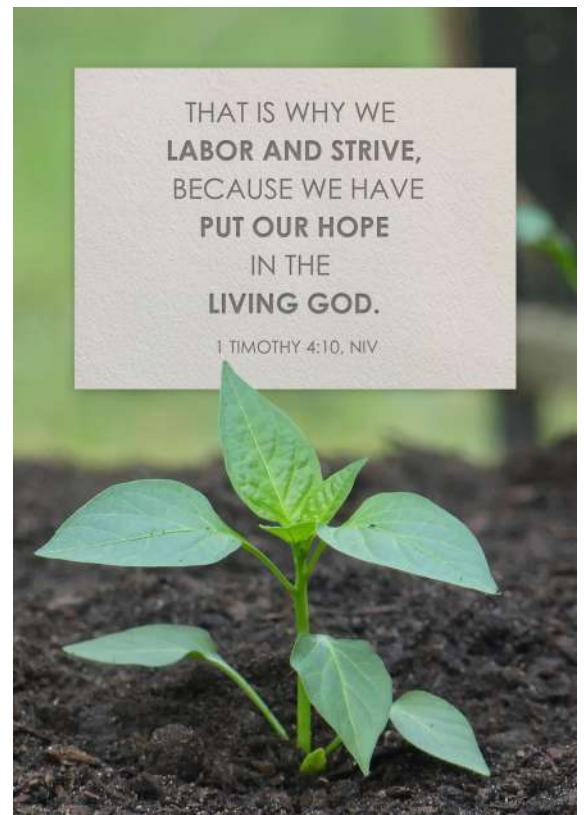
Sandra Killian offered Morning prayer at both services the following week. The Morning prayer service is a beautiful service that we do not use as often as we once did. It was especially nice. Sandra did a fine job. Reverend Chip Dischinger made his first appearance last Sunday and was welcomed by all. We can look forward to seeing him throughout the month of September. On September 4th, we welcome Cannon Ellen Ekevag, and Rev. Susie Shaefer from the diocese to conduct our services. They will also hold a meeting with the vestry between services and a congregational meeting after the 10:30 service. They will outline next steps in the transition to a new priest. I hope to see the eight o'clockers come for that meeting. The 10:30 people are mostly good people, we seldom bite, and we have a great coffee hour.

We are still looking for a church Choir Director. We have had some interest but have not found the right person yet. New people are arriving on a regular basis, and I have talked with some who have expressed interest in participating in the choir. If you know a choir director, send them our way.

Without getting too much into the details of the transition, I want you to know that we in the vestry have been moving forward since early on. We are into the second stage of the discernment process. The first stage was smooth. The work will begin soon. The vestry will soon appoint a search committee. They will appoint subcommittees and all in this church will be involved in this adventure. This church has changed in so many ways during the last five years that it's hard to believe it is the same church. I know the person we finally select will be one that was sent by God and we, in the end will have had the foresight to recognize and call that person.

I am proud to serve this church and I look forward to the challenges and changes that will come as we grow together.

God's Peace,
Barney Rudolph



From our Jr. Warden...

We had a great day celebrating Pastor Sarah on August 14th. It was wonderful to see so many parishioners and community members come to show their love. While we are sad to see Sarah and Dee leave, we know they will spread God's word and love in their new community too.

As a parish we have a lot of changes happening. On September 4th we will have two priests from the Diocese join us for worship and a parish wide meeting. I hope you can join us as we learn more about our next steps in finding a new priest. I won't say "replacing Sarah" because we all know that will be impossible. We will work hard to fill her shoes though.

Elaine Themm
Jr. Warden



The Women of St. Paul's Episcopal Church

ECW

And so, we are entering the month where summer comes to an end, and we welcome the next season. While it's sad to see the end of summer it's nice to leave the hotter days behind and welcome the cooler fall temperatures.

As with some other months, September is packed with saint's feast days and civil festivities. Some of the saints remembered are St. Teresa of Calcutta. St. Matthew the gospel writer, patron of bankers and financial workers. St. Vincent de Paul, advocate of the poor and founder of the Daughters of Charity. Michaelmas day celebrates the archangels Gabriel, Raphael, Michael (and all the saints), and in the Anglican tradition, Uriel.

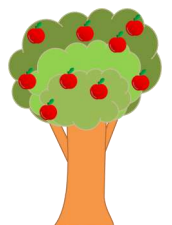
In the civil realm we have the all-important Labor Day remembrance. This is the day where workers and their predecessors are remembered and honored. Labor activists of note are Cesar Chavez who advocated for farm and migrant workers and in 1962 formed The Farm Workers Union. Joe Hill was a union organizer and itinerant laborer who also wrote songs about the struggle. Lucy Randolph Mason was a suffragist who was involved in the union and civil rights movements. Her efforts drew the attention of Eleanor Roosevelt and when they met, became life-long friends. Frances Perkins was an advocate for workers civil rights and became the first female Presidential Cabinet member. She was secretary of labor from 1933 to 1945, becoming the longest to serve in that position.

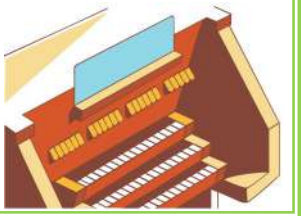
My personal favorite is Mother Jones. Born in my own native Ireland, she immigrated to Canada and ended up in the United States. After many personal tragedies she was struck by the disparities of the rich and poor and the huge gap between them. She became a tireless advocate and activist for workers' rights, safe working conditions and fought to abolish child labor. Such was her success that she was named "the most dangerous woman in America". I was reminded of the words of the civil rights leader, John Lewis who said we should all get into "good" and "necessary" trouble. I'd like to think that Mother Jones was one of the first to do so.

It was a quiet month for ECW activities as we all took a break and relaxed enjoying family and friends. The board is nonetheless busy behind the scenes organizing future meetings. We are still in desperate need of a secretary and are praying for a miracle and that someone will step up. Our nut sale will be starting pre-ordering soon so be thinking about who might like these as gifts. Our next meeting is a social event on September 10 with a fun activity to entertain you all. Sign up sheet is in the glass narthex. Mark your calendars for October 1 when Rev. Melissa Congleton will be our speaker talking about the differences between being a priest and a cop. Promises to be a good presentation.

And that is it folks. Try to stay out of trouble for the rest of the summer. But if you do get into trouble, make sure it's "good" trouble. Enjoy the last days of summer and we'll see you on September 10.

Respectfully submitted, Valerie Rowley, Vice President, ECW.





Music for Unsettled Times

As a church musician, I am so blessed to be able to help lead the music of the church during times of great joy as well as times that are more unsettled. Since early 2020, our lives and our worship practices have been in some previously uncharted territory. COVID-19 changed the way we worshipped for many, many months, and now Pastor Sarah's departure will also be having a bit of a change on the ways that we worship. I greatly appreciated Dr. Killian leading the Morning Prayer service on August 21, when a supply priest was not available. I look forward to working with a number of different supply priests and priests from the diocese until we have an interim appointed. However, each of these people will bring a different flavor to the worship, perhaps do things slightly differently, and need us all to be at our most flexible in appreciating each worship leader.

One more constant part of the worship services will be the liturgy and the hymns. We will be returning to the Gloria from the Hymnal 1982 since most of our supply priests will be familiar with that setting. It is also a piece of music that we all know well. I am also taking this time to let familiar hymns give us a more settled feeling in worship. Music has such an ability to give us joy or comfort or hope. It is a very special way of communally lifting our praises, prayers, hopes, and needs to God, while knowing that He hears His people. If you have not had a chance to suggest a hymn that has meaning to you, please add it to the list on the bulletin board in the glass narthex. Through the music of the church, we can grow more cohesive in our faith as the St. Paul's community.

O the happiness of the heavenly alleluia, sung in security, in fear of no adversity!

We shall have no enemies in heaven, we shall never lose a friend.

God's praises are sung both there and here.

Here they are sung by those destined to die; there by those destined to live forever.

Here they are sung in hope; there, in hope's fulfillment.

Here they are sung by wayfarers; there by those living in their own country.

So then, my friends, let's sing now,

Not in order to enjoy a life of leisure, but in order to lighten our labors.

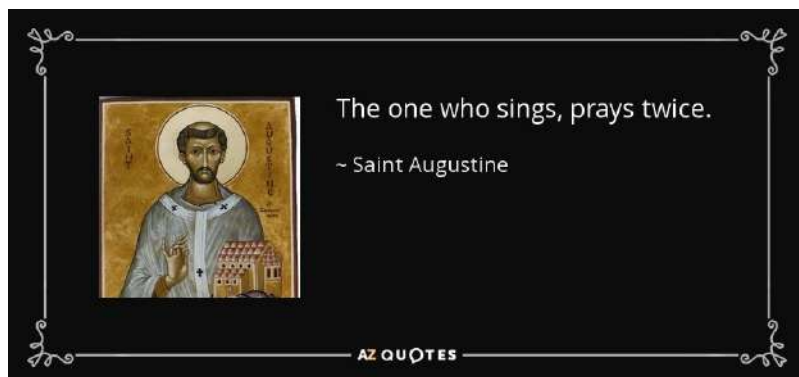
You should sing as wayfarers do – sing, but continue your journey.

Do not be lazy, but sing to make your journey more enjoyable.

Sing then, but keep going.

Saint Augustine (354 AD – 430 AD), Sermon 256

Julie J. Baglien
Organist/Director of Music





Jackson County Health Department



August 18, 2022

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
309 South Jackson Street
Jackson, MI 49201

RE: 2022 GET REAL SUMMER PROGRAM DONATION

Dear St. Paul's Episcopal Church Family,

On behalf of the student and staff participants in this year's Get REAL Summer Program, I am honored to present you with a donation of \$376.70. The youth earned this money during their July 6 car wash and voted to give these funds back to St. Paul's as a token of appreciation for everything the church has done to support Get REAL.

Please accept our sincere thanks for the tremendous role St. Paul's plays in the success of Get REAL, and we look forward to partnering with you in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Lamphere, MA, CHES
Health Educator, EYT Program Coordinator
Jackson County Health Department
1715 Lansing Avenue, Jackson, MI 49202
Office: (517) 768.1637
jlamphere@mijackson.org





Would you like to be a part of the St. Paul's Prayer Chain Ministry?

Through prayer, the members of the St. Paul's Prayer Chain Ministry reach out to those in need of God's help and guidance and share their gift of intercession for those who are requesting it. Each week, Diana Sinclair and secretary Alice compile the list of names of those requesting prayer, both from the sign-up sheet in the back of the church as well as requests sent in via phone calls or emails, which Diana then forwards via email to the prayer chain group. If you would like to be a part of this ministry please email the church office at: church@stpauljxmi.org or Diana Sinclair at: finnikki96@aol.com.

Leadership for St. Paul's Areas of Ministry

- ♦ **Worship:** Julie Baglien, Alice Mulhearn, Barney Rudolph, Dennis Marsh, Elaine Themm, Eston Dawson-Baglien
- ♦ **Pastoral Care/Funerals:** Alice Mulhearn, Rev. Phil Stout, Rev. Jim Hegedus, Rev.'s Ross & Sue Vandercook
- ♦ **Administration & Vestry:** Alice Mulhearn, Marco Shehab, Barney Rudolph, Elaine Themm, Dennis Marsh
- ♦ **Education:** Forum – Eric Magnusson, James Grant; Children & Youth – Kim Perlos, Tom Holsinger-Friesen, Natalie Magnusson, Elaine Themm
- ♦ **Altar Guild/Flowers:** Cheryl Gumper, Christie Swanson
- ♦ **Buildings & Grounds:** Harry Strait, Barney Rudolph, Eston Dawson-Baglien
- ♦ **Mission & Outreach:** Heidi Hosler-Lathrop, Dana Burkey
- ♦ **Hospitality:** Big Guy Catering, Christie Swanson, Rhonda Rudolph, Debbie Batchelder, Alice Mulhearn
- ♦ **Tech:** James Grant, Carrie Heider-Grant



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 will continue to be in person on Wednesdays in August at **10:30 am** in the Small Dining Room.

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.



“IN THANKSGIVING”

This month we are grateful for:

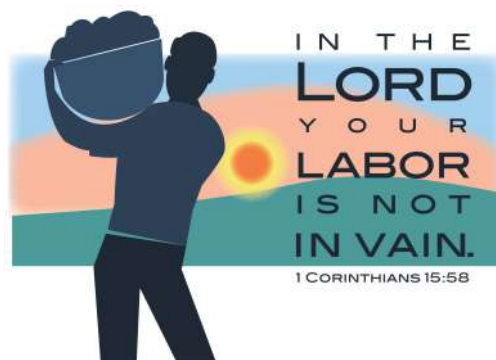
“Julie And her beautiful music”

“Father Chip”

“Dana & Heidi and their Mission & Outreach work in the community!”



The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 5th for the Labor Day holiday weekend.



SEPTEMBER



Lane Perlos	September 3
Bill Boody	September 6
Janet Hughes	September 6
Omar Themm	September 9
Marcia Hudson	September 11
Joe Lathrop	September 13
Elizabeth Rogers	September 18
Bob Lock	September 20
Melaina Magnusson	September 22
Samuel Holsinger-Friesen	September 29
Evelyn Magnusson	September 29
Maliyah Radabaugh	September 30

SEPTEMBER



Edward & Helen Greene	September 10
Doug & Janet Hughes	September 12
Tom & Sarah Holsinger-Friesen	September 29
Dr. John & Josephine Alipit	September 30

SEPTEMBER 2022¹²

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Birthdays & Anniv	5	6	7	8	9	10
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour/ Congregational Meeting *w/ Rev. Canon Ellen Ekevag		6 pm Toastmasters	10 :30 am Bible Study			10:30 am ECW Mtg
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour * w/ Rev. Chip Dischinger		6 pm Toastmasters 6:30 pm Vestry Mtg	10 :30 am Bible Study			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour * w/ Rev. Chip Dischinger		6 pm Toastmasters	10 :30 am Bible Study			
28	29	30	31			
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour * w/ Rev. Chip Dischinger		6 pm Toastmasters	10 :30 am Bible Study			