

June
2021
Volume
LXXII

THE EPISTLE



St. Paul's
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The Mighty One, God, the LORD,
speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to where it sets.

Psalm 50:1, NIV

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Rector's Corner

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

-Romans 12:1-2

Friends,

As we re-enter the world and regain a sense of freedom to congregate again, I pray we see this as a time of renewal and not a return to the past. The gift of these last 18 months is time to reflect on how we want to show up in our community and what are our true priorities. Our worship of the Lord continues, supported by so many talented folks, and attended by more and more each week. Our outreach to the Jackson Community is coming back online as we gear up for a summer of Get Real in Holy Spirit Hall as well as new opportunities for serving our community through the Interfaith Shelter and local food banks.

If any of this brings anxiety to you, please know that you are not alone. Countless folks have experienced skyrocketing anxiety and depression during this stressful time and coming back in person with one another is just as nerve wracking as being sent to lockdown was. Please reach out to friends, clergy and care givers who can come along on your journey to regain mental and emotional health. Be gentle with yourself and others as we navigate getting vaccinated, where, and when to wear masks and how to be together again. What is paramount for us is our relationships with the Lord Jesus, each other, and our community. We live our faith in these relationships and love must reign supreme as we serve in His name.

As we seek the renewal promised to us by God through the Holy Spirit, let us renew our minds through reading the Gospel and showing up to prayer each day. Even in the small moments we take, God will meet us and the Spirit will assist us. If you are looking for a way to meet God in your personal life, please call me and I'll connect you with great resources to help you. As we reach out to serve our community, let us focus on building relationships with those we seek to serve rather than just giving aid. In those relationships God's Spirit will renew our hearts and minds and knit us closer together with our community.

More to come on opportunities for service and relationship building...For now, please take some good time for relaxation and re-connection with friends and family this summer. God bless and keep you and keep the faith!

Faithfully,

Sarah+

Curate's Report



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. -2 Corinthians 13

Friends in Christ,

When the pandemic first arrived locally, our Bishop explicitly stated, “our churches will always, without interruption, offer the words of Jesus and embody God’s Holy Spirit.” And we continue to have the chance to embody the Holy Spirit for ourselves as individuals, and as a church community. Pentecost is a good reminder that we have a chance to experience the Spirit in a way we never have before. As we continue to take steps toward coming back together physically, we can work toward embodying this Spirit within ourselves, and work to taking this out into the world in great ways.

We seem to find ourselves in a state of change. Some of our committees are starting back up and our weekly Christian education for children and youth has down for the program year. Family summer activities are on the horizon as well as Summer Art Camp, formerly known as Vacation Bible School.

One thing that seems important is to celebrate victories. Our children and youth are finishing up a very challenging school year. Our parents are wrapping up that same school year, a year which held many unforeseen challenges. In that light, we will be having a picnic celebration to mark the end of the academic year on June 5th. On Pentecost we will had a small, socially distanced celebration in Holy Spirit hall to remember and give thanks for all that we have been able to do over the past program year.

As we continue to move forward in uncertain times, I encourage you to remember that we are surrounded by the Holy Spirit. I invite you to welcome it when it descends upon you as you discern your part in this wonderful community we call St. Paul’s.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I didn’t mention my upcoming ordination to the priesthood taking place at St. Paul’s on June 12. If there is ever a time to call for the Holy Spirit, it is during ordinations! I am absolutely thrilled this can take place at St. Paul’s and look forward to taking this next step.

Come Holy Spirit come. Come as the fire the burns, come as the wind the blows, transform and empower our lives. Amen

Here to serve,

Melissa

June is the month chosen to celebrate pride as it was the month of the Stonewall riots, the protests that changed gay rights for a lot of people in America and beyond.

It's about people coming together in love and friendship, to show how far gay rights have come, even if in some places there's still some work to be done.

Pride month is about teaching tolerance, education in pride history and continuing to move forward in equality.

It calls for people to remember how damaging homophobia was and still can be.

It's all about being proud of who you are no matter who you love.



From Our Sr. Warden...

Spring has brought its typical unpredictable weather. We had exceptionally warm weather in March and some wonderful weather in April. And then May came and we had way too many nights with frost. COVID has also been somewhat unpredictable. Last summer we had a decrease in cases and were able to open up our doors, only to have to close them again as the cases increased. COVID cases have once again begun to decrease and with more and more people getting the vaccine, we are able to open up once again. AND, we are hopeful that we will be able to increase the number of parishioners each week. The vaccine has been instrumental in controlling the virus and gives us hope of being able to safely return to a semblance of normalcy.

Faithfully,
Debbie Batchelder
 Sr. Warden



The Women of St. Paul's Episcopal Church

ECW

June. The month summer arrives officially. And with summer we hope to be able to put this pandemic in the rearview mirror. With that in mind your board is hard at work setting the agenda for our future meetings.

But first things first. Our first meeting since the pandemic began was scheduled for June 12. We have discovered a huge conflict in the form of Melissa Congleton's ordination. We of course must give precedence to the ordination. So, we have moved our first meeting to July 10 at the home of Cheryl Gumper, 3801 Stonewall Road and we hope you all can attend.

The Board met on May 23 and the members have agreed to continue in their current positions for the next year. We are however still in need of a secretary. We are hoping someone will feel called to accept that position. It was further decided to donate \$200 to each of the following: The AWARE Women's Shelter, The Friendly Home and Priceless gifts. We can do this due to a profit of \$1,100 from the nut sale this past winter.

Again, while dues are not mandatory, we encourage those who feel inclined to send theirs to Cheryl Gumper either care of the church or at her address mentioned above.

Hopefully, you will all attend Melissa's ordination at St. Paul's in lieu of our meeting. The ordination will be followed by a reception in Holy Spirit Hall. It will be a great opportunity to congratulate Melissa on such an achievement and to meet Bishop Perry.

Enjoy the start of summer and the rapidly changing guidelines enabling most of us to feel somewhat normal again.

Respectfully Submitted

Valerie Rowley, Vice President, ECW





Join us each Sunday at 10:30 am for the Facebook Livestream of our service from inside our sanctuary!

<https://www.facebook.com/stpauljxmi>

Sunday Worship Bulletins are on our website at <https://stpauljxmi.org/>

You can also view the service later on Facebook.



Diana Sinclair is faithfully collecting names for our prayer list, so please call

(517-250-9729) or

email her at finnikig96@aol.com to add anyone for whom you'd like the Church to pray. We are so grateful for the prayers of this Church family and join with you in asking God's blessing on those we love and all who are fighting to keep us safe and healthy.



Pastor Sarah's Weekly Zoom Bible Study
Wednesdays at 10am

Follow this link to Zoom in: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83005898502>
No Password required



Join Pastor Sarah each Wednesday at **8pm on Facebook live** <https://www.facebook.com/stpauljxmi> for the service of Compline from the Book of Common Prayer with the commemoration of saints that day.



9:00 am-10:00 am on Sundays
via Zoom-

All adults are welcome to join!
For the Zoom meeting link and more info contact:

Eric R. Magnusson,
Email: emagnusson75@gmail.com

Cell: 248-842-1859

Meeting ID: 992 3997 8197

Passcode: Adult Forum

Building & Grounds



Buildings & Grounds reconvened after many months of interruption due to the virus mandates..

The meeting was on May 13th at 6:30 pm 2021. Present were Harry Strait, Loren Swanson, Dana Burkey, Michelle Gibson, and myself. Several others gave their regrets with conflicts of schedules so I propose a monthly meeting going forward on the second Thursday of each month so our group can present information to the vestry prior to their meeting, the third Tuesday of the current month.

Planting flowers prior to Mother's Day was risky at best. Freezing temperatures at night could have been touch and go for new sprouts. No plans have been made to plant anything new in the garden. However we could agree some shrubs on S. Jackson Street need replacing. Several are expired and others need major help. Unless requested for flowers in the garden, it could be foregone this year and focus on a plan to replace shrubs on S. Jackson St. We have a Funeral for Jean Laughlin this Saturday and Melissa Congleton's Ordination is the following Saturday.

Please see the pictures of B&G placing mulch this past month, and thank Harry Strait, Dana Burkey, Michelle Gibson, for their help.

Susan Smar has returned this year to be our Gardener ridding us of pesky weeds and looking out for other things needing attention. If you are there during the day please give her a "Thank You"!!!

Respectfully,

Kyle King, Chairperson, Building & Grounds



Our gardener Sue, who keeps our grounds looking beautiful!



A Year of Thanks

-by Curate Melissa

For the calendar year of 2021 I'm emphasizing a year of thanks to some of those ministries which help make St. Paul's be all that it is. Each month this year you will see me highlight one or more of the ministries and thus ministers of our parish community. Stay tuned to see if your ministry is one highlighted!

The ministry I am highlighting this month is the Building and Grounds committee. This committee doesn't have a formal membership roster and all are encouraged to help take care of the church as they are able. Those who have helped recently are:

Kyle King

Harry Strait

Loren Swanson

Michelle Gibson

Dana Burkey



It is also important to remember that there have been so many others, recently and dating back to when the church was consecrated on January 11, 1853, who have helped to keep the church in good repair.

This group diligently takes care of the church building and grounds – a very tall task! Currently they are getting information on repair and replacement options for the boiler. They also ensure the grounds are tended to including lawn care, weeding, snow removal and more. This crew also tends to be very handy, fixing smaller things around the church that need fixing as they break or need to be replaced. At times this group sponsors workdays which focus on certain tasks such as cleaning up the church grounds.

If you are interested in helping take care of St. Paul's building and/or grounds, please contact Kyle King at 517-745-7569.

Do good and...

share what you have,

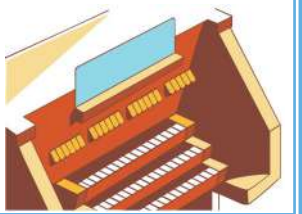
for such sacrifices

are pleasing

to God.

Hebrews 13:16





The Wind System of the Pipe Organ

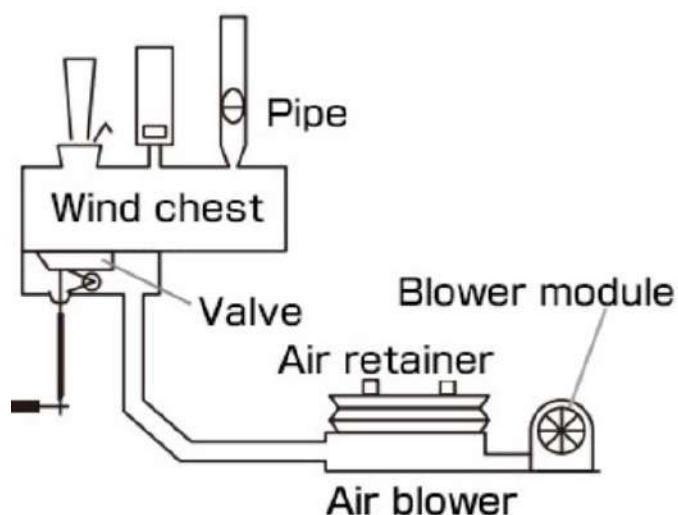
The “underbelly” of the organ consists of a number of parts that produce, deliver, and store pressurized air (the “wind”). The main parts are the blower, the bellows, and wind-chests. It is the wind that flows through the pipes that allows the organ to make sound – or make the pipes “speak.”

The wind system starts with the blower. In the early years of the organ, the source of wind was usually a young man who had to manually pump air to operate the organ. Because of this, early organists often had to do some practicing on other instruments like the harpsichord or clavichord. Now, organs have electronically powered blowers that feed air into a series of reservoirs or regulators or “the bellows.” Blowers can be located in the organ case in a soundproof area, but they can also be located some distance away in a basement or some other room.

After the blowers fill the bellows, these reservoirs/air retainers store the air and provide it to the windchests as needed. The bellows are large boxes with accordion-like sides that unfold (or expand) to accept the wind. These sides are made of leather, which will usually last 25-30 years or more. However, it is one thing that will eventually wear out and need to be replaced. When years of use cause a crack in the leather, there will be a lot of air noise, and the wind pressure being delivered to the pipes through the windchest will not be enough to allow the pipes to speak properly. Often many small “patches” or repairs can be made before an entire restoration is needed.

The bellows then deliver the air to the windchests at a regulated pressure level so that the pipes above the windchest will produce the desired sound. It is always a delight to turn on the organ and hear the sound of the windchest filling with air!

-Julie J. Baglien, Organist



June Scripture Writing Challenge

Hope

1- Psalm 9:18
 2- Psalm 31:24
 3- Psalm 33:16-18
 4- Psalm 33:22
 5- Psalm 37:9
 6- Psalm 38:15
 7- Psalm 39:7
 8- Psalm 42:5
 9- Psalm 52:9
 10- Psalm 62:5
 11- Psalm 62:9-11
 12- Psalm 65:5
 13- Psalm 71:5
 14- Psalm 71:14
 15- Psalm 73:15-17

16- Psalm 78:6-8
 17- Psalm 119:5-6
 18- Psalm 119:15-16
 19- Psalm 119:42-44
 20- Psalm 119:74
 21- Psalm 119:81
 22- Psalm 119:114
 23- Psalm 119:116
 24- Psalm 119:147
 25- Psalm 119:166
 26- Psalm 130:5
 27- Psalm 130:7
 28- Psalm 131
 29- Psalm 146:5
 30- Psalm 146:11

Whisperful Living



Pastor Sarah's bike arrived this month and she kitted it out with some fun extras. With the remaining funds, we purchased some massage gift certificates and gave her a cash gift. Here is a photo of Sarah with her fancy bicycle.

I've asked Pastor Sarah to post our birthday card on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary. While we kept two lists of contributors, it is possible we missed including someone's name. Feel free to double check that we listed your name on the card.

Friends, thank you for your VERY generous donations. We collected double what we needed for her bike.

I love Episcopalians!!

Thanks,

Sarah Holsinger-Friesen



Fitness at St. Paul's from **P e r s i s t**

Let me begin by honoring the losses and traumas that have affected every one of us over the last year. I give thanks to God and the keepers of the ways of Jesus Christ at St. Paul's Episcopal Church for the hope and joy that is available to us TODAY in this new era of worship, fellowship, and wellness. Namaste. Peace be with you. ~Dee

DRUMMING PLUS+ Seated and Supported Standing Fitness Foundation for Older Adults

For those who want a gentle re-start + balance and stability + energy and joy! Chair, assisted standing, or standing.

Monday and Friday at 11:00 am at St. Paul's in June 15-July 22 series.

Sliding-scale based on ability to pay: \$60 - \$144 for a **6-week series** (12 classes, \$5-\$12)

If you or someone you love uses a walker, cane, or chair, this is a class you can do too! Your support allows me to provide this service and assure no one is turned away due to an inability to pay. **CALL OR TEXT me directly for more information and to register 517-290-0305.**

St. Paul's Drum Corp

**Drumming will return to early evenings once an instructor becomes available*

What Precautions Are In Place for COVID Infection Control?

Participant will maintain distance of 10 feet apart, as recommended by the CDC for group fitness. I am vaccinated and wear a mask or a clear face shield at all times. I request that only vaccinated persons participate in my group fitness classes. I now have a wireless headset and portable amplifier for group and in-home training. This device helps to maintain physical separation while assuring I can be HEARD by all.

Participants should wear a mask while at St. Paul's and in group fitness – HOWEVER – participants may remove a mask if and when necessary to stabilize breathing during exercise. Classes are designed to minimize surface as well as particulate air-flow transmission.

Other Services by Appointment

- **Private Fitness Training & Senior Active Living Companionship.** In-home options available! Customs routines based on your needs and interests. We can meet in your in your home, at St. Paul's, or another public location. Indoors or outdoor.
- **Wellness and Fitness Consultation.** Always free for members of St. Paul's!

Coming this Summer to St. Paul's

SilverSneakers Circuit Training (Bun Camp) will also be returning soon! *Stay tuned!*

517.290.0305 [**deepersists@gmail.com**](mailto:deepersists@gmail.com)

Persist: Moving Bodies & Minds LLC.

UPDATE TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP GUIDELINES

Based upon updated guidance from our Bishop the Vestry has increased our capacity at worship to **50% capacity or 110 people** in our facility. Masks and social distancing are still required while indoors for all people and the ushers will help guide you. **Coffee hour is back!** Please join us in Holy Spirit Hall after the 10:30am service for light refreshments and community building! All precautions are in place for our safety. As more updates come we will inform you as soon as possible! Please be gentle with yourself and others as we transition back together. Grace abounds!



Jon & Suzanne Gould June 26

Christie Swanson	June 4
Diane Lawrence	June 6
James Grace	June 8
Cheryl Williams	June 9
Kayla Randall	June 11
Dennis Marsh	June 15
Catherine Rowley	June 16
Carrie Heider Grant	June 18
Lavinia Rogers	June 18
Robert Muller	June 24
Sarah Holsinger-Friesen	June 27
Bob Reynolds	June 27
Nancy Trammell	June 29
Cassandra Coburn	June 30
Benjamin Themm	June 30

Have a blessed Father's Day-
Sunday, June
20th



Pastor Sarah
getting ready
for Pentecost
Sunday!