

June
2022
Volume
LXXXIII

THE EPISTLE

St. Paul's
Episcopal Church
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LORD,
be thou my helper.
PSALM 30:10, KJV

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Rector's Corner

*He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while."
For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. – Mark 6:31*

Friends,

The spiritual, emotional and psychological burdens we bear right now are immense. Watching innocent people slaughtered in Ukraine is bad enough. Watching the old and the very young being slaughtered in our own country is truly horrific. We have so much to do to make our world safer for the innocent and vulnerable among us. I hope you'll seriously take up the task of learning about sensible gun legislation in our state and at the national level. We truly don't have to live with mass shootings like we do. We can legislate better and keep the second commandment as well as the second amendment. You can read more about what's happening legislatively through our diocesan website www.edomi.org. Pray, learn and act. It's what we're called to do as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Now, we love an infinite God, and we are finite creatures. All of us have our limits in emotional, physical and psychological energy. Once these are tapped, even our spiritual strength wanes and we become victims of what the church ancestors called "acedia" or spiritual dryness. Our hearts become overburdened, and we have no love left to give. You have likely felt this way before. Most of us who care about the world and especially the ones we love will experience it. Time after time we are told to do self-care, mani-pedis, boys' nights, girls' nights and a host of other things. Problem is, it's the doing of things that has us exhausted to our core. What researchers are finding out is what Jesus and the ancients knew all along. The only answer for burn out, acedia, overwork or whatever we call it is rest. True rest that separates us from the people and issues that wear us down is essential for our health and our sense of self. We lose ourselves in other people, other causes and forget to tend our own hearts.

Resting allows our bodies to heal, our minds to be freed and our hearts to open to God's direction. God is always ready to speak to us and when we rest, we give ourselves the chance to hear God's voice of love and be directed by the Holy Spirit. On Pentecost we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit in a new way for God's people. Too often we try to save the world ourselves and forget that God sent the Spirit into the world as our helper and guide. We don't take time enough to listen to the Spirit of God and so we go off on our own tangents and burn ourselves out.

Make time this summer to have alone time with God. Make time to have fun times with your family and friends. No stress gatherings where we can have playful, joyful time makes our hearts light and helps us drop our burdens. My prayer is that you find this rest soon. Your heart is too precious to be burned out. Your self, your healthy, whole self, is what God loves and what St. Paul's wants every member to have. Please reach out to me if you're having trouble finding ways to rest and take good care of your one, precious self this summer.

Faithfully,
Sarah

From our Sr. Warden...

The last few months have been a learning opportunity for me as both Senior Warden and current Buildings and Grounds Supervisor. I have learned who to call in most cases when something is not working. I have also learned that there is always something not working. I am waiting for a proposal to fix or replace the railings leading into the church. Small leaks in Holy Spirit Hall's roof have been chased down and repaired. We have replaced a pump in the heating system and most recently a motor in one of the air handlers for the air conditioning. Dennis Marsh, Joe Lathrop, Wayne Frey and I met to look at the third phase of remodeling that would include an elevator new restrooms and office space. The report on that meeting is forthcoming at this month's vestry meeting.

Last week, Bishop Perry laid out some concrete examples of ways to build our membership at St. Paul's. As a lifelong Episcopalian I have always gone with the theory, "if you build it, they will come." That however is not working as fast as we would like. We are getting new people in all the time, but we should be proactive in attracting new visitors. Younger families coming to this church should be impressed with the way our young people are part of the service and the church family. I am proud of the way our youth have joined our technology team, our acolyte core and doing the readings. They are notable examples of the opportunities young people have at St. Paul's. As someone who is technologically stunted, I hope we are showing these things off online.

I would like to see a fellowship chairperson, who would create opportunities for the whole church to join into. The ECW go to some interesting places and do things that create a strong group with common interests and experiences. These types of things should be available for the congregation as a whole. We have talked about a Tigers baseball game that would be combined with a tour of the Cathedral in Detroit. These are activities that will turn people into friends and possibly, friends into parishioners.

Submitted by,
Barney Rudolph, Sr. Warden

From our Jr. Warden...

Summer has begun! We have had a busy and wonderful month at St. Paul's.

We started the month with a visit from Bishop Perry. The Vestry had the opportunity to sit down and visit with her between services. It was a great chat and we were filled with some good ideas to move forward. That was also Mother's Day. The kids were so excited to give each mom a flower. I know my son's heart was filled with joy to share with all the moms at church.

May ended with saying good bye to Reverend Melissa. She had added so much to our parish and given so much to our kids. She will be sorely missed. There was a large celebration to send her off filled with so much love for her.

I also want to add that as the month ends, we have seen a few new faces in the pews at St. Paul's. We all know what a wonderful place St. Paul's is but I'm also glad to see others are choosing to worship with us too.

Elaine Them, Jr. Warden





(One last) Curate's Report...

St. Paul's friends in Christ,

Thank you so much for the wonderful sendoff. Your thoughtfulness is very appreciated. So many people gave me wonderful thoughts and memories and hopes to send me on my way and I couldn't have asked for anything more. I am so thankful for the unsung heroes that have been faithfully putting on coffee hour each week and those helping them out. The four-tier chocolate fondue was the best fellowship time ever! And lastly, thank you so much for the extremely thoughtful gift of money to send me on my way. I will keep this congregation in my heart and prayers always.

In Christ,

Melissa



June

The Joy of the Lord

Day 1 – Romans 15:13
 Day 2 – James 1:2-4
 Day 3 – Philippians 4:4-7
 Day 4 – Galatians 5:22-23
 Day 5 – John 16:21-22
 Day 6 – Proverbs 17:22
 Day 7 – 1 Peter 1:8-9
 Day 8 – Romans 14:17
 Day 9 – Psalm 118:19-24
 Day 10 – Psalm 16:9-11
 Day 11 – John 15:7-11
 Day 12 – Isaiah 55:10-13
 Day 13 – Psalm 30:4-5
 Day 14 – Proverbs 10:28
 Day 15 – Psalm 71:22-23
 Day 16 – Nehemiah 8:9-12
 Day 17 – Psalm 126:5-6
 Day 18 – Psalm 33:20-22
 Day 19 – 1 Peter 4:12-13

Day 20 – Psalm 5:11-12
 Day 21 – 1 Chronicles 16:25-27
 Day 22 – John 16:24
 Day 23 – Psalm 51:10-12
 Day 24 – Isaiah 61:10-11
 Day 25 – Psalm 94:18-19
 Day 26 – Isaiah 9:2-3
 Day 27 – Habakkuk 3:17-19
 Day 28 – Psalm 30:11-12
 Day 29 – Colossians 1:9-14
 Day 30 – Psalm 100



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.

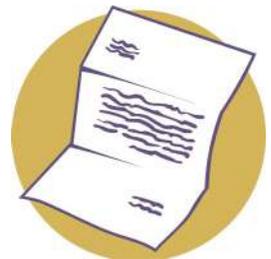
Listening Opportunities:

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.

Dear Parishioners & Friends of St. Paul’s,

In an effort to save money on postage, we are going to be emailing contribution statements. If you would like a paper copy mailed to you, please contact Marco at 517-937-4912, or the church office at 517-787-3370. If you have not given us your email address, we would appreciate it if you could email it to us at church@stpauljxmi.org so that we can update our files. (For folks who do not have email, your statement will continue to be mailed to you.) Thank you for your faithful stewardship!



The Women of St. Paul's Episcopal Church

ECW

Hello friends. It's June already and in our yard, it is like the plants just took off overnight. One day we were watching them emerge from their winter slumber and the next they are as big as houses! June is a busy month. We celebrate Father's Day on June 19 so remember to wish the men and dads in your life a happy Father's Day. It is co-incidentally Men's Health Month so get your men to make their yearly appointments that keep them healthy and catch things before they become a problem. If Aesop were still here, he would celebrate his birthday on June 4, and would be approximately 2,586 years old! Oh my! Paul Bunyan day is June 28 when he and Babe the blue ox are remembered.

We can't let June go without the mention of the federal holiday, Juneteenth. It is when the ratification of the 13th amendment in December 1865, is remembered and celebrated. Abraham Lincoln who got the ball rolling on January 1, 1863, with his Emancipation Proclamation unfortunately did not live to see the abolition of slavery made law. Juneteenth was officially recognized when President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act on June 17, 2021 which made it a federal holiday.

May's painting activity was a huge success!! Many thanks to all who participated. Unfortunately, your fearless leaders were laid low with illness and surgery and were unable to attend. The feedback I have received has been outstanding. Everyone enjoyed the activity and the instruction provided by Elizabeth Wray of Creative Juices and her daughter, Alyssa – or as her mom calls her, Vanna. The feedback has been so positive, and the activity enjoyed so much that it looks like it could be repeated in our next season of ECW. Please let us know if you feel that would be a good idea. Another fun ECW activity in the books!

Thank you all for your donations to the Baby Pantry, part of our support for Together We Can Make a Difference. We have received many items and the pantry will surely be grateful to distribute these to needy moms and babies.

Our next Meeting will be held on June 11. We will be voting on the new board members at this meeting. Please see Sandra Kilian's email for the slate of candidates which hasn't changed from the current board. We are still looking for a brave soul to step up for the position of secretary. As stated in previous articles we are in desperate need of someone to take on this position. It is not as daunting as you might think, and the current board would be more than willing to assist as needed. Sandra Kilian will be presenting an Overview of the Old Testament which promises to be interesting.

July will be our annual picnic which will be held at my home on July 9. Further details will be in the July article. Stay tuned.

ECW continued...

And lest we forget the saints celebrated in June – St. Columba is remembered on June 9. He was an Irish missionary who helped to re-introduce Christianity to Scotland and northern England. He is a patron saint of Ireland along with Patrick and Bridgit. Also remembered in June are St. Thomas More and the apostle St. Peter. Such rich Christian history is celebrated in the month of June.

Again, happy Father's Day to all the men who might read this. Enjoy your day. We will see you all at our next meeting. Always remember that all women are welcome to attend a meeting and we look forward to seeing you all on June 11.

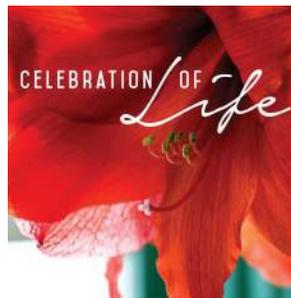
Respectfully submitted, Valerie Rowley, Vice-President, ECW



St. Paul's is ready to hire a new choir director!



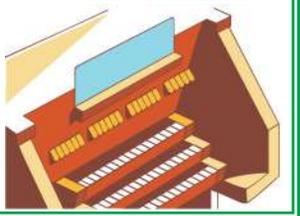
The job description is on our St. Paul's website www.stpauljxmi.org. Please share to anyone you think may be interested and keep our search in your prayers.
- Rev. Sarah



The Scheele family would like to invite St. Paul's parishioners to a "Celebration of Life" for Herman & Betty Scheele to be held at the Cascades Manor House on Sunday June 26th from 1- 4 pm.

Herman and Betty Scheele are the parents of Christian Scheele and were long-time St. Paul's parishioners. Betty passed on Sept 11, 2020, and Herman on October 29, 2021. A private graveside service presided by Rev. Sarah Hurlbert will be on Saturday, June 25th.

Organist's Corner



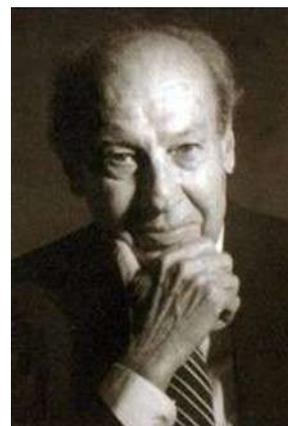
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“Go, My Children”

Jaroslav J. Vajda, Pastor and Poet

This coming Sunday, June 5, Pastor Sarah has chosen hymn #719, “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” from *Worship and Rejoice* as our closing hymn. The text of this hymn was written by Lutheran Pastor Jaroslav Vajda, who lived from 1919 – 2008. I was privileged to know him as a neighbor of the pastor who confirmed me, when both pastors and their wives lived in the same retirement community in Missouri.

Jaroslav Vajda was born to a Lutheran pastor of Slovak descent. He received training both in music and languages from childhood. He began translating classical Slovak poetry at age 18 and has translated numerous hymns. His careful study of languages developed skills crucial for hymn writing and translation – a clarity of imagery and the ability to convey imagery with an economy of powerful words. His studies in seminary added the third important ingredient: theological integrity. Pr. Vajda wrote his first hymn at age 49 and has since written over 200 hymns, most during the first ten years after he retired in 1967. His original hymns are characterized by the following traits:



- 1) the strong theology of his texts which is always biblically grounded
- 2) his ability to fashion new and striking imagery or to reshape an old image with fresh insight and understanding, thereby delivering a sermon in 3 or 4 or 5 stanzas
- 3) some very unusual textual forms and meter that are often a challenge to set musically, but still become successful hymns

I dearly love the text (and melody) of “Go, My Children, with My Blessing.” There is the gentle, reassurance of God’s presence in our lives in verse one as well as the beautiful imagery of “love’s baptismal river.” The third verse has some of my favorite text:

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you, here his tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

I hope that you can take advantage of time before the service to read this hymn to appreciate the poetry and theology of Pr. Vajda’s text.

There are two other original hymn texts by Pr. Vajda in *Worship and Rejoice*. #29, “God of the Sparrow,” is designed to provoke answers from the users of the hymn as to why and how God’s creatures (and children) are to serve Him. #700, “Now the Silence,” is a review of the features of a liturgical service with no punctuation or rhyme and with no finite verbs. Both are beautiful lyrically and musically.

Julie J. Baglien, Organist

Coffee Hour / Hospitality Host

A very important ministry in Parish Life is Coffee Hour Fellowship as it allows St. Paul members an opportunity to meet and greet any guests who come to our church as well as a time to welcome back friends who may have been away. Hosts and Hostesses are needed to make this ministry a success. The sign up book is usually located on the snack table in the Holy Spirit Hall. Please consider hosting. A huge and very sincere thank you is extended to hosts/hostesses who have served in the past. Your time, talent and treasures are truly appreciated.

COFFEE
FELLOWSHIP

Join us!



The Coffee Fellowship Host is expected to bring a sweet item and a savory or salty item. In addition, you are expected to make the coffee, prepare the goodies for serving and refill the coffee as needed during fellowship. In recognizing our parishioners who have dietary constraints, it has become a custom to also provide a gluten free and or a dairy free item also. There are several women who work to keep the hospitality flowing in our halls. They are Jo Alipit, Debbie Batchelder, Romelle Frey, and Rhonda Rudolph. These women would be happy to assist you, coach you or work with you in any way to make your coffee hour hosting a true success.

Thank you in advance for considering this ministry.



“IN THANKSGIVING”

This month we are grateful for:

Wayne Frey, Christy Randall & John Alipit -
for serving as vocalists for our streaming services

&

*All Our veterans who served and are celebrated and remembered this past
Memorial Day and always...*



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.



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 Buche	June 16
Carrie Heider Grant	June 18
Lavinia Rogers	June 18
Robert Muller	June 24
Sarah Holsinger-Friesen	June 27
Nancy Trammell	June 29
Cassandra Coburn	June 30
Benjamin Themm	June 30



Jon & Suzanne Gould June 26

Have a blessed Father's Day-
Sunday, June
19th



Save the dates **June 21, 22 & 23 from 5:30-8PM** for Summer Art Camp this summer with our friends from Jackson First Presbyterian Church and Jackson First United Methodist Church.

Activities this year include art, music and drama.

Registration forms are available on the bulletin board in the glass narthex, or call the church office to have one emailed to you.



JUNE 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			10:30 am Bible Study 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 8 pm FB Compline			
5 Birthdays & Anniversaries	6	7	8	9	10	11
Pentecost Sunday 8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour		6 pm Toastmasters	10:30 am Bible Study 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 8 pm FB Compline	9 am Jama Meeting		10:30 am ECW 12 pm Save Our Youth Concert
12 Noisy Sunday	13	14	15	16	17	18
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour		6 pm Toastmasters	10:30 am Bible Study 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 8 pm FB Compline			
19 Father's Day	20	21	22	23	24	25
8am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Eucharist/ Coffee Hour		11 am Get Real Program 5:30 pm Summer Art Camp 6 pm Toastmasters 6:30 pm Vestry Mtg	10:30 am Bible Study 11 am Get Real Program 5:30 pm Summer Art Camp 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 8 pm FB Compline	11 am Get Real Program 5:30 pm Summer Art Camp		
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		11 am Get Real Program 6 pm Toastmasters	11 am Get Real Program 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 8 pm FB Compline	11 am Lawrence Bullen Funeral *details forthcoming		