



THE EVANGEL

The official publication of St. John's Episcopal Church

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Dear People of St. John's and Friends,

As we head into the last month of “summer vacation time,” the stores and ads are full of “back to school” messages. But sometimes we can focus so much on getting ready for something in the future that we lose sight of the present moment – the NOW. And so my words to myself this day – and to you, if you are listening – are these:

Pay attention. Be present to this present moment. Notice – really notice – how God is present in this moment. Choose to carry kindness this day – so that whatever may jostle you, kindness will be what spills out. “Spend” at least a part of the currency of time this day bringing joy or hope or mercy or love to someone else. Pay attention. Be present. God is.

Some dates to note during August and September:

- Sunday, August 17, there will be no service at St. John's. Instead, we will be worshipping with our Lutheran, Presbyterian, and Nazarene siblings at an ecumenical service of communion at Island Park – 10:30 AM – with potluck following. See below for more information.
- Saturday, August 23, at 2 PM we will have a Memorial Eucharist for Olivia Ohler's son Glenn, who died on March 1 in Oregon where he lived. This will be a wonderful opportunity to remember, with Olivia, a life so well lived.
- Sunday, August 31, Deacon Jess Hart will lead Morning Prayer at 10 AM while I take a second week of vacation. (!)
- Sunday, September 7, the choir returns!

Enjoy the month ahead. Enjoy it moment by moment. Share the treasure of your time with someone who needs you, but also take some time yourself simply to be present – to God and to yourself.

Remember that you are loved – and so is everyone else you will meet.

Sr. Diane+



We congratulate
Deacon Jess Hart
who was ordained on
July 12th.



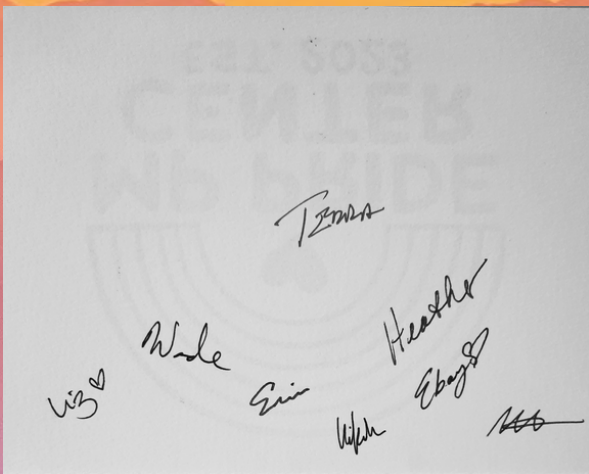
Mt. Pleasant Pride Center sent us a thank you card for our support on June 7, and gave us a shout out in their Newsletter!



St. John's Episcopal Church of Mt. Pleasant,
Thank you so much for allowing the Mt. Pleasant
Pride Center to use your space to host our
Silent Auction fundraiser. Because of your
generosity, we were able to raise an incredible
two-thousand dollars to support the Pride
community of mid-Michigan.
We are so grateful for your support always,
but especially during these troubling times.
Stay safe, and thank you again.

With Pride,

The Mt. Pleasant Pride Center



July Newsletter

Happy July!

If you visited the Mt. Pleasant Pride Festival on June 7th, you got to see first hand how many people in mid-Michigan support our Pride Community (estimated over 600 in attendance!). I'd also like to highlight the Silent Auction Fundraiser we held this past weekend which was incredibly successful! A special thanks is owed to Liz Brockman and St. John's Episcopal Church in Mt. Pleasant for their hospitality. They were incredibly gracious and helpful all throughout the organizational process. I would also be remiss if I didn't profusely thank board members Liz H. and Erin for taking on this huge project, and the many other volunteers and board members who pitched in along the way to make it happen.

Our Rummage Sale was held on July 23-27.

Thanks to everyone who helped out and donated. Without your donations, we could not have done it.

We were able to raise approximately \$4,000 for the rector's fund!





Fabulous News from People Helping People

The MP Area Community Foundation (MPACF) awarded PHP a remarkable \$10,000 grant in its most recent grant cycle. The grant application was titled “One Sandwich at a Time: Reducing Food Insecurities in Isabella County,” and the award will cover the cost of 1,052 hearty deli lunches. That’s a lot of sandwiches, enough to provide a hearty deli lunch for FIVE families of four for 52 weeks.

But that’s not all ...

The Donna Parr Living Trust has just designated \$40,000 to PHP for its newly established endowed fund at the MPACF. Thanks to the Donna Parr’s family, the new PHP endowment is now fully funded and is, therefore, eligible to receive 4% annual distributions, enough to cover the cost of approximately 200 sandwiches.

The Isabella Community Soup Kitchen (ICSK) remains closed on Sundays, with no other social service agencies serving food on the same day. PHP helps to fill this serious social services gap in Isabella County.

June's minutes will be published in the September Evangel as Vestry did not meet in July.

June 2025 Financial Report

Below is a summary of operating fund activity through the end of June (50.00%).

Unrestricted operating fund receipts	\$ 96,806.35 (42.28% of budget)
Unrestricted operating fund expenditures	<u>111,470.46</u> (46.64% of budget)
Operating fund receipts over (under) expenditures	\$ (14,664.11)

Through the first six months of 2025, income remains down. The next six months will be very challenging for our parish to achieve a balanced budget. Through the first six months of 2024, income was down only \$1,911 compared to \$14,664 this year.

Please verify that your estimated giving amount is up-to-date.

Cash Balances

Isabella Bank - Checking	33,261.89
Members First CU - Savings	6.98
Members First CU - CD 11-30-25	15,046.57
Members First CU - CD 07-22-26	87,825.64
Members First CU - CD 12-27-25	21,577.59
Endowment Fund	119,585.94
Total	<u>277,304.61</u>

Clancy



**Remember Our
Homebound Members**
Drop a card to our parish
members who are homebound.

Nancy Fulton
Comfort Care
1945 Churchill Blvd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Emelia Parker
(Alex's House)
616 Boothbay Ct.
Beavercreek, OH 45430

Nancy Rivard
Comfort Care
1945 Churchill Blvd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Martha Rarick
362 E. Baseline Rd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Harry and Margaret Kuhn
temporary address
Serene Gardens of Clarkston
Room 108
5850 White Lake Rd
Clarkston, MI 48346

St. John's Prayer Group

If you wish to add or remove names
from the Prayer List, please call Sr.
Diane Stier, 989- 807-0215, the church
office, or email Pamela Dingman:
pamela.dingman@gmail.com.
Thank you.



Pastoral Care

Just a reminder: you should let the
parish office know if you are ill and
wish to receive a call from the Rector.



August Birthdays

Misha Proctor	08/04
Roger Hatch	08/05
Jessica Vinciguerra	08/08
Patricia Thurston	08/14
Christopher Benn	08/15
Zachary Leslie	08/17
Mary Stewart Kiesgen	08/19
Emelia Parker	08/20



August Anniversaries

David & Nancy Kinney	08/01
Jim & Patricia Thurston	08/05

Weekly Schedule:

Sunday 10AM: Holy Communion: In Person or [Facebook](#)
or [YouTube](#)

Wednesday 10AM: [Church School by Zoom](#)

Wednesday 7PM: [Connections Conversations by Zoom](#)

Thursday 8PM: [Compline \(Night Prayer\) by Zoom](#)

Coffee Hour Schedule:

August 3	Olivia Ohler and Louis Klumpp
August 10	Sharon Bolton and Val Bowman
August 17	Worship in the Park
August 24	Jen and Dave Dingman
August 31	The Eichinger Family

Lay Ministers:

Lectors

Prayers

August 3	Jen Dingman	Jim Thurston
August 10	Tom Cohrane	Mary Stewart Kiesgen
August 17	Worship in the Park	Worship in the Park
August 24	Barb Shepardigian	Jen Dingman
August 31	Pat Thurston	Dan Eichinger

Greeters Schedule:

August 3	Jen and Dave Dingman
August 10	Ford and Pam Dingman
August 17	Worship in the Park
August 24	The Davidson Family
August 31	Tom and Mary Ellen Cochrane

August Calendar

**Sundays: 08/03, 08/10, 08/17,
08/24, 08/31**

10am Holy Communion (In
person, Facebook, & YouTube)

**Mondays: 08/04, 08/11,
08/18, 08/25**

6:30PM GA

**Tuesdays: 08/05, 08/12,
08/19, 08/26**

11am Tai Chi with Judy

**Wednesdays: 08/06, 08/13,
08/20, 08/27**

10am Church School
via Zoom

7pm Weekly Connection via Zoom

**Thursdays: 08/07, 08/14,
08/21, 08/28**

11am Tai Chi with Judy
8pm Compline via Zoom

**Fridays: 08/08, 08/15,
08/22, 08/29**

Nothing on these days
Office Closed



Worship in the Park

Sunday, August 17, 10:00 AM

On Sunday, August 17, there will be NO SERVICE at St. John's. Instead, we will be joining several other churches for WORSHIP IN THE PARK with communion. A potluck will follow.

A CHOIR will sing as part of the service. There will be one rehearsal – on Thursday Aug. 14, 7 PM, at First Presbyterian on Watson.

Great time to go beyond our doors!



**Supper Church will be on
August 24th
at
4:00pm**

**beginning with a potluck dinner followed
by Eucharist in the Parish Hall**

Good News Garden



We grow organic produce for the Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry. We worked with both organizations to know what to grow, when to deliver to them, and it is fun learning how they used the fresh vegetables.

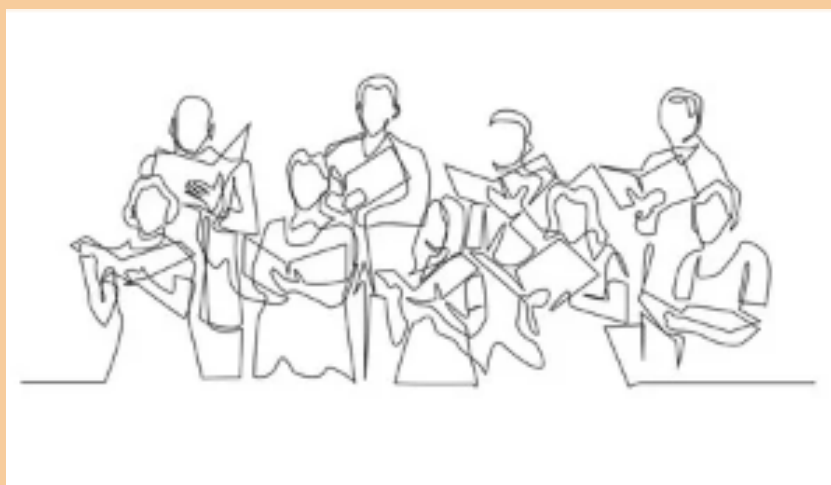
We are in need of lots of help during the harvest months, as well as plastic, clam-shell containers meant for produce.

If you are interested in helping with the garden this year, please email saintjohnsmp@gmail.com.



The 2025 Altar Flower Calendar is posted in the Lantern across from the elevator. Please consider a Sunday that is a good date for you to honor or remember a loved one and sign up to provide altar flowers. Flowers are a wonderful addition to worship! You may use flowers from your garden or a store and arrange them yourself, or arrange with Elliot's or Norm's Florist to do arrangements and they will deliver to the church.

Thank you!



St. John's Choir

Sing for Sunday morning service, September through Pentecost (May),
with a weekly rehearsal.

Rehearsal times to be determined.

New voices welcome!

Contact Sr. Diane if you are interested in any of the ministries!

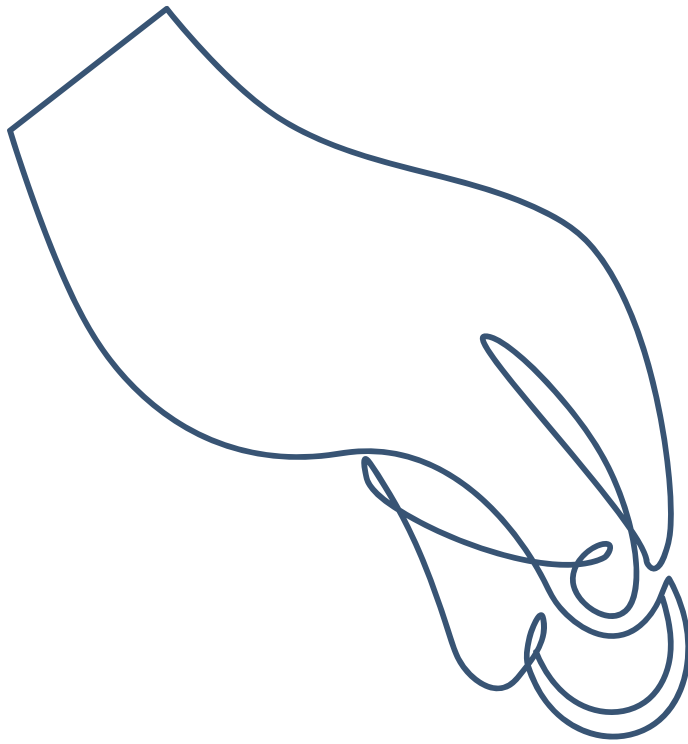
The Singing Church

Starting the August 24,

Eric will be presenting a 3-week workshop series after coffee hour.
We will practice reading music, singing both regular and lesser-known
hymns.

Feel free to attend!

The first Sunday Service with the choir will be September 7;
rehearsal the week of August 24.



Different ways to give...

We now have four different ways to give back to the church. You can now drop off at the church, mail your offer to the church, or give through “Giving Tools.” Here are the details on how to give:

1. You can come to the Church office and drop it through the mail slot.
2. You can mail your offering to the Church, 206 W Maple, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
3. You can give online by visiting the Giving Tools link on our website, or by scanning the QR code below.



Saint John's Episcopal Church
206 West Maple Street Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
Phone: 989-773-7448
E-mail: saintjohnsmp@gmail.com
Website: www.stjohnsmtpleasantmi.com
Facebook: [St. John's Mount Pleasant](#)

St. John's Mission:

St. John's Episcopal Church, with God's help and in the Episcopal Church tradition, lives to proclaim the Gospel of Christ by ministering through worship, outreach, fellowship and education. We welcome all who enter our doors, and we support the diverse callings of each member as we seek to serve Christ in every person.

Rector:

The Rev. Sr. Diane Stier, 989-807-0215

Deacon Emeritus:

The Rev. Nancy Casey Fulton

Organist:

Ethan Kindle

Choirmaster:

Eric Vinciguerra

2025 Vestry Officers

Sr. Warden: Dan Eichinger

Jr. Warden: Jerry May

Treasurer: Clancy DeLong

Co-Treasurer: Lynne L'Hommedieu,

Vestry Clerk: Lara Raisanen

2025 Vestry Members

Clancy DeLong

Elizabeth Brockman

James Thurston

Kojo Antiwi

Kevin Davidson

Lara Raisanen