



THE EVANGEL

The official publication of St. John's Episcopal Church

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Vestry Meeting Minutes-11-13

St. John's August Calendar- 2 and 11

Dear People and Friends of St. John's,

As I write this, I'm working on getting ready to leave for a couple weeks of vacation. Getting this issue of the Evangel out, getting bulletins done for at least two weeks in advance, and making other 'emergency' arrangements – those are all on the list of things to do before Friday. Why is “getting away” so fraught first with getting things done so one can get away? – But there is also present the joy of knowing that everything here at St. John's will be just fine while I'm gone. Everything here does not depend on me. We are a community of people who each do their part – for the day-to-day goings on, for our outreach efforts, in looking out for one another. I am so grateful for each and all of you...

The first of our Sunday afternoon services this past Sunday was a good experience...simpler, more intimate in the chapel space, low-key. There were 11 of us gathered around the round 'altar' – and some folks said it was just what they needed – a smaller group of people, a better time. They felt this liturgy was more 'accessible' to them – and that was the aim. So we will continue to have a Sunday afternoon Eucharist once a month for the near future.

Speaking of near future – there are many things planned for the fall! There are more detailed descriptions below for some things, but here is a brief rundown:

Saturday-Sunday, August 19-20 – Market for the Arts downtown – (Nancy Hartshorne will have a pottery booth!)

Sunday, August 20 – Vestry meeting after church

Sunday, August 27 – 4 PM Eucharist in chapel

Friday-Saturday, September 8 & 9 – Workday to scrape and paint the east outside wall of the church.

Sunday, September 10 – Return of the Choir!

Thursday-Sunday, September 14-17 – Icon Retreat

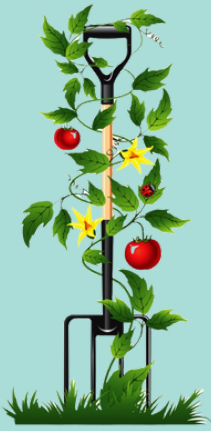
Sunday, September 17 – Choral Evensong and Reception

Saturday, December 2 – St. John's Art Show and Sale

This month, take a rest. Enjoy these last weeks of summer. Then get ready for more good things to come.

Mostly, remember that you are loved – and then pass it on.

Sr. Diane+



Good News Garden



The Good News Garden is in full swing! Throughout the summer, we will be working every Friday at 9:00 a.m., and we would love anyone who is interested to stop by during that time. No experience necessary, just gardening gloves, a bottle of water, a hat, and yourself. Volunteering anytime would be great, though, whether you want to join in just once or regularly.

Please contact Laura (cochr11@cmich.edu) or Ulana (klymy1au@cmich.edu) for more information.

The 6th Annual **Market for the Arts** is coming to Downtown Mt. Pleasant on August 19th and 20th with over 50 artisans, live music, food trucks, and more!

Nancy Hartshorne will have a pottery booth at this event!

FOR ARTS SAKE PRESENTS

6TH ANNUAL

Market FOR THE Arts

JEWELRY | CLOTHING | PAINTINGS
WOODWORKING | HOME DECOR | CANDLES
CROCHET | BAKED GOODS | FOOD TRUCKS
SURPRISE PERFORMANCES

LIVE PERFORMANCES FEATURING

EMILY FABER - VOLTAMPS
MT. PLEASANT SCHOOL OF DANCE
PERFORMANCE - NIDARIA
HEY LEFTIE - HIPPA COMPLIANT

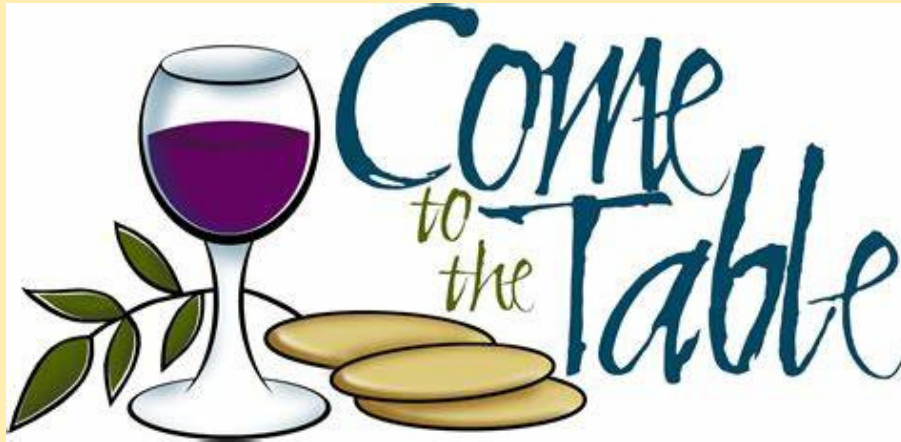
ENCOMPASSING THREE BLOCKS OF
DOWNTOWN MT. PLEASANT
117 S. MAIN ST MT. PLEASANT MI

19TH **11AM-6PM**
20TH **10AM-4PM**

19TH & 20TH AUGUST 2023

FAS

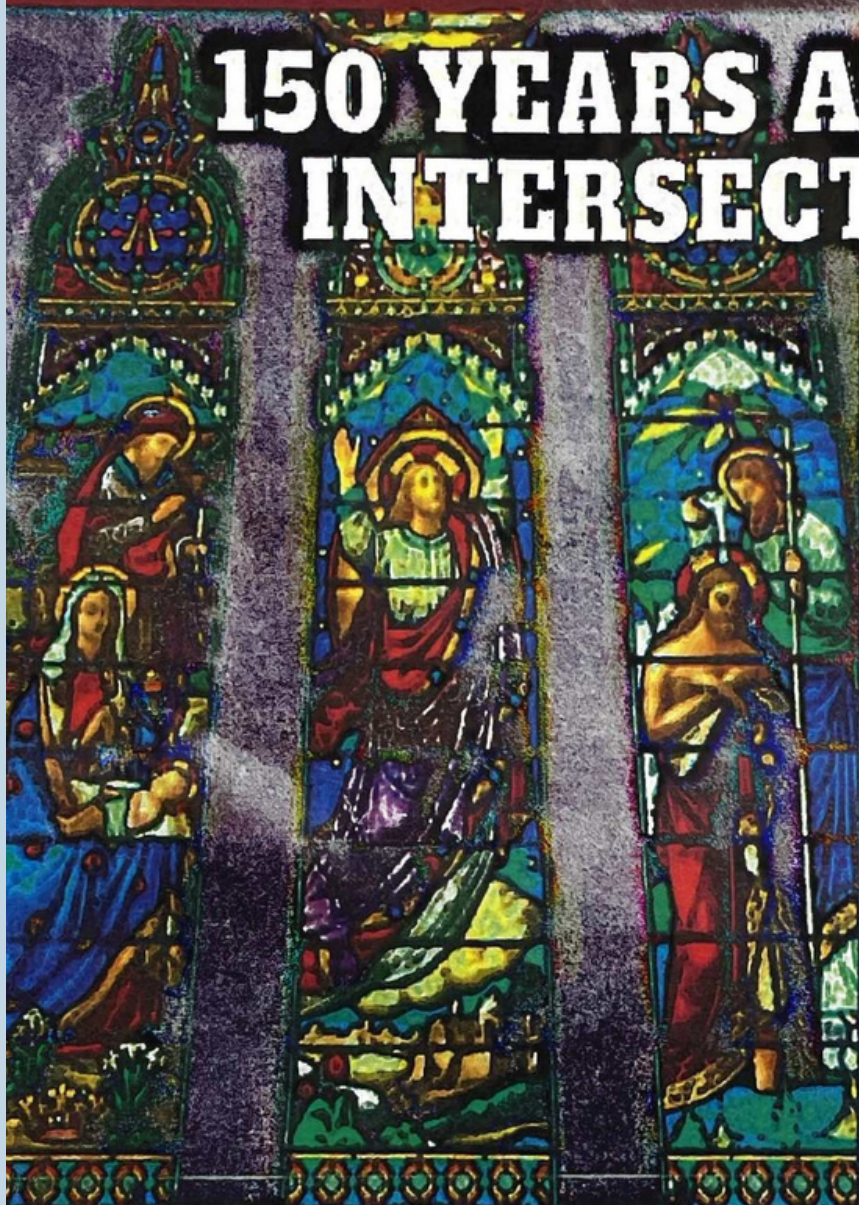
Second Celebration of Eucharist



One Sunday a month, St. John's will offer a second celebration of Eucharist. This is a way to offer additional worship opportunities, provide flexibility for those who may not be able to attend the usual service time, and offers a stronger sense of inclusivity.

The Second Celebration of Eucharist in August will be held on **August 27th at 4PM** in the chapel – downstairs at the north end of the undercroft.

150 YEARS AT THE INTERSECTION



Sunday
August 27, 2022

Holy Eucharist
10:00AM

Reunion
Brunch
11:30AM

Free
Community
Ice Cream
Social
1:00PM

Garden Prayer
2:00PM

Join us for
any or all!

711 S. Saginaw St
Flint, MI 48502

Come and celebrate the
150th Anniversary of the
first service ever held in St.
Paul's historic building!



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Icon Writing Retreat of Madonna and Child

When: Sept 14-17, 2023

In the evenings on Thursday and Friday, all day Saturday, afternoon on Sunday.

Where: St. John's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 512 S. Washington, Mt. Pleasant MI.

St. John's Episcopal Church is accepting registrations for the Icon Retreat. Sessions will be held in the Parish Hall. No previous experience or artistic proficiency required. The retreat is limited to 20 people. The cost is \$300 per person and includes Saturday lunch, art supplies, instruction, and Fr. Pearson's expenses. Scholarships may be available.

Reserve a space by August 4 by calling the Parish Secretary at 989.773.7448 and providing a \$150 deposit payable to: St John's Episcopal Church, 206 W Maple Street, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. The balance is due by August 21.

Fr. Pearson will preach at the Eucharist service at 10 am on Sept 17. The icons will be blessed and displayed after Choral Evensong on September 17.

Visit Fr. Pearson's website [HERE](#).

ART SHOW

St. John's Art Reception, Show and Sale

Save the date of **December 1st and 2nd** for the art reception and show. St John's artists interested in the show should contact Pat Thurston at 517-303-1046 to get on our list or if you have questions.

We would like half of the artists displaying their work be St. John's members, with the remainder from guest artists by invitation. It will be a great way to get original Christmas gifts, to support local artists and to contribute to St John's.



The 2023 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!

Present: Rev. Sr. Diane Stier, Rector; Nancy Herman-Kinney, Sr. Warden; Jerry May, Jr. Warden; Olivia Ohler; Clancy DeLong, Treasurer; Mary Stewart Kiesgen; Pat Thurston, DJ Proctor; Lara Raisanen, Acting Clerk; Alice Ciccu

Absent: Kevin Davidson; Dan Eichinger; Jen Dingman, Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 11:31 AM. Pat led Vestry in opening prayer.

Meeting minutes from 21 May 2023 were approved with the clarifications discussed via e-mail. Mary Stewart moved to approve the minutes; Jerry seconded her motion. All approved.

Pastoral Report- Sr. Diane

- The Evangel's publication has been delayed for the past months because of Vestry schedule. The Evangel will be published on time for July without including Vestry minutes. Going forward, The Evangel will publish Vestry minutes after they have been approved. Therefore, The Evangel will resume publication of Vestry minutes in the August edition.
- Dennis is on vacation for the month of July. Service will be a cappella next Sunday (1 July), Sr. Diane will contact a supply organist for two Sundays, and the congregation will be asked to share their musical talents for two Sundays.
- The College for Congregational Development is 23 - 28 July in Midland. Sr. Diane will be away from all Parish duties that week.
- In concert with the worship team, Sr. Diane will offer some Sunday 5:00 pm services throughout the summer. This is something that helps St. John's further our mission of 'All are welcome' and provides greater accessibility. More details will come.
- The two Pride Month celebrations were wonderful to attend. Reinforces that "our presence matters" - being visible and vocal is what we are called to do.

Building & Grounds - Jerry May

- The small team of volunteers during work week accomplished many projects.
- Three big painting jobs remain; Jerry will get quotes from painters for each:
 - Painting the church trim
 - Painting the window trim
 - Painting the church's east wall

- **Sign update:**

- The current sign must come down this week so that work can begin on the foundation for the new digital sign.
- Parts of the old sign will be preserved with the plan to affix it to the Parish House wall so that our church has signage at the parking lot.
- Once the new sign is in place, new pictures will be taken for the website.
- Alice is the project manager for the new sign installation and is working with the sign company (Mega), the mason (J Rock), and the electrician.

- **Columbarium:**

- The new columbarium is here; it needs to be assembled. Jerry will work with a few others to make that happen.
- A small “columbarium committee” will be formed to discuss.
- Multiple people in the Parish need to know how to open / close it.
- Permanent signage inside columbarium so each compartment is labeled clearly.

Worship - Pat Thurston

- Christi Brookes and Jess Hart, our Postulants, will work with Sr. Diane and the worship committee to schedule some daily office services in the Chapel.
- As mentioned above, we will try some evening services Sundays at 5:00.
- Mary Stewart is working with other parishioners to train them for Sunday Eucharist and also to serve as Eucharistic Visitors. This will involve more parishioners in Sunday worship as well as increase capacity to offer the Eucharist to homebound parishioners more frequently.

Outreach - Oliva Ohler

No report.

Christian Formation - Lara Raisanen

- Larger report will come when Mary Ellen is back.
- Adult and inter-generational formation. The latter could happen in partnership with worship. Diocese is making resources available for parishes to enhance formation programs.

Hospitality - Jennifer Dingman

No Report.

Administration & Finance - Clancy DeLong

- CD interest is enough that it likely will cover the cost of our annual audit review.
- Still figuring out what “new normal, post-Covid” utility and use costs are. It is possible electricity, gas, water, and copier are under-budgeted for the year. Keeping an eye on this.
- Rector discretionary fund - community needs are bigger than the pot; Rummage Sale proceeds will increase this budget item
- Sign - we need money to pay for total costs. Looking into additional grant options; Vestry will consider additional fundraisers.

Diocesan Update - Lara Raisanen

- [Commission on Ministry] - we have two fantastic postulants; Christi Brookes for the diaconate and Jess Hart for the priesthood.
- We are praying for our Bishop during this time.
- EDWM is updating financial reporting structures.
- We are looking to hire a bi-diocesan staff person to update databases.
- Call for Northern Region (our region) Canon Missioner is posted.
- Overall improving/supporting structure within both Dioceses during the Season of Practice.

After the Diocesan update, Vestry entered executive session.

Pat closed the meeting with prayer and Vestry adjourned at 1:50 PM.

Below is a summary of operating fund activity through the end of June (41.67%).

Unrestricted operating fund receipts.....	\$ 118,913.49 (60.23% of budget)
Unrestricted operating fund expenditures.....	110,422.54 (50.55% of budget)
Operating fund receipts over (under) expenditures.....	\$ 8,490.95

The budget is in good shape through the first six months. A special thank you goes out to the volunteers and donors who made our rummage sale a success. We netted the most proceeds ever.

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

Special projects:

External Sign Upgrade: Construction is set to be begin soon. The vestry will be coming up with fundraising ideas at June's meeting.

Columbarium Expansion: The columbarium units have arrived. Concrete work will be done at the same time as the concrete work for the sign. If you are interested in a niche, please contact Pamela Dingman for more information.

Cash Balances

Cash in Checking Account	61,394.37
Certificates of Deposit	43,441.73
Endowment Fund	94,156.63
Total	<u>198,992.73</u>



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

Alma Dickerson
Isabella Medical Care Facility
1222 North Drive
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
989-289-0799

Sandy Wood
2812 Weatherwood St.
Mt. Pleasant MI 48858

Fran Weaver
Comfort Care
1945 Churchill Blvd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

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

Joan Kadler
Crestwood
2378 S. Lincoln
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
989-772-2803

Elliott Parker
Crestwood
2378 S. Lincoln
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858



August Birthdays

Misha Proctor	08/04
Roger Hatch	08/05
Jessica Vinciguerra	08/08
Mary Lou Nowicki	08/12
Patricia Thurston	08/14
Christopher Benn	08/15
Alice Ciccu	08/16
Zachary Leslie	08/17
Mary Stewart Kiesgen	08/19
Emelia Parker	08/20

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: padingman@hotmail.com. Thank you.



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

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.



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 6	Clancy & Patricia DeLong
August 13	Lynne L'Hommedieu & Sharon Bolton
August 20	Dan & Jasmine Eichinger
August 27	Kevin & Jillian Davidson

Lay Ministers:

Lectors

Prayers

August 6		Derek Rivard
August 13	Sharon Bolton	David Kinney
August 20	Mary Stewart Kiesgen	Ulana Klymyshyn
August 27	Dan Eichinger	Dan Eichinger

Greeters Schedule:

August 6	
August 13	Ford & Pamela Dingman
August 20	Sam & Lara Raisanen
August 27	Dan & Jasmine Eichinger

August Calendar

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

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

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

6:30 pm G.A.

**Tuesdays: 08/01, 08/08,
08/15, 08/22, 08/29**

11am Tai Chi with Judy

**Wednesdays: 08/02, 08/09, 08/16,
08/23, 08/30**

10am Church School
via Zoom

6pm Yoga with Judy

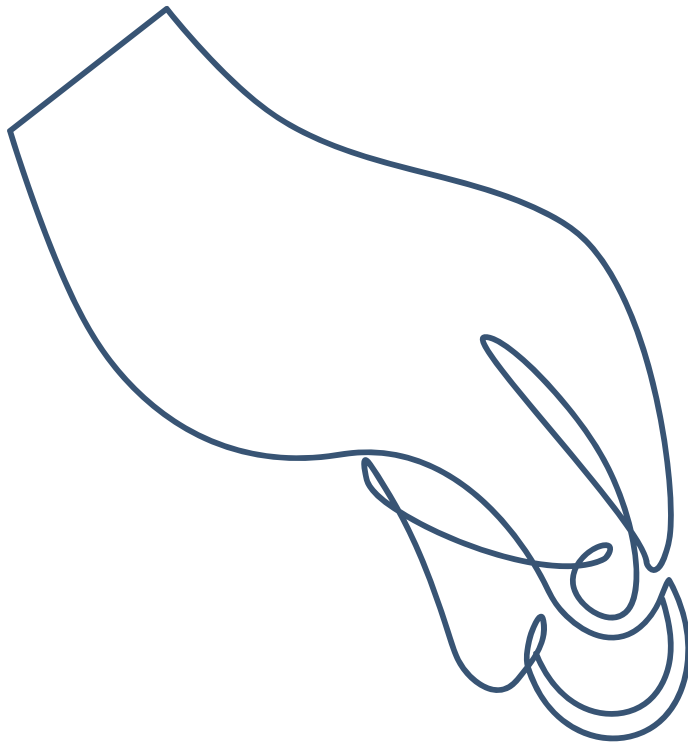
7pm Weekly Connection via Zoom

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

11am Tai Chi with Judy
8pm Compline via Zoom

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

Nothing on these days
Office Closed



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

Fax: 989-772-3480

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:

Dennis Flynn

Choirmaster:

Eric Vinciguerra

2023 Vestry Officers

Sr. Warden: Dr. Nancy Herman-Kinney

Jr. Warden: Jerry May

Treasurer: Clancy DeLong

Co-Treasurer: Lynne L'Hommedieu,

Vestry Clerk: Jennifer Dingman

2023 Vestry Members

David Proctor

Mary Kiesgen

Olivia Ohler

Pat Thurston

Kevin Davidson

Lara Raisanen

Dan Eichinger