
The Evangel

Advent and Christmas Events and Services

Sunday, December 15, Advent 3

7:00 p.m. Advent Lesson and Carols

Sunday, December 22, Advent 4

11:45 a.m. The Hanging of the Greens (after Coffee Hour)

December 24, Christmas Eve

ONE SERVICE

8:00 p.m.

Holy Eucharist
The Eve of the Nativity
of Our Lord Jesus Christ



December 25, Christmas Day

9:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist (said)
The Rev. Sr. Diane Stier, Celebrant

Sunday, December 29, Christmas 1

ONE SERVICE

9:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist with Carols



Remember Our Homebound Members

Stop by to visit or drop a card to our parish members who are homebound.

Alma Dickerson

461 E. Wing Rd., Mt. Pleasant
772-2516.

Al Neal

Longtime member of St. John's, has moved to Brighton to be near his son.

His new address is:

Brookdale Brighton

833 E. Grand River Ave., Apt. 122
Brighton, MI 48116.

St. John's Prayer Group

The 16 members of the Prayer Group offer petitions daily for the church and for specific requests. All parishioners are welcome to become members of



the Prayer Group or to submit requests by calling Sandy Wood, 773-9326, Martha Rarick, 773-7510, or the church office at 773-7448.

Home Communion

Just a reminder: you should let the parish office know if you are ill and wish to receive communion or a visit from either the clergy or a Lay Eucharistic Minister.



| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Lois Klumpp | 2 |
| Andy Brockman | 4 |
| Diane Benn | 6 |
| Marcia David | 6 |
| Jim Thurston | 8 |
| Elliott Parker | 13 |
| James Wilson | 13 |
| Mary Ellen Cochrane | 19 |
| Harriett White | 24 |
| Doris Sherwood | 25 |
| Judy Wagley | 26 |
| Patricia DeLong | 30 |



| | |
|----------------------|----|
| Neil and Robin Mower | 17 |
|----------------------|----|

Parish House Kitchen Linens

If you took the kitchen towels and dish cloths home to wash after Coffee Hour, we do appreciate that! However...you need to remember to return them to the kitchen as soon as you can! We want to be sure that our next Hosts have fresh, clean linens when they are needed! Thank you!



Outside the Tent

September and October have come and gone. Usually, by the end of October, I have sorted and moved into the upstairs hall closet my warm-weather clothes. What doesn't go into the closet I stuff in two big plastic bins we store under our bed, or into bags for Goodwill. This year, I am woefully behind, promising myself almost daily that I will complete this task.

It seems to me that nature is behind as well: more accurately, behind and confused. Leaves have fallen in great abundance from our mammoth oak and the somewhat smaller maples. Mr. Robinson, who clears our leaves as well as our snow, had barely finished his first visit when several inches of snow mixed in with the leaves. He has been back, now that the snow has melted, but I do wonder whether we will experience this confusion throughout the entire winter. I remember a long-ago winter when large mounds of raked leaves spent their entire winter frozen onto our lawn. When spring crept into view, the mounds melted slowly, leaving behind a damaged lawn that took years to revive. That long-ago October/November our dear friend, Ken Folkert, died in India while doing research, and to this day I see that ravaged lawn as a reminder of his violent passing.

Last June, as usual, we spent two weeks at a small cottage in the Saugatuck dunes. (This is an area we first explored when we stayed with Ken and his family a few miles north of Saugatuck.) Every year we spend hours on "our" beach, but the last few years the rising waters have nibbled away much of the shoreline. As a result, we've spent more time in our favorite antique mall—just down the road from our cottage—collecting stocking-stuffers and other Christmas gifts for our children. This year we were halfway through the mall when we learned of Father Wayne's fatal accident. We came home early for his funeral, grief and anxiety mixing with memories of him sunning on "our" beach, or displaying treasures he'd found at Sunset Junque.

We didn't finish our rounds at the antique mall: any thoughts we had of Christmas or the winter to come disappeared with the sad news. This morning I riffled through the small bags of treasures we'd accumulated since last Christmas, noting what still needed to be purchased. Today, my spirits lifted by a "November-ish" day of golden sunlight, birds at our feeder, and our neighbor John mowing his lawn and leaves, I can look ahead to Advent and Christmas with a calmer heart. Time doesn't seem so out of joint as it did earlier in the year.

But I still haven't shifted my closets: I believe I will do so before this weekend is over. I feel hopeful, soothed by John Updike's conclusion of his poem "December," in his book of poetry for children, and for adults who refuse to feel old:



*Old carols peal,
The dusk is dense.
There is a good of sweet suspense.
The shepherds wait,
The kings, the tree—
All wait for something
Yet to be,
Some miracle,
And then it's here,
Wrapped up in hope—
Another year.*

Peace and hope in this season of love and light,
Nancy

Pledge Reminders

Dear Parishioners ,

The Finance Committee has to put a budget together for next year this month. If you have not turned in your pledge card please do so as soon as possible. If you have misplaced your card contact Pamela Dingman at 772-4814 or you can email her at padingman@hotmail.com with your pledge amount. If you would like to contribute by credit card please let us know and the treasurer, Clancy DeLong will contact you. Thank you to all who contribute to the church by volunteering and by financial contributions.

The envelopes for next year will be available soon and they are a different format.

Pamela Dingman, Pledge Secretary

Mark Your Calendar!
St. John's ANNUAL MEETING
will be held on Sunday,
January 19, 2020
after ONE service at 9:00 a.m.
Your presence is VERY important!

Christmas Flowers an Greens

This year we are asking for contributions for greens and flowers to decorate the church and enhance our worship. These contributions may be made as a memorial or as a thank offering and will be included in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day bulletins. This form **MUST** be placed in the Sunday offering plate or in the church office by **Monday December 16!**



****PLEASE PRINT****

I wish to contribute Christmas Flowers and greens

In _____ honor of, or _____ in memory of:

From:



December 2019

Sunday Lay Ministry

| DATE | LESSONS | CHALIS/PRAYERS | GREETERS | COFFEE HOSTS | ACOLYTES | ALTAR GUILD |
|---|--|--|---|--|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| December 1 1 Advent | 8:00 a.m. Candy Henderson 10:00 a.m. Nancy Hartshorne | 8:00 a.m. Carol Lauffer 10:00 a.m. Mary Kiesgen | Ford and Pamela Dingman | Colin, Anne and Matthew Alton | Emma Dingman | Pamela Dingman |
| Lectionary Isaiah 2:1-5 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44 Psalm 122 | | | | | | |
| December 8 2 Advent | 8:00 a.m. Jim Thurson 10:00 a.m. Joan Kadler | 8:00 a.m. Jim Thurston 10:00 a.m. Sandy Wood | Joan Kadler and Mary Kiesgen | Sharon Bolton and Elizabeth Brockman | Rex Dingman | Pamela Dingman |
| Lectionary Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 | | | | | | |
| December 15 3 Advent | 8:00 a.m. Martha Rarick 10:00 a.m. Mary Kiesgen | 8:00 a.m. Candy Henderson 10:00 a.m. Henry Fulton | David and Nancy Kinney | Clancy and Pat DeLong | Matthew Kinney | Ella Jo Regan and David Shirley |
| Lectionary • Isaiah 35:1-10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11 Psalm 146:4- | | | | | | |
| December 22 4 Advent | 8:00 a.m. Barb ara Sheperdigian 10:00 a.m. Karen Varanauskas. | 8:00 a.m. Carol Lauffer 10:00 a.m. Nancy Hartshorne | Ulana Klymyshyn And Lynne L'Hommedieu | Ford and Pamela Dingman | Adam Baker | Ella Jo Regan and David Shirley |
| Lectionary Isaiah 7:10-16 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25 Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 | | | | | | |
| December 29 1 Christmas | 9:00 a.m. Mary Kiesgen | 9:00 a.m. Mary Kiesgen | Bernice Cole | Bring you leftover holiday goodies To Share! | Need Volunteer | Ella Jo Regan and David Shirley |
| Lectionary Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7 John 1:1-18 Psalm 147 or 147:13-21 | | | | | | |



| nday | Monday7 | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|---|---------------|---|
| 1 Advent December 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 Holy Eucharist, said 9 Sunday School 10 Choral Eucharist 10 Pine River Friends 5 Yoga | 12 p.m. DOK 6 p.m. EfM | 10 a.m. Tai Chi 5:30 pm Yogaa 7 pm Compassionate Friends Meeting | 6:30 p.m. Yoga | 10 a.m. Tai Chi 5:30 p.m. ChoirRehearsal | Office Closed | |
| 2 Advent 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 8 Holy Eucharist, said 9 Sunday School 10 Choral Eucharist 10 Pine River Friends Vestry Meeting 5 Yoga 7 pm Compassionate Friends Service | 9:30 am Staff Meeting 6 p.m. EfM | 10 a.m. Tai Chi 5:30 pm Yogaa | 6:30 p.m. Yoga | 10 a.m. Tai Chi 5:30 p.m. ChoirRehearsal | Office Closed | 10 am St. Demitrios Greek Orthodox Church |
| 3 Advent 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 8 Holy Eucharist, said 9 Sunday School 10 Choral Eucharist 10 Pine River Friends 5 Yoga 7 p.m. Advent Lessons & Carols | 6 p.m. EfM | 10 a.m. Tai Chi 5:30 p.m. Yoga | 6:30 p.m. Yoga | 10 a.m. Tai Chi 5:30 p.m. ChoirRehearsal | Office Closed | |
| 4 Advent 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 8 Holy Eucharist, said 9 Sunday School 10 Choral Eucharist 10 Pine River Friends 5 Yoga | 6 p.m. EfM | Christmas Eve 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service | Christmas Day 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service | | Office Closed | |
| 1 Christmas 29 | 30 | 31 | January 1, 2020 |  | | |
| 9:00 a,n, ONE service of Holy Eucharist | | 10 a.m. Tai Chi 5:30 p.m. Yoga | Happy New Year | | | |



This is our Greeter/Coffee Hour Host Schedule—If you cannot serve on the date you were given, please exchange dates with someone else on the list and call the Parish Secretary at 773-7448

Greeters



December

- 1 Ford and Pamela Dingman
- 8 Joan Kadler and Mary Kiesgen
- 15 David, Nancy and Matthew Kinney
- 22 Ulana Klymyshyn and Lynne L'Hommedieu
- 29 Bernice Cole

January

- 5 Rod Leslie and Marian Matyn
- 12 Colin, Anne, and Matthew Alton
- 19 Tom and Mary Ellen Cochrane
- 26 Marcia David and Sharon Bolton

February

- 2 Tom and Mary Ellen Cochrane
- 9 David and Jennifer Dingman
- 16 Ford and Pamela Dingman
- 21 Mary Kiesgen and Ulana Klymyshyn

Coffee Hour Hosts



December

- 1 Colin, Anne, and Matthew Alton
- 8 Sharon Bolton and Elizabeth Brockman
- 15 Clancy and Pat DeLong
- 22 Ford and Pamela Dingman
- 29 Bring your leftover holiday goodies to share!

January

- 5 David and Jennifer Dingman
- 12 Mary Kiesgen and Lynne L'Hommedieu
- 19 Rod Leslie and Marian Matyn
- 26 Christi Brookes and D.J. Proctor

February

- 2 Colin, Anne, and Matthew Alton
- 9 Sharon Bolton and Elizabeth Brockman
- 16 Clancy and Pat DeLong
- 21 David and Jennifer Dingman

**St. John's Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes, November 10, 2019**

Present: Adam Baker (Clerk), Nancy Herman-Kinney, Harriett White, Ulana Klymyshyn, David Shirley, Diane Stier (guest), Tom Cochrane, Ella Jo Regan, Marcia David, Clancy DeLong, D.J. Proctor.

Diane opened with prayers for the Vestry meeting and the search process.

Marcia moved Vestry approve the October minutes. Ella seconded. Vestry approved.

Diane reported on the 145th Diocesan Convention in Grand Rapids. Next year's joint convention with the Diocese of Eastern Michigan will be in Lansing on October 30-31 with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry as keynote speaker.

David reported that the focus groups were finished. Adam reported that the Search Committee will meet November 17 to begin preparing its report to the Vestry on the results of the parish survey and the focus groups.

David reported that he met with Jim Stewart, owner of Division Nine Products, Inc. in Farmington Hills, on October 24 to discuss the Parish House acoustics. Mr. Stewart took exact measurements of the ceiling and east wall and suggested adding fiberglass panels to the angled portions of the ceiling and acoustical fabric to the east wall to reduce sound reverberation by 90%. He will submit a written proposal shortly. The furnace noise is a separate problem and should be addressed by a HVAC contractor.

David reported that the empty paint can used for the lantern woodwork and doors was found and could be matched to finish painting the wood trim. However, Marcia reported that several people expressed a preference for staining the trim and doors to match the woodwork in the rest of the building. Nancy will investigate this option.

Nancy reported that the fall yard clean-up is underway.

Clancy submitted the financial report. He will present the 2020 budget at the next meeting for approval. The Diocesan Council updated the "Minimum Clergy Compensation Standard" in October. Copies were distributed for future use by the Search Committee and the Vestry.

Clancy asked Diane about finding someone to maintain the parish website. Diane reported that Pat Thurston or Alice Ciccu are willing to do it, and she will work with them.



David reported that the Diocesan Convention passed a resolution creating canonical relationships with innovative "Cooperating Ministries" (such as Plainsong Farm & Ministry in Rockford, Michigan) in addition to traditional missions and parishes. He also reported on election results for the Standing Committee and General Convention clergy and lay delegates.

David also reported that the Convention of the Diocese of Michigan elected the Rev. Dr. Bonnie A. Perry, Rector of All Saints' in Chicago, as its 11th Bishop. She will be installed on February 8, 2020, at the Cathedral of St. Paul, Detroit, with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry officiating. She is the first female and openly gay priest to be elected Bishop in the history of the diocese.

There will be a Safeguarding God's Children training session on November 23 from 9 a.m.-noon at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids.

Ulana reminded Clancy that the check for Mary Senter's fee for the focus groups should be issued soon.

Tom moved Vestry adjourn. Nancy seconded. Vestry adjourned.

Next Vestry Meeting: December 8, 2019, 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Baker, Vestry Clerk

Attention! Senior Citizens may audit classes at CMU FREE as long as there is space available in the class. They may simply sit and listen to lectures or be as involved in the coursework as they desire. Contact the CMU Registrar's Office to see about signing up for a class. Now is the time to take that class in Art Appreciation, Literature, History or start to learn a new language.

It's a wonderful opportunity!

October 2019 Financial Report

Below is a summary of operating fund activity through the end of October (83.33%).

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Unrestricted operating fund receipts | \$ 156,963.30 (85.59% of bud) |
| Unrestricted operating fund expenditures | <u>145,198.12</u> (79.18% of bud) |
| Operating fund receipts over (under) expenditures | \$ 11,765.18 |

The Capital Fund reserve for which to draw mortgage payments is no longer positive and funds are being drawn from the operating fund to make payments. Please verify that your Capital Fund pledge amounts are up to date. A campaign to retire the mortgage will commence in early 2020.

The 2020 budget will be adopted at the December vestry meeting. Please let me know of any special requests you would like to see incorporated into the budget.

Cash balances on October 31, 2019 are as follows:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Checking Account..... | \$ 85,950.63 |
| Savings..... | \$ 26,741.01 |
| Certificate of Deposit..... | \$ 15,831.40 |
| Endowment Fund Investment Account..... | \$ 79,615.60 |

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Capital Campaign funds balance on October 1, 2019 | (2,043.04) |
| Capital Campaign funds balance on October 31, 2019 | (4,481.73) |

Capital Fund Activity For October:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Capital Fund Receipts | 2,230.00 |
| Interest Income..... | 0.00 |
| Bank/Credit Card Fees..... | 0.00 |
| Mortgage Principle..... | (4,164.55) |
| Mortgage Interest | (504.14) |
| Net Activity | (2,438.69) |

BUILDING PROJECT

| | |
|---|------------|
| Total Capitalized Expenses..... | 442,345.71 |
| Non-Capitalized Expenses (Bank Fees/Interest) ... | 24,643.59 |

Subtotal **466,989.30**

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Anticipated Expenses: | |
| Mortgage Interest | 8,027.72 |
| Bank Fees/Credit Card | 893.90 |

TOTAL PROJECT COST..... **475,910.92**

Clancy DeLong, Parish Treasurer



ANGLICAN WORTHIES

350. Hunt, William Holman (1827-1910) Painter

The Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood was a group of artists working together in the decade of the 1850s to offer the artistic world of London a depiction of scenes drawn from myth, Biblical stories, and literature (especially characters and events of Arthurian matter, or from Shakespeare, Tennyson, and Keats). They chose incidents of tension and crisis, thwarted sexuality, poverty, and oppression. Their canvases often featured women in elegant gowns, massive unpinned hair, ruby lips, penetrating eyes and prominent noses that suggested strong sexual capacity. I like to think these men saw the opposite sex in Victorian society frustrated in their personal desires; there is a depressed lusciousness about them.

The Brotherhood consisted of John Everett Millais (1829-1896), James Collinson (1825-1881), the sculptor Thomas Woolman, Frederick George Stephens, the Rossetti brothers (William Michael and Dante Gabriel [1828-1882]), and William Holman Hunt. They called themselves “pre-Raphaelite” because they took their inspiration from the painters of the century before the age of Raphael (1483-1520), the late medieval period. They were also reacting against the “academic” and derivative style by Sir Joshua Reynolds in the 18th century and the popular Scottish painter, Sir David Wilkie (1785-1841). The author in the entry in Wikipedia says that “the brotherhood sought a return to the abundant detail, intense colours and complex compositions of Quattrocento Italian art.”

They believed their medievalism “possessed a spiritual and creative integrity that had been lost in later years.” One can detect a kind of “tapestry” about their scenes. In the interest of realism they chose human subjects for their characters, often relying on one another’s sisters or lovers draped in their colorful costumes, which made them look larger than life, commanding our gaze. (Once you look at a Pre-Raphaelite painting or even a reproduction, you can scarcely avert your eyes.) In contrast to their realism, Hunt and Millais covered their canvases first with white pigment, leaving the surface wet, to make their colors more brilliant. But they were also realistic with detail. In Millais’ “Christ in the House of his Parents” (1849-1850; Tate Gallery, London), Joseph measures the dimensions of a door held by two assistants, all looking like modern workmen. (Millais modeled Joseph’s forearms after a contemporary carpenter.) The father’s tools and his storage of lumber are stacked behind him; the floor is covered with shavings. In the foreground is the young boy Jesus, comforted by his mother because in the palm of his hand is a small, bleeding puncture he got from a nail. (The Pre-Raphaelites were not adverse to typological symbolism!) Lionel Labourene, in *Victorian Painting* (1999), says that this painting was “the argumentative sensation of the Royal Academy Exhibition of 1850. . . . The public did not like the realism and symbolism revealed in the Christ Child’s hand, prefiguring the Crucifixion and the nails of the Cross.” *Dickens in particular accused it of blasphemy, though in later years, after meeting Millais, he retracted what he had said. Not all the women in these paintings are aesthetically beautiful; they, like their models, look more natural, like real women.



The subject of this essay, William Holman Hunt, displayed, in Laborene's words, "the keenest adherence to the group's idealistic aims. . . [He was] an artist with remarkable painstaking powers of realistic delineation." His origins were modest; his father worked in haberdashery. He was ambitious for his son, who did nothing but draw. The boy became a copy clerk for an auctioneer, who encouraged him in his sketches. Hunt began to study in the evening with a portrait painter in the city. From 1841 to 1843 he clerked in a house that printed fabrics. His tutor told him to go to the galleries and copy portraits. When Hunt's father saw his recent oils, he made no further objections to his son's intentions.

In 1844 he obtained formal permission to paint copies of the masterpieces in the National Gallery in London. Here he learned that the aforementioned Wilkie painted his canvases, in Bronkhurst's words, "without a monochrome lay-in of the while design," that is, he just painted each section "fresh." Hunt and others of the emerging "brotherhood" believed that was how the artists of the fourteenth century worked, so they adopted it.

It was this year Hunt met John Everett Millais, who would become his closest friend and colleague. Millais got Hunt to apply as a probationer in the Royal Academy Schools, which meant that he could begin to exhibit. In 1845 he showed his painting of "Pity the Sorrows of a Poor Old Man" in Manchester. The subject was fraught with pathos, as many of his canvases were. At the Royal Academy Schools Hunt made the acquaintance of Frederic George Stephen, a critic who would become one of Hunt's strongest supporters. In these early days as a painter he would certainly need one.

Hunt read through Scripture looking for stories to illustrate. Reading also the art criticism of John Ruskin (1819-1900), Hunt realized that it was possible to combine symbolism with the detail of realism "without distorting the realism by resorting to outdated allegorical modes." He was also persuaded, reading Ruskin, to adopt a "moralistic approach" to his own subjects, which is evident in a canvas of 1848, "The Flight of Madeline and Porphyro during Drunkenness Attending the Revelry" (after a poem by Keats, Guildhall Gallery, London). Here Hunt employed the deep, rich color of his subjects' clothing that became characteristic of the Brotherhood's work. The painting attracted the attention of another painter, Dante Gabriel Rossetti. The two began to share a studio. By the end of 1848 Millais, Rossetti, Rossetti's brother William Micheal, Stephen, Hunt, and some others decided to form the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, and some after Rossetti would write "PRB" after their name on their painting. Hunt was beginning to find buyers for his work, perhaps more than exhibition the highest praise an artist can achieve.

In all, Hunt painted 170 canvases, and any brief account of his career cannot discuss each one. Some of his work, as well as those of Millais and Rossetti, were controversial, particularly those of an obvious Christian subject. Concerns that religious subjects would draw people away from Anglicanism to Rome, *Newman's path, deepened the critical response. Hunt was quite Anglican, and indeed his religious subjects were intended to have the opposite effect.

In the summer of 1848 Hunt began work on the only painting he would sign "PRB."
(to be cont'd). --hlf

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



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.

Associate Priest, The Rev. Sr. Diane Stier, ec 989-807-0215

Deacon, The Rev. Nancy Casey Fulton, 773-7193

2019 Vestry Officers

Sr. Warden: David Shirley: 773-3463

Jr. Warden: Nancy Herman Kinney: 989-546-5424

Treasurer: Clancy DeLong, 989-400-6546

Co-Treasurer: Lynne L'Hommedieu, 772-8340

Vestry Clerk: Adam Baker: 989-492-1626

Organist:

Dennis Flynn, 231-460-6000

2019 Vestry Members

Tom Cochrane, 989-317-3561

Marcia David, 775-8086

Ulana Klymyshyn, 772-5 616

David Proctor, 772-7715

Ella Jo Regan: 772-3587

Eric Vinciguerra, 517-657-9196

Harriett White, 773-3880

Choirmaster:

Chase Simpson, 248-302-0532