
The Evangel



Dear people and friends of St. John's,

It's been nearly a year now since the pandemic changed our understanding of what "church" means...moving us out of the building, to an understanding that *we* are the church, however we gather, even over the internet! Now that many folks have gotten at least their first dose of the vaccine, we are all wondering when we might be able to "return" to life as we knew it in the "before" times... There is no new pastoral directive from the bishops, so at present we will continue to do as we have been doing. At the same time, know that we are working through what steps we will need to take once we are allowed to gather again in person.

There has been "gift" in all of this, though. We are able to connect with people who cannot – because of distance – usually gather with us. Once we are back "in church," then – we will continue to make our services available "online" – streaming our services to Facebook and YouTube each week.

Let us continue to care for one another, stay connected in whatever ways we are able, and *be* the church with the welcoming red doors.

Happy Lent!
Sr. Diane+

HOLY COMMUNION



On the first Sunday of March, March 7th, we will celebrate Holy Communion livestreamed again from church. At the end of the service, you can drive up at the entrance to church and I will bring communion to your car, or someone will bring communion to you at your home. (They would arrive around 11:30, give or take, depending on how far you live from church!) This is our current “standard practice” for the first Sunday of each month. The David and Jennifer

Dingman family has volunteered to provide some “coffee hour” cookies, as well! **Please contact the office to let us know if you would like to come to church to get communion or would like communion brought to your home. Call 989-773-7448 or email saintjohnsmp@gmail.com**

UPDATING RECORDS

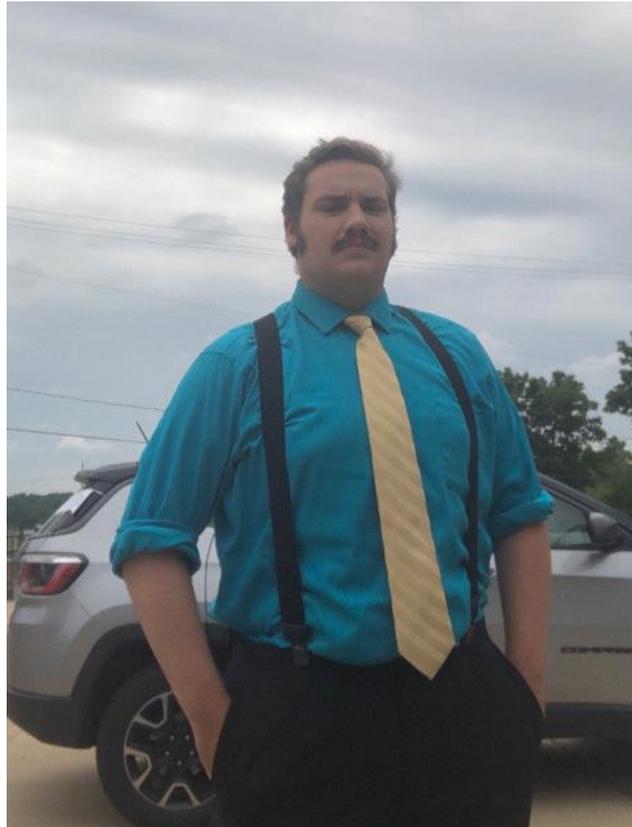
In an effort to update our parish records, each member household will be receiving – either by email or US mail – a form to complete and return. You can complete the form online or fill out a paper copy and send it back to us. THANKS FOR HELPING OUT!

HOLY WEEK and EASTER services



A complete schedule of our services for Holy Week and Easter will be sent out in the THIS WEEK email messages toward the end of the month. We will celebrate Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter together as a parish, but will most likely avail ourselves of Easter Vigil services offered by the diocese. Our primary Easter celebration will be Holy Communion on Easter morning (April 4) at our 10 AM service, with communion available at the curb or for home delivery after the service.

St. John's Choral Scholars



Hello,

I'm David Klak from Mt. Pleasant, MI. I'm currently in my senior year at Central Michigan University receiving my BFA in Musical Theatre with a minor in dance. I have performed in a variety of theatrical and opera productions at Central throughout my time there from *The Mikado* to original musicals like *Semantics*. Outside of CMU, I teach at my family's business, Off Broadway Performing Arts Studio just down the road from the church.

My favorite part about working as a Choral Scholar has been the both the quality of the music and the quality of the people. I have never met a more supportive community of people within my own town, and I'm glad to have gotten acquainted with them. I am also fortunate to call my fellow Choral Scholars my best friends in the whole world, so that's a plus.

I look forward to singing for you whenever I get the chance, and I can't wait to step back into the church with a full nave of people.

Look forward to seeing you all soon! Peace.

David



Now Is the Time to Give

Now would be the perfect time to try out our *Giving Tools* to make a donation to the OUTREACH fund for Easter dinner baskets.

Of course, for all giving – pledges, building fund, flowers, organ, People Helping People, etc. – just use this link to give securely online. You can make a one-time donation, or set up a recurring donation, either from your credit card or bank account. The *Giving Tools* link is available on our website and Facebook page as well. <https://stjohnsmtpleasantmi.gvtls.com>

If you prefer, your financial support gifts may be sent in the following ways:

1. Mail to the church office: 206 W. Maple Street; Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
2. Drop off through the mail slot at the church office door.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Sunday 10 AM: Ante-Communion live on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#)

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

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

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



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

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

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, Martha Rarick, 773-7510, the church office or email Pamela Dingman: padingman@hotmail.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.



| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Jeanne Maxon | 6 |
| David Kinney | 9 |
| Nancy Herman Kinney | 20 |
| Diana Clapp | 29 |
| Ella Jo Regan | 30 |

Can't find your parish directory? It's on the parish website:
<https://www.stjohnsmtpleasantmi.com/> under *About Us* –then *Members Only*. sjec206

EACH ONE REACH ONE

Traditionally during Lent, we adopt the practices of *prayer, fasting, and alms-giving*. This year, why not *pray* for a fellow parishioner, *fast* from TV one evening, and give the *alms* of your time, attention and care by sending a card or note to that person? (Info on finding the parish directory is above)

Minutes for Vestry Meeting February 14th, 2021

Present are Adam Baker(clerk), Diane Stier, Olivia Ohler, Ella Jo Regan, Jerry May, Alice Ciccu(guest), Tom Cochrane, Ulana Klymyshyn, Nancy Herman-Kinney, Eric Vinciguerra, DJ Proctor, Clancy DeLong, Marcia David, David Shirley(guest).

Nancy opened with a prayer.

Ella moved that Vestry approve the minutes for the January 10th meeting, Nancy seconded. Vestry approved.

Tom moved that Vestry approve the minutes for January 17th meeting with the amendment that David attended as a guest, Ella seconded. Vestry approved.

Clancy moved that Vestry approve minutes from the special meeting on January 19th to elect Ella for another term, Nancy seconded. Vestry approved.

Ella moved that Vestry approve the Parochial Report with corrections, Nancy seconded. Vestry approved.

David left the meeting.

Clancy completed his financial report, and noted that the mortgage has been paid off. Clancy announced that we are proceeding with Payroll Protection Program 2. The housing allowance issue was resolved and included in the application calculation. The amount applied for is \$13,965 Tom moved that Vestry approve the financial report, Nancy seconded. Vestry approved.

Tom and Ulana reported on Christian Education. Nancy mentioned that when she taught at CMU she had contact with Canadian students who were anglican and wanted to find community. She suggested that St. John's try to tap into student athletes as a form of outreach to the CMU community. Ulana reminded us that at one point we wanted to contact episcopal parishes in Michigan to ask if any of their members were CMU students so we could outreach to them. DJ and Nancy offered to assist Ulana in this project of finding ways to contact CMU students.

Ella mentioned that when Easter approaches we would be putting together Outreach Baskets for the Women's Shelter. Olivia offered to assist her with this project.

Nancy and Adam completed the Buildings and Grounds report. Nancy and Marcia are in the process of teaching Adam the major duties of Junior Warden. Nancy is finishing a booklet with the major projects, duties and contacts for Junior Warden.

Eric completed the Liturgy and Music report.



Diane completed her Pastoral Report. There will be classes for Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation on Sundays from 7-8:40p.m. later in the Spring on the 4th Sunday of the month. Anyone interested should contact Diane.

Nancy reported that the sign in front of the rectory needs to be replaced and the sign in front of the church will need to be repainted and have plexiglass applied to prevent the letters from being taken.

By consensus, as of this meeting, Vestry reports that costs for all plots in the columbarium are covered. Tom closed with a prayer. Next meeting is scheduled for March 14th. Marcia moved Vestry adjourn, Nancy seconded. Vestry adjourned.

January 2021 Financial Report

Below is a summary of operating fund activity through the end of January (8.33%).

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Unrestricted operating fund receipts..... | \$ 6,889.80 (3.78% of budget) |
| Unrestricted operating fund expenditures..... | <u>14,353.84</u> (7.06% of budget) |
| Operating fund receipts over (under) expenditures | \$ (7,464.04) |

There is some fantastic news. The mortgage is paid in full!

Through January, total income is coming in slowly as expected for the first of the year. Please check to see if your pledge is up to date.

Cash balances on January 31, 2021 are as follows:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Checking Account | \$ 23,702.34 |
| Savings..... | \$ 26,757.76 |
| Certificate of Deposit..... | \$ 16,029.84 |
| Endowment Fund Investment Account | \$ 91,024.01 |

Capital Campaign funds balance on January 1, 2021.....\$ 60,691.01

Capital Campaign funds balance on January 31, 2021.....\$ (5,348.13)

BUILDING PROJECT – FINAL COSTS

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Total Capitalized Expenses | \$ 442,621.31 |
| Non-Capitalized Expenses (Bank Fees/Interest) | 29,952.10 |

Subtotal.....\$ 472,573.41

Est total costs with full interest\$ 475,910.92

Amount saved by early payoff.....\$ 3,337.51

Clancy

ANGLICAN WORTHIES

365. Morris, William (1834-1896) Artist & designer (pt. iii)



Despite the convenience of living with his family above the premises of “the Firm,” in the summer of 1871 Morris decided to move out of the city again, this time for the same reason that troubled him before—the pollution of city air. (London was heated entirely by coal; this was the London of urban legend, the city of impenetrable fog, where one could not see some days across the river.) Morris chose Kelmscott Manor in a village in Oxfordshire, where *Rossetti currently lived. The house was nearly one hundred years old—perfect for someone with Morris’s “medieval” tastes. He loved the countryside; Rossetti did not, and suffered a nervous breakdown. (The two men spent little time together.) But Morris also kept a home in London, where he could continue working with David Burne-Jones.

Leaving his wife and children under the dubious care of the painter, Morris and some friends took a boat to Iceland this season, stopping at the Faroe Islands. Curious about Iceland’s political institutions, he was introduced to the leader of the Althing, since the late Middle Ages the assembly that gathered every summer to settle differences among a naturally contumacious population. (For more, for example, see the *Njal’s Saga*, the best-known of the sagas.) This was a trip of only three months. In 1873 Burne-Jones and he went to Italy to study the architecture of Florence and Siena; then back to Iceland. His biographers note that Morris’s political views had begun to shift seriously “left” as he remained interested in Iceland’s struggle to free itself from Danish control.

By the following year it was becoming painfully obvious that the relationship with Rossetti was finished, and the painter moved out of Kelmscott. “The Firm” was losing investors, so Morris decided to assume sole control. Eventually the company disbanded, and a new company, Morris & Co., was established. Morris was now on his own, though Philip Webb and Burne-Jones continued to contribute designs.

Morris was amazing in his curiosity about design and decoration, though from the late 1880s he was becoming increasingly political. While he was collaborating with Thomas Wardle, a silk dyer in Staffordshire, and was changing the base of all of Wardle’s chemical dyes into organic and natural substances (indigo for blue, shells and barks for brown, cochineal and other substances for reds), Mackail says, “Living and working in this industrial environment, he gained a personal understanding of production and the lives of the proletariat, and was disgusted by the poor living conditions of workers and the pollution caused by industry; these factors greatly influenced his political views.”

The new company hired staff who were more adept at marketing; by 1880 the company had become fashionable, attracting commissions from the aristocracy and successful businessmen. This made Morris uneasy, given his growing sympathy for the working poor. He called it “ministering to the swinish luxury of the rich.” But he still found time for literature, offering a new translation of Virgil’s *Aeneid* and several new versions, with Magnusson, of Icelandic sagas. His literary work was very popular. Oxford offered him the Professorship of Poetry in 1877, which he declined, knowing nothing about the critical history of the genre.

His beloved daughter Jenny was diagnosed, in 1876, with epilepsy. (There were other problems.) Morris did not want her “put away,” so his wife and he took the girls to Italy, where they toured many wonderful cities and sites. After more than three years they came back home to a new residence in Hammersmith, in the West End. The company began work on hand-knotted carpets with his latest designs.

But what these days seemed to drive Morris strongest was politics, being involved with several action groups. This took many different forms. He disapproved of the current Prime Minister, Benjamin Disraeli, because the minister sided with the Ottoman Empire, who was on the verge of war with Russia; he also joined other small Liberal groups, which did not go anywhere. But even when *Gladstone succeeded Disraeli, Morris objected to Gladstone’s position on the British occupation of the Transvaal. (The imperialism of the British in South Africa was a nagging problem throughout most of the century.)



Morris found much to object to. As for Radicalism, he found it was always just Radicalism, under the control of “rich capitalism,” people who were buying his products!)

After seeing what was being done in the restoration of an old church on Oxfordshire in 1876, and “restoration” elsewhere, Morris founded the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. There was quite a number of similar projects under way throughout the country that were in “remodeling” rather than restoration, which he vigorously opposed. He collected 2000 signatures from British subjects to protect St. Mark's in Venice!

Morris leased in 1881 a silk-weaving factory, where he re-established his workshops, which in London had been used for weaving, dying—and for the manufacture of stained glass. Again, his increasing post-Marxist sentiments interfered with his artistic objectives; he found it almost impossible to reduce the distance between the artisans and the merely piecework responsibilities of the workers.

His wife was still spending a great deal of time with Rossetti, though the painter's addiction to chloral made this relationship difficult. Moreover, Rossetti was becoming increasingly paranoid, and he died in 1882. With undoubtedly mixed feelings Morris said that his former friend had “some of the very greatest qualities of genius, most of them indeed; what a great man he would have been but for the arrogant misanthropy which marred his work, and killed him before his time.”

Morris's wife took then took up with the poet Wilfred Scawen Blunt. --hlf

Saint John's Episcopal Church

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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.

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

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

2021 Vestry Officers

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

Jr. Warden: Adam Baker: 989-492-1626

Treasurer: Clancy DeLong, 989-400-6546

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

Vestry Clerk: Adam Baker: 989-492-1626

2021 Vestry Members

Tom Cochrane, 989-317-3561

Marcia David, 775-8086

Ulana Klymyshyn, 772-5616

Gerald May, 989-506-0373

Olivia Ohler, 989-386-0755

David Proctor, 772-7715

Ella Jo Regan, 772-3587

Eric Vinciguerra, 989-289-6301

Organist:

Dennis Flynn, 231-460-6000

Choirmaster pro tempore:

Eric Vinciguerra, 989-289-6301