



The Evangel

Dear people and friends of St. John's,

On the recommendation of the Search Committee
and with the approval of
The Rev. Canon Missioner Anne Hallmark
and
Standing Committee President David Croal,
the Wardens and Vestry announce the selection of

The Rev. Sr. Diane Stier

to serve as Rector,
effective on All Saints Day,
Sunday, November 1, 2020.

Blessings to all,
David B. Shirley
Senior Warden

Everliving God, strengthen and sustain Diane, that with patience and understanding she may love and care for your people; and grant that together they may follow Jesus Christ, offering to you their gifts and talents; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

(Book of Common Prayer, p. 560)



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.

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.



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.



Rebecca DeLong	4
Colin Alton	8
Eileen Swinehart	8
Carrie Blackburn	13
Randi L'Hommedieu	14
Tim Hartshorne	15
Lara Raisanen	15
Janice Schurr	15
Nancy Fulton	19
Alma Dickerson	20
Gabriel Kney	21
Bill Henderson	23
Sr. Diane Stier	24
Jon Scott Shaffer	29



Brent & Jeanne MMaxon	4
Bill & Candy Henderson	21
Roger Hatch & Joyce Baugh	23
Bob & Kip Cosan	28



**Minutes for Vestry Meeting
October 11, 2020, 11:30 a.m. via Zoom**

Present: Adam Baker, David Shirley, Tom Cochrane, Ella Jo Regan, Marcia David, Ulana Klymyshyn, Nancy Herman-Kinney, Eric Vinceguerra, D.J. Proctor, Clancy DeLong
Guests: Alice Ciccu (technical director), Laura Cochrane, Candy Henderson

David opened with a prayer for the Vestry meeting.

Marcia moved approval of the September 13 minutes. Nancy seconded. Vestry approved.

David presented Diane's Pastoral Report.

Candy, Laura, and Alice discussed the Black Lives Matter issue with the Vestry. The discussion will continue after action on a related resolution at the Joint Diocesan Convention on October 31.

Marcia moved, going forward, the Vestry must approve signs on church property. Nancy seconded. Vestry approved.

Nancy presented the Buildings and Grounds Report. The sprinkler system has been turned off for the season. Toto will clean the garden this fall. Landscaping on the north side of the Parish House will resume next spring. Ford Dingman will contact a craftsman to repair and make a wall bracket for the damaged sanctuary lamp.

David appointed Ella to chair the Nominating Committee to prepare a slate of Vestry candidates to be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting on January 17, 2021.

Clancy presented the Financial Report. The mortgage has dropped below \$80,000, and the financial situation looks good so far.

Tom moved Vestry into executive session to discuss personnel matters. Ella seconded. Vestry approved.

Ella moved Vestry out of executive session. Tom seconded. Vestry approved.

Next Vestry Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 15, at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom.

Ella moved to adjourn. Nancy seconded. Vestry adjourned at 12.45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Baker, Clerk

During this period when St. John's is closed, 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.
3. Pay by credit card. Call Clancy DeLong at (989) 400-6546 to provide card information.

NO CONTACT METHOD OF GIVING

The Western Michigan Diocese has contracted with an online giving platform to assist parishes during this crisis. This is a safe, paperless way of giving through direct debit or credit card. To take advantage of this program, please click on the following link

<http://givingtools.com/give/1276/2180>

Clancy

Some of our Members have moved! Here are their new addresses!

**Sally Goodrow
8500 Fluakner Drive
Apartment D202
Lincoln, NE 68516**

**Olivia Ohler
2721 Eland
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858**

**Chase and Victoria Simpson
2600 ChandlerDr. Apt. 216
Bowling Green, KY 42104**

**Sandy Wood
6240 Hilltop Ct.
Bath, MI 48808**



September 2020 Financial Report

Below is a summary of operating fund activity through the end of September (75.00%).

Unrestricted operating fund receipts	\$ 122,243.15 (71.74% of budget)
Unrestricted operating fund expenditures	<u>120,881.25</u> (70.94% of budget)
Operating fund receipts over (under) expenditures	\$ 1,361.90

This fall's capital campaign will have commenced once this report is published. Please open up your hearts as our 2021 budget will have a new priest.

Through September, total income remains down 3%. Please confirm that your pledge is up to date.

Cash balances on September 30, 2020 are as follows:

Checking Account.....	\$ 84,910.20
Savings.....	\$ 26,754.40
Certificate of Deposit.....	\$ 15,976.75
Endowment Fund Investment Account.....	\$ 83,333.88

Capital Campaign funds balance on September 1, 2020.....\$ 15,320.66

Capital Campaign funds balance on September 30, 2020.....\$ 13,103.33

Capital Fund Activity For September:

Capital Fund Receipts	\$ 2,448.00
Interest Income.....	3.36
Bank/Credit Card Fees.....	0.00
Mortgage Principle.....	(4,358.16)
Mortgage Interest.....	(310.53)
Net Activity	\$ (2,217.33)

BUILDING PROJECT

Total Capitalized Expenses.....	\$ 442,345.71
Non-Capitalized Expenses (Bank Fees/Interest) ...	29,272.92
Subtotal	\$ 471,618.63

Anticipated Expenses:	
Mortgage Interest	\$ 4,192.29
Bank Fees/Credit Card.....	100.00

TOTAL PROJECT COST.....\$ 475,910.92

Outstanding mortgage balance as of September 30, 2020.....\$ 79,748.43

Clancy DeLong, Parish Treasurer



ANGLICAN WORTHIES

363. Baring-Gould, Sabine (1834-1924)

Priest

Baring-Gould's father's original surname was simply "Baring," a "lord of the manner" of the town of Lew Trenchard in Exeter; "Gould" was added by royal license in 1795 in accordance with his father's inheritance and position in the parish. "Sabine" came from his mother's side. There was wealth in the family. The child was privately tutored, supplemented by trips to the continent. He was eventually sent to preparatory school before matriculating to Clare College. His career was troubled by a bronchial disorder, which he apparently never threw off.

During his first year at Cambridge he announced that he intended to be a priest. After earning an M.A., he taught a few years before taking holy orders. In 1864. At Harbury Bride, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, where he was only a curate, he met Grace Taylor, the daughter of a common mill hand. He was thirty years old; she was only fourteen. It looked like a completely unsuitable relationship, especially with regard to the vast difference in age. It is not clear whether she was formally educated, whereas Baring-Gould was a Fellow of Cambridge, a priest, and heir to a vast fortune. John Sharp, the vicar of the parish, apparently did not think the problem was irremedial and arranged for Miss Taylor to live with relations in the area for two years to learn social manners, to learn how to head up the household of one of the leading figures of a parish community.

He and Miss Taylor were married in 1868. At this time Baring-Gould was curate at Thirsk, a town in Yorkshire now known because of the memoirs of the veterinarian James Heriot, starting with *All Creatures Great and Small*. What his homespun wife may have lacked in social experience and culture she made up in fecundity, bearing her husband fifteen children, all but one reaching maturity. She died in 1916. Her husband outlived her eight years.

Baring-Gould is the epitome of the English priest more interested in local antiquities and literature than liturgy. He spent his life collecting folk songs and the fragments of local lore. My source on Baring-Gould requires a double-columned page to list every work. He wrote several novels and two hundred short stories, all now forgotten. One of his earlier productions was a biography of another eccentric, the Reverend Stephen *Hawker of Morwenstowe, about whom I wrote two essays in 2014. Hawker's church in Exeter was on the cliffs overlooking the Bristol Channel. One of the curiosities of Baring-Gould's native Devonshire is the Dartmoor Plain, an uninhabited area larger than a state park. When Nancy & I were in Exeter in 1973, working on the poet Robert *Herrick, we were warned not to explore the Dartmoor Plain on our own because it was largely unsigned; people were known to get lost without communication (this was before the days of I-phones). I thought this was odd, that nothing seemed to have



been done to make the area accessible. But we were young, fearless, and drove our rented car about two miles into this eerie and forbidding land. Then the car broke down. We looked to be stranded. Fortunately a family living near the entrance must have spotted us because they went in after us, and took us back to their house, shaken. They gave us tea and biscuits (cookies), called a garage in the city, and drove us back to our B&B. It has been more than forty years; there may be some signs there now.

Baring-Gould and associates began to investigate the area in the 1890s, including archeological excavations, which unearthed evidence of prehistoric dwellings. He published two books on this work, *Dartmoor Idylls* (1896) and *A Book of Dartmoor* (1900) and edited several years of annual reports. In addition he collected folklore and songs about Devon, Wales, and the west, working occasionally with the well-known collector, Cecil Sharp (1859-1924). One publication, *English Folk Songs for Schools*, was in use past 1960. The rest of Baring-Gould's collections are in the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library in the Devon History Center in Exeter.

It should not surprise us that Baring-Gould's lyrics are found in our hymnal, namely "Now the day is over" (#42), "The angel Gabriel from Heaven came" (#265), "Singing songs of expectation" (#527), and one of the most notorious lyrics in Protestantism, "Onward, Christian soldiers" (#562). The well-known tune for this was composed by Sir Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900), of Gilbert & Sullivan fame, whose lifelong regret was that he was never taken as seriously as he felt he was deserved. (We will get to him one of these days.) In defense of Baring-Gould's almost tasteless lyrics, which no Episcopalian could sing these days without a smile, refers to a point in the Victorian Church when the charge to evangelize and convert the population of the world, especially China, to the message of Christ. It belongs to the expansion of Britain's colonial empire. I cannot think of any recent period in Christian history that could think of itself so militantly, so seriously.

Baring-Gould's most productive period was the 1890s. Many items survived into the twentieth century, though not so well known as the words to these hymns. He was buried next to his wife at the family estate in Devon. --hlf

Saint John's Episcopal Church

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

2020 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

2020 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

Organist:

Dennis Flynn, 231-460-6000

Choirmasterpro tempore:

Eric Vinciguerra, 517-652-9196