
The Evangel



Dear people and friends of St. John's,

This issue of the Evangel goes out as we are in the cusp days of the Triduum – bringing Lent to a close and drawing us fully into the Easter mysteries... of bread broken and shared even in the presence of betrayal, of sacrificial love, of the deep darkness of the tomb, followed by its emptiness and the cries that Christ is Risen – indeed!

In his Easter message, Bishop Skip reminds us: “We may not be able to explain it all nor do we need to. Even the Scriptures don't explain it, they proclaim it – Christ is Risen. So we too gather in a community of worshipful attention and intention, virtually or otherwise, to proclaim that something happened to Jesus. By proclaiming that truth, we look for and expect that something is happening among us.”

The full text and video of Bishop Skip's message is available on the diocesan website here <https://edwm.org/easter-message-from-bishop-skip/>

Have a blessed Triduum and Easter... Let us pray with each other through these days.
Sr. Diane+

HOLY COMMUNION



On *Easter Sunday*, the first Sunday of April, we will have two celebrations of Holy Communion.

The 10:00 AM service will be **livestreamed from church**, with only our organist, choral scholar, lector, and intercessor present. 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.

At 11:30 AM, we will have an **in-person** celebration of Holy Communion. Yes! You can actually come to church on Easter morning! There will be no music at this service (not unlike our 8 AM services in the “before” times), and those who attend must wear masks, maintain a distance of 6’ all around from anyone outside their household, and observe other safety measures recommended, like use of hand-washing and hand-sanitizer.

Ford and Pam Dingman have volunteered to provide some “coffee hour” cookies for Easter, also.

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 or
- plan to attend the 11:30 service in person

Call 989-773-7448 or email saintjohnsmp@gmail.com

HOLY WEEK and EASTER services



Holy Thursday – 7:00 PM – Zoom

Good Friday – 7:00 PM – [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

Great Vigil of Easter – Trinity Wall Street or Beula

Easter Morning – 10:00 AM – [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

11:30 AM – in person (reservation required) – see below

UPDATING RECORDS

Just a reminder: If you haven't yet returned the Member Information Form we sent out, please do so. You can complete the form online or fill out a paper copy and send it back to us. THANKS FOR HELPING OUT!

St. John's Choral Scholars



Jack O'Brien is a junior at CMU studying Vocal Performance and Theory & Composition.

Jack has lived in Mt. Pleasant his whole life after his parents moved here from Rochester, New York when he was born.

He loves music of all kinds but focuses his study on opera.

Jack is also a radio host for WCMU Public Radio for their Nightside Jazz and Blues program every Friday and Saturday from 11 pm to 2 am.



Now Is the Time to Give

For all giving – pledges, building fund, flowers, organ, People Helping People, etc. – use the [Giving Tools](#) link to give securely online. A one-time donation can be made, or you can set up recurring donations from a credit card or bank account. The link is available on our website and Facebook page.

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: paddingman@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.



April Birthdays

Adam Baker	3
Ezra Hart	5
Seth Hartshorne	7
Ralph Baber	8
Tom Cochrane	12
Jennifer Dingman	14
Henry Fulton	16
Arden Hart	16
Megan Blackburn	22
Jaclynn Cosan	24
Alexander DeLong	24
Christopher DeLong	24
Pamela Dingman	29

April Anniversaries

Steven Berkshire and Eileen Swineheart
4/30/2004

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

Spread some Easter joy by reaching out to one of your fellow parishioners with a card or phone call! (Info on finding the parish directory is above)

Minutes for Vestry Meeting March 14th, 2021

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

Ella and Clancy led the opening prayer.

Ella moved that Vestry accept the minutes from the February minutes, Olivia seconded. Vestry approved the minutes.

Diane noted that she will ask Alexis to get in touch with Marian Martyn about archiving the Vestry minutes.

Clancy completed his Financial Report. Diane thanked him for getting us the second Payroll Protection Loan. Tom moved that Vestry approve the financial report, Ella seconded. Vestry approved.

Tom reported that Church School is going really well and is being supported by a small number of regular attendants.

Ulana reported that the Wednesday Night Discussion was going well.

Diane completed her pastoral report. She reported that she has gotten calls from people asking for help with rent, and was considering using money from her Rector Discretionary Fund to help them. Ulana expressed concerns that this was beyond the scope of her job, and suggested that a subcommittee of Vestry be created to advise her on how to spend money from her Discretionary Fund. Ulana also expressed concerns that without the Goodrow Fund in operation anymore, there were no resources in the community designed to provide aid of that magnitude.

Adam completed his Buildings and Grounds report. He has been in touch with Darlyn about cleaning the Church every month. Nancy thought the whole church, including the Parish House, needed cleaning. Eric and Marcia suggested that the first Monday and Friday afternoons of the month would be good times for her to clean.

Eric completed his Music report. Not much will change before the Phases of Re-Entry change.

Diane reported that she was planning on having a Vestry retreat in June, probably 10-2 on a Saturday. She also reported that we are deferring the items on "follow-up" from the previous meeting. Diane will tell Ford to put up the new lamp in the Sanctuary.

Alice reported that the building use policy is finished and will be submitted to Vestry for approval at the next meeting.

Nancy reported that it has been suggested that we buy Directors and Officers insurance to cover Rectors and Vestry members from legal liability. Vestry asked Nancy to research policies and get back with Vestry about it.

Diane reported that we are now allowed to meet outside. Nancy, Jerry, Eric and DJ will all explore how to conduct services outside. Nancy will head the committee.

Olivia closed with a prayer.

Ella moved Vestry adjourn, Nancy seconded. Vestry adjourned.

Minutes for Special Vestry Meeting March 16th, 2021

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

Diane opened with a prayer.

Diane read a statement regarding the Vatican's position on Same-Sex unions and asked for Vestry's approval to sign her name on it, including her parish affiliation. Vestry expressed approval.

Vestry debated allowing people to attend church in-person. Diane suggested that St. John's began allowing in-person attendance on Easter Sunday with mask and social distancing guidelines. The service will still be streamed as planned. After Easter, St. John's will tentatively allow people to attend in-person the first Sunday of the month. Vestry expressed approval for Diane's plan.

Vestry adjourned.

February 2021 Financial Report

Below is a summary of operating fund activity through the end of February (16.67%).

Unrestricted operating fund receipts.....	\$ 28,821.72 (15.81% of budget)
Unrestricted operating fund expenditures.....	<u>29,500.15</u> (14.50% of budget)
Operating fund receipts over (under) expenditures	\$ (678.43)

Through February, most pledges are up-to-date. I wish to thank those who brought their pledges up-to-date this month.

A special thank you to members who are embracing our online giving platform. In our second month of use, online giving exceeded traditional giving.

Cash Balances

Cash in Checking Account	47,883.12
Savings	26,757.76
Certificates of Deposit	16,043.39
Endowment Fund	92,562.01
 Total	 <u><u>183,246.28</u></u>

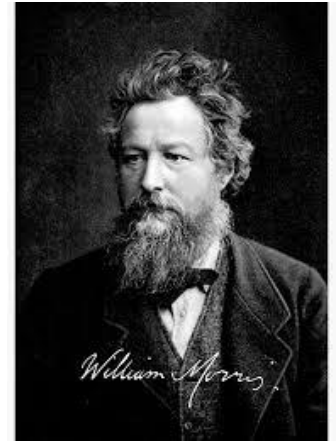
Income Sources This Month

Traditional Giving	10,538.00	28.18%
Online Giving	12,890.91	34.47%
Payroll Protection Plan	13,965.00	37.35%
 Total	 <u><u>37,393.91</u></u>	 100.00%

Clancy

ANGLICAN WORTHIES

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



During the last twenty years of his life, Morris became increasingly involved in socialist issues, particularly as they were concerned with the plight of the working classes. Yet his artistic genius continued to be hard at work itself. In 1881 he was involved in the establishment of the Radical Union, which brought together all the politically splintered groups. But he ultimately rejected radicalism and moved to Socialism which, at the time, was a body of only a few hundred disciples. Its initial party was the Democratic Federation, a post-Marxist group. Morris did not care for Marx's attack on capitalism but read less strident figures, William Cobbett (1763-1835) and John S. Mill (1806-1873). His most extreme positions shocked everyone when he gave a lecture at Oxford in 1885. Other addresses followed, particularly when the colliers went on strike in Lancashire in 1884. Not surprisingly he used his artistic talents to promote his political ideals. Eventually he became a good friend of another literate socialist, the playwright George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950). However, the more he worked for the cause of Socialism, the more he drifted away from Edward Burne-Jones, his lifelong friend and collaborator.

Among the leaders of the Social Democratic Federation, Morris's positions looked to be more extreme; this led toward schism. Some of the original leaders favored reform through Parliament; Morris had come to believe that members of both Houses were "fundamentally corrupt and capitalist." Moreover, he was anti-imperialist—again the great British Empire was both an economic bonanza and a moral embarrassment. (See Niall Ferguson's *Empire* [2003] on this.). Burne-Jones had become increasingly Conservative and believed his friend's politics had compromised his art. In 1884 Morris founded the Socialist League, which advocated Marx's international objectives. He met Marx's collaborator, Friedrich Engels (1820-1896).

Morris lectured everywhere on behalf of his political convictions and became involved in incidents of civil unrest. In the Black Monday riots of July 1886 he was finally arrested for "public obstruction while preaching socialism in the street." Haranguing persons on the street with his full beard, fifty years old, he must have been a sight. "Our business [he declared] is the making of Socialism, i.e. convincing people that Socialism is good for them and is possible. When we have enough people of that way of thinking, they will find out what action is necessary for putting their principles in practice. Therefore, I say, make them Socialists. We Socialists can do nothing else that is useful."

Socialism was clearly becoming politically popular throughout western Europe, and Morris was involved in various conferences in which the forms of political action were warmly debated and far from harmonious. Meanwhile the company was turning out stained glass windows for an estate in Shropshire. Indeed, all this artistic enterprises seemed to be flourishing, despite the time he was attending these conferences on political activism. He was active in the Fenian Brotherhood, perhaps the best-known, historically, of the British parties. He supported anarchists who were on trial tried for their "danger to society," though he disapproved of their interest in violence. He began to talk about Communism, calling it the "completion of Socialism. . . .When that ceases to be militant and becomes triumphant, it will be Communism." In 1895, Morris delivered his last open-air address; this was at the funeral of one Stepniuk, a disciple. Morris was joined by Eleanor Marx, Keir Hardie, founder of the British Labor Party, and Errico Malatesta, an Italian anarchist living in exile.



In the late 1880s a number of Morris's literary productions were published, poetry and prose. His translation of *Beowulf* was trashed by the critics because he did not understand Anglo-Saxon! When *Tennyson died in 1892, Morris was offered the Poet Laureateship but turned it down, "disliking," Mackail stated, "its association with the monarchy and political establishment."

In January of 1891 Morris rented a cottage, Kelmscott House, in Hammersmith, where he set up the Kelmscott Press. Here he began to publish special editions of well-known classics, lavishly illustrated. (He was influenced by the medieval tradition of illustrated manuscripts.) These works today fetch good prices. The most famous of these was the Kelmscott Chaucer, which took seven years to complete and contained eighty-seven illustrations by Burne-Jones. At the same time Morris tried to maintain a paternalistic relationship with his employees, giving them "outings" and paying them above the usual wage.

By the early 1890s Morris was plainly worn out; we should not wonder. Invalided by gout, he also suffered grand-mal seizures, which had afflicted his elder daughter. His solution? Travel with Jenny again to view medieval castles in France. In 1896 he went to Norway, the home of Gothic divinities. Later that year he was dead. The obituaries were divided over his vast legacy, the Socialist press lauding his leadership and vision for their radical principles. He was buried at Kelmscott.

The biographical entry in Wikipedia, from which most of this material is drawn, is worth the reader's attention because not only does it discuss the personal character of Morris but includes many color illustrations of his distinctive designs.

--hlf

Saint John's Episcopal Church

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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.

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