

THE EPISTLE

NOVEMBER 2025

As November unfolds, our Tell Out My Soul stewardship campaign invites us to pause and notice what gratitude looks like in the life of our parish. Gratitude is more than a feeling; gratitude tells the story of what God has done among us. Gratitude shines a light on the faithful Bible studies that keep meeting week after week, the committees that plan, discern, and help our ministries take shape, and the volunteers who come together to serve, organize, and make community possible.

Gratitude also reminds us how much we depend on one another. No one ministry stands alone; each one is part of a larger story held together by prayer, generosity, and shared hope. It is the same spirit that moves us to give—our time, our talent, our treasure—so that together we can nurture faith, extend care to our neighbors, and keep the work of the church strong for those who will come after us.

If you stop and listen on a Sunday, gratitude sounds like the shuffle of feet during communion, the laughter over coffee hour, the rustle of papers at a meeting, the choir warming up. All of it together becomes a hymn of thanksgiving.

Of course, not every note is perfectly in tune. Every church I know runs on a mix of grace and good humor. Plans change, things take longer than expected, and somehow God keeps showing up anyway. Gratitude helps us laugh, forgive, and keep at it, trusting that even our imperfect efforts are part of God's story of love.

Gratitude grows when we recognize the part each of us plays in this unfolding story. It isn't only expressed in prayers or feelings but in the choices we make together—to show up, to give, to lend a hand, to invest in what matters. Gratitude in action is a way of saying thank you to God for the grace that holds us and the community that sustains us.

We're already seeing that gratitude in action through our stewardship campaign. Pledge cards are already coming in, stories of generosity are being shared, and signs of new life are everywhere. Thank you to everyone who has already made a commitment for 2026. Each pledge, no matter the size or type of offering, strengthens our foundation and helps this community meet the needs of our ministry here and now.

If you have not yet pledged, I hope you'll still prayerfully consider it. Pledges help us plan our budget appropriately, including where we may rely on volunteers vs where we may need to supplement with a paid role. Stewardship packets have been mailed. If you didn't receive one and would like one, please contact the office. You can also pledge online at <https://forms.gle/1fSAqamPVS7h3LxK9>. We'll give thanks for and pray over all these gifts on Christ the King Sunday, November 23. Your pledge—of time, talent, or treasure—is one more way to tell the story of gratitude and grace that continues to unfold at St. John's.



"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever." —Psalm 107:1

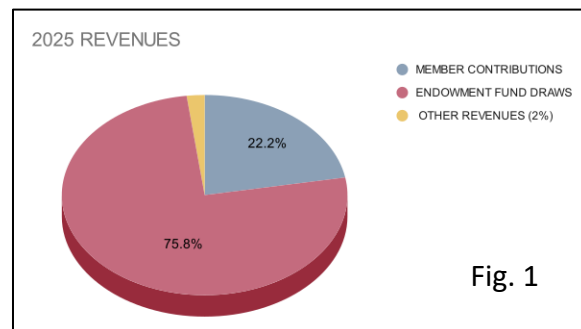
November 2025

Picturing Our Budget Story

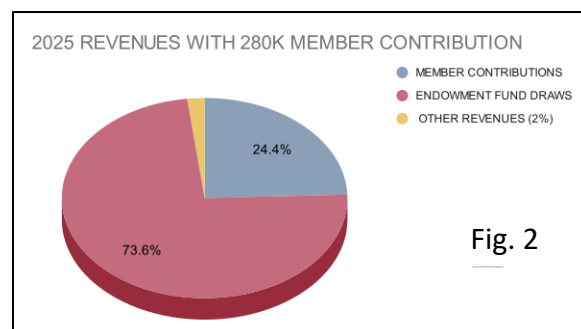
Every parish budget tells a story. The numbers show what it takes to sustain worship, music, formation, and outreach— but they also reveal what we value and where we hope to grow. These charts help us see that story more clearly: what our budget looks like today, and what it could become as we grow in generosity.

How We're Funded (fig. 1 & 2)

Right now, about 76% of our income comes from endowment fund draws, 22% from member contributions, and about 3% from other sources. The first chart shows our current reality: much of our ministry is sustained by the gifts of previous generations, though each of the past few years we've made slight progress toward funding more of our budget from member contributions.



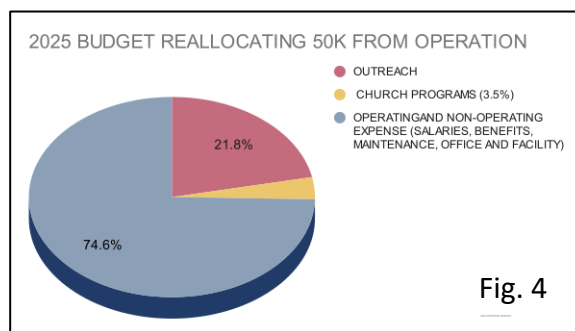
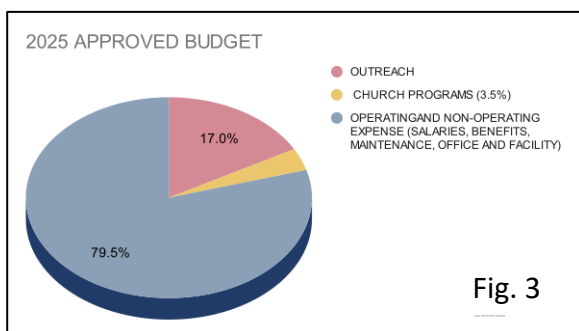
The second chart shows what could happen if pledges and offerings grow to \$280,000 (around a \$50,000 increase— significant, but a direction in which we're moving. In that scenario, member giving would rise to cover about a quarter of our annual budget. Three percent may not sound like much but it makes a big impact, allowing us to fund more of our operational budget with sustaining gifts and freeing more endowment funds for mission and outreach in the future.



How We Spend (fig. 3 & 4)

The next pair of charts tells another part of the story: how we use the funds entrusted to us. Most of our expenses go toward the people, administration, and facilities that make ministry possible—the faithful infrastructure of parish life.

But imagine what could happen if we were able to reallocate just \$50,000 toward outreach and growth. The second chart shows how a modest change in funding priorities could increase our capacity for mission and generosity, while maintaining the strength of our ongoing ministries.



The Story We're Telling Together

These charts are more than numbers; they're snapshots of our story in motion. Each pledge, each act of generosity, helps shift the picture from "what is" to "what could be." Together, we can build a future where our endowment once again fuels bold mission, our giving reflects our gratitude, and our budget tells the story of a parish living out God's abundance.



October Worship Links

Below are direct links to last month's worship services.

If viewing electronically, **click on the date to view the video from that day.**

17th Sunday after Pentecost (Oct. 5) Holy Eucharist	19th Sunday after Pentecost (Oct. 19) Holy Eucharist
18th Sunday after Pentecost (Oct. 12) Holy Eucharist	20th Sunday after Pentecost (Oct. 26) Holy Eucharist

You can find older services on this page:

<https://www.youtube.com/@st.johnsepiscopalchurchmid8944/streams>

WE APPRECIATE YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT!

St. John's depends on the generosity of our friends and members. Pledges and gifts to St. John's can either be made by check and sent via US Mail to 405 N. Saginaw Rd., Midland, MI 48640, or by visiting tinyurl.com/Give2SJEC. This link will take you to a screen where you will enter the amount of your donation, and designate a specific purpose or fund. Enter your email address as well, and you'll receive an electronic receipt.

You can also access electronic giving from the upper right-hand corner of our [webpage](#)...

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
linking lives in the love of Christ

Welcome to St John's Episcopal Church

Giving Details

Give to optional memo [+ add more](#)

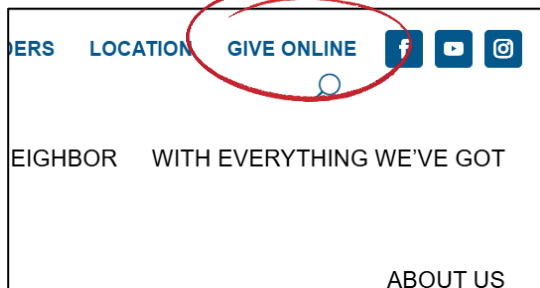
E-mail Address

[Continue](#)

ACS Technologies [Privacy Policy](#) [Terms of Use](#)

or by pointing your phone's camera at this QR code.

If you have any questions about your continued financial support of St John's, please call the church office and your call will be directed to the appropriate staff person. Thank you for your generosity!





the feast

bite-sized

ORDINARY TIME | NOVEMBER 5 - 19, 2025

bishop search listening sessions

The Bishop Search committee is hosting a series of listening sessions to help inform their discernment work in preparing a profile for our search.

There are still several opportunities both online and in person to contribute to the conversation!

There are both open sessions and audience-specific sessions.

THE
FIRST
BISHOP
OF THE EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE OF THE GREAT LAKES

scan or go to
bit.ly/BishopSearch
to find the next session!



preaching for spiritual formation

an advent sermon
preparation workshop

Registration Deadline November 15!

This preaching workshop will offer participants a chance to learn about a tool for preaching for spiritual formation. You will receive sermon preparation worksheets that you can use and reuse during this workshop and at home. This workshop is open to clergy and all licensed preachers.

Details here for the Nov 22 workshop:
bit.ly/PreachAdventWorkshop

what's the "T"??

an online introduction workshop to
transgender identities

Join Deacon Beck Leclaire for an Online Introduction to Transgender Identities.

Basic terminology, scientific explanations for the biological phenomenon of sex and gender, and some best practices for interacting with transgender and gender expansive people in a kind and respectful manner will be discussed.

November 18 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Register at bit.ly/WhatsTheTAuSable

All are welcome to participate in good faith.



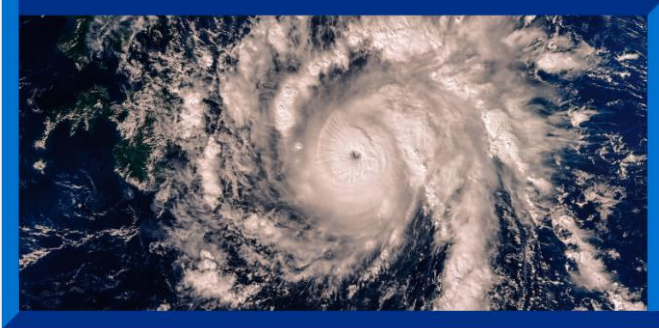
Scan to keep up to date on events and announcements at our online home for people, parishes, and ministries, greatlakesepiscopal.circle.so



[CLICK HERE to read the most recent full issue of THE FEAST ONLINE](#)

CHURCH RESOURCES

WHAT YOU CAN DO



**Support Those Affected by
Hurricane Melissa**

Episcopal Relief & Development is working closely with partners to support people affected by Hurricane Melissa. The [Hurricane Relief Fund](https://www.episcopalrelief.org/hurricane-relief-fund) is an important tool for responding to immediate needs and supporting long-term recovery. Please contribute to Episcopal Relief & Development's [Hurricane Relief Fund](https://www.episcopalrelief.org/hurricane-relief-fund) to support these efforts.



www.episcopalrelief.org

SOLO Sunday, November 16
Piano 2:30 PM
RECITAL St. John's Episcopal Church
Free admission
Pianist, George Fee
featuring works of Mozart



**Piano... Organ... Guitar...
OH MY!**



St. Alban's Episcopal Church
INAUGURAL CONCERT SERIES
LISTEN TO LOVE
THE JIM PAGEL TRIO
Renowned Jazz Guitar Combo
November 16, 2025; 4pm

Reserve your free seat:

Free-will Offering to be collected
105 S. Erie, Bay City, MI; Office: 989-892-4135
www.stalbans-baycity.org/concert-series & Facebook

The Saginaw Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and Memorial Presbyterian Church present this FREE CONCERT

**Sunday, November 9
4:00 p.m.**

**Kent Dennis
Memorial Recital**

featuring Kent Dennis
Memorial Scholarship Recipients



Memorial Presbyterian Church • 1310 Ashman St., Midland, MI • www.mempres.org

November happenings



Join us after the 10 AM worship service **THIS SUNDAY**, November 9, for this month's *2nd Sunday Sharing*.



Mark your calendars: The next *St. Martha's* meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 11, at 10:00 am** in the Activity Room. Hope to see you there!

SHARING TREE



We are coordinating a sharing tree for those less fortunate this holiday season. The tree is set up in the Sanctuary for you to pick a tag(s) to fulfill. Please return the items purchased with the tag affixed to them by Monday, December 1. Please see Jan Marcou or Linda Germain with any questions.

Living the Covenant

Exploring Episcopal Identity through Baptism

What does it mean to live as an Episcopalian? This 8-week series explores the Baptismal Covenant and how its promises shape our worship, community, and service in the world. Open to those preparing for **baptism or confirmation**, parish leaders and volunteers, and anyone curious about The Episcopal Church.

Sundays, through Nov. 16, 9:00–9:50 a.m.

(make-up Nov. 23) and also via Zoom

(time and day TBD). Sign up at

[\[https://forms.gle/3f4mbH5xufivEoBs5\]](https://forms.gle/3f4mbH5xufivEoBs5).

Sign-up required for Zoom; optional but encouraged for Sundays.



Scan Me

2025 MIDLAND SANTA PARADE

"THE SOUNDS OF THE SEASON"

Saturday, November 22, 2025
10am start time

Scouting for Food at St Johns

Williams Hall will be used as the food drop-off and sorting location for the **2025 Scouting for Food Drive** on **Saturday, November 8th**, between 10am and 2pm. If you receive a yellow collection bag at your home before this date, please consider filling it with food donations for scouts to collect. If you do not receive a bag at your home, please consider dropping off a food donation at the church during the event. If you would like to help with the drop off, sorting, and boxing please feel free to join us in Williams Hall at any time during the event as we anticipate plenty of work to be done (*in 2024, over 4,700 items were collected*). Ultimately, once the food has been sorted and boxed, it will be delivered to *SAMS pantry* and the *Memorial Presbyterian Church HELP pantry*. Special thanks to the St John's Endowment Committee for a generous grant to cover the cost of the bags used in this year's collection





Organ Project Update

Exciting progress is continuing to be made on our Organ Project! Delivery of the new instrument is now expected in mid- to late-November or possibly early December. While it's a little later than first planned, our anticipation only grows as we look forward to hearing it fill our sanctuary with music. As of Nov. 3, we've raised **\$328,931.84** of our \$330,660 goal, which includes \$80,000 from Endowment—thank you to all who have given so generously! We're still accepting donations through *The Mair Alsgaard Memorial Organ Fund*, and every contribution brings us closer to the finish line.



FUN FACTS ABOUT THE BUDGET

For 2025, our total budgeted expenses are \$1,117,172:

Staff salary/benefits = \$505,639

Outreach = \$176,026

Programs = \$35,749

Buildings, Grounds, Office = \$112,908

Major projects (excluding organ) = \$90,000

Other (liability insurance, misc. fees) = \$96,850



In case you missed this post on Facebook...

Hi all, this is Denée Koonce posting. In addition to running SJEC social media I am the volunteer coordinator for SAMS Pantry. I am at SAMS today to volunteer and we're talking about how to ramp up in anticipation of next week when SNAP benefits run out for a lot of folks. When sharing the contact info for Midland County Food Assistance Network be sure to also mention that folks receiving services need to reside in Midland County. Folks in need can call 989-486-9393 to schedule an appointment at one of the 8 food pantries in the MCFAN network.

Also, the reduction in what our food bank is receiving from Food Bank of Eastern Michigan has also finally hit. We are not getting nearly the amount of meat that we used to, and other available items are also reduced. All that to say that the best way that you can help is to directly donate money to SAMS Pantry since we cannot take donations of meat directly. We can also bulk shop to supplement other missing items.

- 1) At Meijer you can purchase one (or several) \$10 Simply Give cards at the register. Meijer matches the \$10 donation, they keep the card, and our pantry shoppers then use those to restock the pantry. The only caveat is that we receive that money at the end of the campaign, which is December this round. Still very much appreciated!
- 2) You can also donate directly to St. John's Episcopal Church and state that the donation is specifically for SAMS Pantry which will have a quicker impact. You can bring cash or a check to our church office on Saginaw Rd at the Corner of St. Andrews (9 am to 3 pm). Or you can give online here: <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=111534>

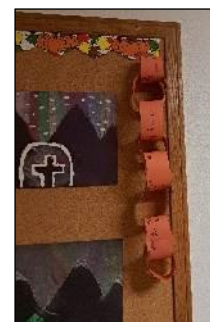


For anyone looking to volunteer we are going to add an additional day of service on Thursday afternoons from 12:30-3 pm, and we need an additional restocker on Wednesday afternoons after 3 pm. We also have ongoing volunteer needs to help unload the Food Bank truck delivery every other Tuesday morning. The time is variable on that one. The truck arrives anywhere between 10 am - 12 pm. If you are interested in volunteering reach out to me at deknee@me.com.

October Children and Youth



Sunday School and Nursery was a fun month to adventure through in October. We had several lessons as groups as we adjusted into new routines for the fall. Ms. Linda began a four-part lesson called *Harvesting Gratitude*. This first lesson began by helping children recognize all the blessings that God gives to us, big or small. We had many blessings to share; some examples were family, friends, baseball, food, toys, and games. To help some of the younger ones visualize our blessings we began to fill a jar with marbles. Each blessing was represented by a marble, allowing them to see how blessings add up, and allowing them to fully see how much we as a group are blessed. We will pick up with lesson two this week. We also started a thankful chain on our bulletin board outside of the Sunday School rooms. Let's see it grow! Ms. Alicia taught a *Godly Play* lesson one Sunday as our children eagerly awaited Ms. Linda to prepare slime making material for them. It is the little joys in life that "they never get to do at home" that keep the smiles coming. Ms. Chris (Schuster) lead a lesson on Saints the same weekend as our Blessing of the Trick or Treater activities. She bravely sang from the book / *Sing a Song of the Saints of God*. Within our Saints discussion she reminded them that all of us are Saints in our own right and to keep answering God's call.



The annual **Blessing of the Trick or Treaters** event went well. We had crafts downstairs alongside a Saints lesson on October 26th during our 10am service. During the service the children paraded in costume up the church aisle for a blessing over their upcoming trick or treating adventures. After the service we had coffee hour snacks provided by St. Martha's – thank you ladies for supporting our event with treats. There were some candy treats on the tables for young and old to enjoy while visiting or participating in activities. In Williams Hall we had pumpkin carving, coloring, pumpkin painting, and crafts available for all ages to participate in.





Sometimes it is the sweet moments you get to witness that leave a mark on your heart as well. During one of our Sunday School mornings Avonlea discovered Abby could read. When we all went upstairs for coffee hour Avonlea found a book...or two on the shelves and asked Abby to read to her. Doing for others helps grow our children and youth and our community! If any children that are 2nd grade or older would like to learn about serving during services please reach out to Linda Germain for information. We are looking forward to *Harvesting Gratitude* and *Godly Play* lessons leading up to the start of Advent at the end of November. We hope to see new and old faces throughout our adventures in November.



EYE Youth group We have seen many youth during services. If any youth would like to serve during services, please reach out to Linda Germain and we can discuss what you would like to do. We hope to see a few join us for our twice a month youth group. In October we were able to meet and youth helped decide on a theme for the Children & Youth Trunk or Treat car for this year. We went with a witch theme. Witches and a bubble machine what could go wrong?! We had a great turn out for our trunk or treat and thank you to the Thompson Family for loaning us some Halloween decorations to make it an even better display for the children.



**Our next youth group meeting will be on November 9th at 4:00 PM.
We will pick up our series on *Identity*.**

Trunk or Treat October 25, 2025





We had such a lovely morning gathering for our first annual St. Martha's Guild Ladies Prayer Breakfast! We gathered, prayed, listened to lovely music, enjoyed tasty food catered by Flying Trout Catering, and raised over \$5,000 for River Jordan, Inc who supports teens in foster care and young adults who have graduated from foster care to help these vulnerable young people transition to an independent life. They also operate a group home in Bay City, MI. If you'd like to know more about River Jordan please reach out to

<https://riverjordaninc.com/> and support this worthy organization! Thank you to each and every person who helped make this event possible! Enjoy a few of our lovely tables, and make plans to join us next year!

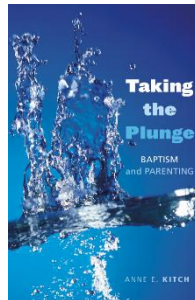


Library News

by Marnie Bash

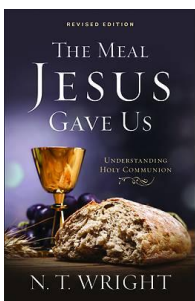
On the Feature Shelves this month are books about sacraments and other “life-changing” events, including books on baptism and Eucharist, as well as books on death and grief, divorce, and other “life hurdles”. The authors approach each of these topics with wisdom, gentleness, and deep feelings. Not necessarily “easy” reading, nevertheless, they are well worth reading.

Sacraments: One of my favorite books on baptism has always been Carline Westerhoff’s *Calling: A Song for the Baptized*, an extended meditation on baptism. Anne Kitch’s *Taking the Plunge* is a thoughtful discussion about having our children baptized.



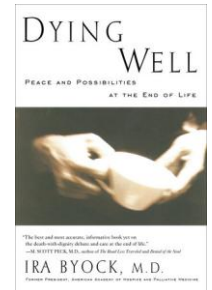
Also available is Roger Hutchison’s *The Gift of Baptism*, nominally a children’s book but a lovely meditation for all ages.

Books about the eucharist include Stookey’s *Eucharist*, Christ’s *Feast with the Church*, Fragomeni’s *Come to the Feast*, and Miller’s *Praying the Eucharist*. N.T. (Tom) Wright offers a short meditation in *The*

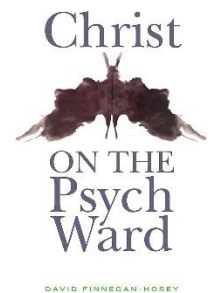


Meal Jesus Gave Us, and Milton Brasher-Cunningham’s *Keeping the Feast*, is a wonderful book all about meals and using them as a basis for meditating on the meaning and spirituality of the mass – as well as including some wonderful recipes!

Moving from the sacraments to other life experiences, two excellent books about dying are Ira Byock’s *Dying Well: Peace and Possibilities at the End of Life*, and Atul Gawande’s *Being Mortal*. And books on grief include Brownlow’s *Jesus Wept*, Katheen Curry’s *When Your Parent Dies*, and James Mayfield’s *Discovering Grace in Grief*.



David Finnegan-Hosey’s *Christ on the Psych Ward* is the story of his battle with serious depression, and Andy McQuitty’s *Notes from the Valley* describe his journey through a serious battle with cancer and how his spirituality supported him. There are also a couple of books about the effects of divorce. Richard Schmidt’s *Comfort Ye-Finding Light in Times of Darkness*, Joyce Rupp’s *Little Pieces of Light-Darkness and Personal Growth*, and David James’ *From Loss to Hope*, all look at healing in the “hard times”. A less personal but absolutely fascinating book is Tracy Kidder’s *Rough Sleepers*, the story of a doctor’s lifelong journey helping the street people in the Boston area.



Although not “light reading before bed” these books are well worth the time spent in reading them and may give us support in those difficult times that come into every life. They will be available on the feature shelves now through most of November; *shortly before Thanksgiving I will be putting out the books for Advent, devotionals and books about the Advent/Christmas season*. Enjoy a good book this month!



Women Journeying Together

During the month of November, we will be studying and discussing Adam Hamilton's book, *Half Truths*, a discussion of things people say as "biblical" but aren't what the Bible actually says, things that often hurt rather than help the hearer. It is an interesting concept and should promote very lively discussions about what to say that is more helpful. Join us for this short but fascinating new study in November and early December!

Nov. 6 – Everything happens for a reason

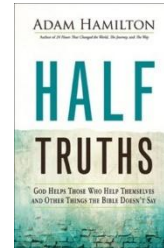
Nov. 13 – *God helps those who help themselves*

Nov. 20 – *God won't give you more than you can handle*

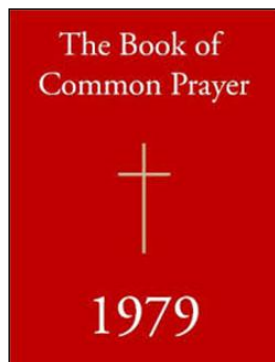
Nov. 27 – *Thanksgiving Day*

Dec. 4 – *God said it, I believe it, that settles it*

Dec. 11 – *Love the sinner, hate the sin*



Women Journeying Together meets each Thursday afternoon during the school year from 1:00 to about 2:30. We gather in the Activity Room, at the bottom of the stairs across from the church office. We study, share, pray for and with each other, laugh frequently, and occasionally have lunch together. Women of all ages are welcome to join us, for a special study or "forever". If you have questions, please contact me, Marnie Bash, at mpbash@ameritech.net.



BCP Spotlight

by Ellen Mc Vey

The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provision for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses [emphasis added]. (BCP, p. 445)

During a recent Living the Covenant session, Alissa introduced us to this rubric (instruction) in our BCP for legacy planning. It is located at the end of the service for "Thanksgiving for a Child". Who knew??

A rubric of this type dates back to the 1549 BCP when it appeared in the service "Visitation for the Sick":

"And if he have not afore disposed of his goods, let him then make his will. (But men must be often admonished that they set an order for their temporal goods and lands, when they be in health.) And also to declare his debts, what he oweth, and what is owing to him: for discharging of his conscience, and quietness of his executors."

The 1979 BCP moved the rubric from "The Communion of the Sick" to "Thanksgiving for a Child" and added the duty for making "prudent provision" for one's family.

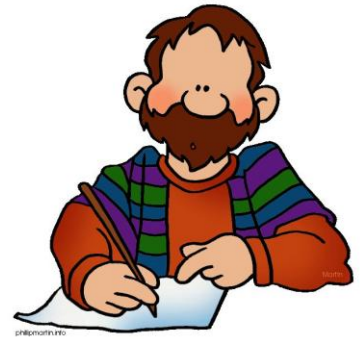
As we consider this topic it may also be worth noting the prayer "For the Right Use of God's Gifts" on p. 827:

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor you with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Church History in Three Minutes (or Less)

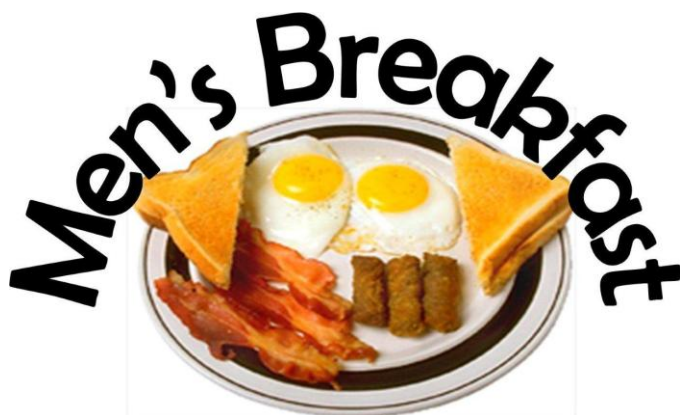
by Eric Carlson

The Stewardship Campaign is underway. As we consider our pledges for 2026, some historical context may be interesting, especially concerning the idea of tithing. In Leviticus 27:30, a tenth of all crops, both of the ground and trees, was declared “holy to the Lord.” In Numbers 18:21, that tenth was assigned to the Levites “for their service.” Since they were engaged in priestly service, they had no income from farming. Although the New Testament doesn’t include a tithing mandate, it did become part of church law. From at least the 6th century, those who failed to pay up could be excommunicated!



In England, tithes remained the primary source of clergy income for centuries. Most tithes were paid in actual goods: grain, fruit, ale, etc. Since these were perishable, priests sold much of what they got at the market rather than actually consuming it. They also received some cash, both from people who labored for wages and from those whose production was of things not easily divided into tenths, such as lambs or household goods. In addition to covering their annual living expenses, that income also was needed to keep their church’s chancel in good repair. (The laity maintained the nave.) Crop yields and the wage labor market were always variable, and parishes weren’t consistent units in terms of population, size, and land quality. Barring the need for emergency repairs to the chancel, some priests could live quite well on tithe income while others barely avoided starvation.

After the Reformation, this got worse. Once the clergy could (and did) legally marry and have children, they struggled to provide for their families. In addition, the post-Reformation church placed more value on preaching and it was much harder to entice educated people into the clergy when compensation was often inadequate. For decades, the Crown (officially the head of the English church) was pressured to supplement the income of poorer clergy. With Queen Anne’s Bounty (1704), the “first fruits” (a tax that all clergy paid on their first year’s income) were transferred from the Crown to commissioners to invest, with the income to help poorer clergy. Even non-Anglicans were required to pay for the national church, but cash payments replaced tithes in goods in 1836. In 1977, they were abolished. Currently, the Church Commissioners administer a massive endowment that pays salaries. Since those who settled the American colonies were mostly refugees opposed to Anglicanism, we never had a uniform mandatory tithe system here. Each church developed its own way of supporting the clergy, as we do today.



Monday, December 1, 8:00 AM

Join us at the Big Boy Restaurant, 1513 S. Saginaw Rd., for our monthly **Men’s Breakfast**. Once in the restaurant, walk through the big room to the smaller room located at the southeast end of the restaurant to find our table.

JOIN US for food and fellowship!!



Each month the *Prayer Corner* includes the church's prayer list as well as the anniversaries and birthdays for the month. The prayer list is updated weekly and included in the Sunday morning worship service bulletins, along with the *Daily Prayers for the Wider Church*. The most recent version can be found at any time by clicking the "[Announcements](#)" link on the SJEC web page:

<https://www.sjec-midland.org/>

Please keep the following people in your prayers...



Cathy Chang & Juan Lopez, Susan & Bob, Char Bakeman, Ronnie, Henry Youngquist, Chris, Yvonne, Charlene & John Adams, Lynn Miller, Rebecca & the Roberts family, Ed Patterson, Laani, Don Marcou, Athena, Linda Johannsen, Aubrey, Andrew, Julie, Phillip, and Tellie & the Wright family.

Give thanks with those celebrating Nov. Birthdays...

3 – Carol Sullivan	14 – Aiden Carter
Mallory Garlinghouse	15 – Melissa Maxwell
6 – Greg Gwaltney	17 – Chris Esquivel
7 – Bonnie Hayward	18 – Marianne Girardin
12 – Bob Stoney	19 – Dana Pressnall
Margo Nielsen	20 – Susan Campbell
Karen Newhouse	24 – Mike Spencer
13 – Ali Thompson	28 – Ernest Carter

Contact the church office

989-631-2260 / office@sjec-midland.org

- To add someone to the prayer list
- Request receipt of the weekly Worship++ email
- Request receipt of the monthly Epistle
- To update your membership directory info

Give thanks with those celebrating Nov. Anniversaries...

9 – Gordon Thompson & Liz Davis
 18 – Greg Gwaltney & Chris Lauckner
 19 – Bud & Betty Schartow

Members of the congregation who have received Pastoral Care training are available all year for friendly visits. Members who are in the hospital, nursing homes, or homebound may request a visit from our team to receive communion, a comforting prayer shawl or a pocket cross.

Team members include:

The Rev. Alissa Anderson and parishioners	
Chris Esquivel	Chris Schuster
Jan Marcou	Fred Schuster
Pat Roush	Michelle Spencer
Dave Schafer	



Call the parish office (989-631-2260) with a pastoral care request. In the case of a pastoral emergency outside office hours, please contact **The Rev. Alissa Anderson at 616-540-9102 (cell)**.



**How to Connect
with Mother Alissa**

**Schedule a time via
Calendly**

[CLICK HERE](#)



Drop in Coffee Shop Office Hours

Thurs., 9-11 AM. This month you'll find her at Grove Tea Lounge (2405 Abbott Rd.)



HEAD OF THE CHURCH – JESUS CHRIST
MINISTERS – ALL OUR MEMBERS

**To get in touch with any Clergy, Staff
Member or Member of the Vestry, call or
email the parish office:**

(989) 631-2260

[**office@sjec-midland.org**](mailto:office@sjec-midland.org)

OUR VESTRY – OUR ELECTED LEADERS

Clergy

The Rev. Alissa G. Anderson.....*Rector*

Staff

Dr. Amon Eady *Director of Music*

Travis Fader..... *Organist*

Linda Germain..... *Children & Youth Director*

Colleen O'Dell *Bookkeeper*

Ellen Woodard..... *Administrative Assistant*

Nick Lowthian..... *Sexton*

Vickie Densmore *Janitor*

Class of 2026

Deb Blackhurst

Angela Garcia, *Co-Warden*

Gail Hoffman

Class of 2028

John Adams

Doug Germain

Ann Wright

Class of 2027

Eric Heglin, Clerk

Susan Rye

Fred Schuster, *Co-Warden*

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday

8:00am	Holy Eucharist	Sanctuary
8:30am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
9:00am	Fellowship Hour	Williams Hall
10:00am	Holy Eucharist	Sanctuary & YouTube
11:00am	Fellowship Hour	Williams Hall
11:30am	Handbell Choir Rehearsal.....	Bell Zone
4:00pm	Youth Group (every other)	Activity Rm
5:00pm	NA.....	McNab Room
7:00pm	Bible in the Basement (1 st /3 rd)	Activity Rm

Monday (Parish Office open 9am-3pm)

12:00pm	AA.....	McNab Room
6:00pm	Popup Bible Study	Library

Tuesday (Parish Office open 9am-3pm)

10:00am	Samaritan Fund Clients	Library
10:00am	St. Martha's Guild (2 nd)	Activity Room
1:00pm	Knitpickers	Williams Hall

Wednesday (Parish Office open 9am-3pm)

10:30am	Women's Bible Study.....	Library
12:00pm	Holy Eucharist..	Chapel (use office entrance)
1:00pm	AA	McNab Room
5:30pm	Tai Chi	Williams Hall
6:30pm	Christian Meditation	Williams Hall

Thursday (Parish Office open 9am-3pm)

9:00am	Alissa's Drop-in Coffee Office Hrs	Grove
10:00am	Love Knots (2 nd /4 th)	Williams Hall
1:00pm	Women Journeying Together ..	Activity Rm

Friday (Parish Office open 9am-noon)

12:00pm	AA	McNab Room
5:45pm	Peer Support Meeting	McNab Room
7:00pm	Community Game Night (2 nd)	Wms Hall

Saturday

12:00pm	AA	McNab Room
7:00pm	NA.....	McNab Room

The 10:00 am worship service is livestreamed on YouTube. At the time of the service, go to:
<https://www.youtube.com/@st.johnsepiscopalchurchmid8944/streams>. A live service will have a prominent "LIVE" badge on the video thumbnail or title indicating the video is currently being streamed live. Previous services can also be viewed here at any time.



***We joyfully gather to pray, worship, learn and serve as we seek to follow Jesus,
and invite all to join us on a sacred journey of hope and transformation.***

The next edition of **The Epistle** will be published in early December. The final deadline for submissions is Wednesday, December 3. Please consider submitting stories of your group's activities, or news of coming events and activities.

If you are not currently receiving an email notice to tell you that **The Epistle** has been published on our website, and you would like to receive one, please email office@sjec-midland.org.

If you prefer a printed copy of The Epistle, they are available in the church office, the narthex and each entrance into the church building.



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
linking lives in the love of Christ



St. John's Episcopal Church
405 N. Saginaw Road Midland, MI 48640
(989) 631-2260 office@sjec-midland.org
www.sjec-midland.org

Rector – The Rev. Alissa G. Anderson



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