

THE MESSENGER

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH | SAGINAW, MI



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Making Connections

Care, Share, Worship, Celebrate and Love. With this vision statement, the parish of St. John's Saginaw has rooted itself deeply in the experience of the first Christians at Pentecost. The Jewish holiday of Pentecost was a celebration of the harvest, with which God blessed his people each year. For these first Christians, after Christ was raised and ascended into heaven, Pentecost came that year with miraculous signs and wonders and, as Christ had promised, God's Holy Spirit came upon them.

This new body of believers cared for one another as the family of God; they pooled their resources and shared as people had need; they gathered regularly for worship and celebration of all that God had done for them and above all they were known for the sincere love that they had for each other and for all people. They were communicating, connecting and including anyone who was willing to believe in Christ's message of love and salvation.

Pentecost is the heart of all we do as God's Church. Every Sacrament, every worship service, every class or outreach at St. John's has the same purpose as Pentecost—that the Holy Spirit would come upon us and inspire us with the very presence of God. And in the same Spirit, we would reach out to others with hospitality and love and help them draw near to God. This Pentecost I encourage you to open yourself to the blessings we receive as Christians and to share them with those around you. Go and care, share, worship, celebrate and love our God and one another in Christ's name!

God's Peace,
Fr. Daniel+

In This Issue...

Pentecost—being part of the church connects each of us through the Holy Spirit.

**Diocesan Confor-
mations & Recep-
tions**—welcoming our newest members into the Episcopal Church

NEW CLASS—New to St. John's or need a little refresher? Join "Introduction to the Episcopal Church."

Getting involved—Outreach, Pub Clubs, and more...

Happy Birthday!

- 1 David Corcoran
- 2 Tom Donaghy
- 3 Carrie Barshaw
- 4 Dorothy Henry
- 5 Susan Beckley
- 5 James Newkirk
- 6 Chuck Stuart
- 7 Sonni Magyar
- 11 Kathie Smith
- 15 Richard Marquardt
- 16 Leon Koeplinger
- 19 Stephanie Peters
- 21 Patricia Jackson
- 22 Helen Needham
- 24 Michael Rump
- 25 Shamil Johnson
- 28 Susan Beckley
- 28 Kaylee Cittel
- 29 Betty Grills
- 31 Barbara Roberts

Happy Anniversary!

- 1 Marcia & Dan Hoffman
- 10 Clara & Bill Vlassis
- 11 Carrie & Todd Barshaw
- 17 Jan & Jerry Young
- 17 Kathi & Herb Spence III
- 23 Barb & Ray Ilkka

Thank You

Thank you to **Lucas Curell** and members of the Vestry who helped procure a new copy machine for the office!

Thank you **Michele and Marv Hoepfner** for your help cleaning and organizing our Sunday school classrooms and supplies!

Thank you **Sue Brigham** for consistently helping fold our Sunday bulletins!

Is there someone in our parish who has gone above and beyond? If you would like to offer thanks, please call the office at 793-9575.

Good Samaritans

4/28—5/11	Marcia Hoffman	274-0423
5/12—5/25	Joan Fairchild	777-0450
5/26—6/8	Sue Marquardt	790-0656

Vestry Members:

Keith Birdsall	652-6768	quilter37@charter.net
Drew Christiansen	392-0109	drewchristiansen78@gmail.com
Lucas Curell	798-0031	lcurell@gmail.com
Jane Girdham	790-8712	kgirdham@svsu.edu
Melanie Hollman	792-3888	melaniehollman@hotmail.com
Barb Ilkka	793-4204	bhilkka@gmail.com
Mark Mahlberg	793-0801	mark-mahlberg@yahoo.com
Sue Marquardt	790-0656	r-s-keyofc@sbcglobal.net
Duncan Redfield	799-7893	redsailor7@yahoo.com

Diocesan Confirmations & Receptions | May 18 @ 2:00pm

On Saturday, May 18, at 2:00pm there will be a diocesan wide service for confirmations and receptions! Two of our own parishioners, Rachele Austin and Brad Fergin, will be formally received into the Episcopal Church and become official members of St. Johns! Come support them and others during this special service at St. John's Episcopal Church in Midland.



Introduction to the Episcopal Church | Begins May 19 @ 11:45am

The season of Pentecost is all about growing the church. A church to which YOU belong! How can we understand it better? If you have recently become a member of St. John's or have been here awhile, but think a refresher course in what it means to be an Episcopalian might answer some long standing questions, come to the new formation class, Introduction to the Episcopal Church! Beginning on May 19th and continuing for four weeks we'll discuss a range of topics including:

- **Our History**
 - What does it mean to be in the Anglican Communion or the Apostolic succession?
 - Are Anglicans really just about Henry the 8th?
- **Our Christian Identity**
 - Who was Christ, really?
 - Why be baptized?
- **Tools of the Trade**
 - Using the Book of Common Prayer
 - How the lectionary works
 - What's a vestry?
 - Recommended reads for learning more and fun Episcopal media
- **Responding to all that we've been given...**
 - Why get involved?
 - Learn how your gifts meet the community's need



Get Connected

Daughters of the King

“Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our vision as Daughters of the King, is to know Jesus Christ, to make Him known to others and to become reflections of God’s love throughout the world.” This is the vision statement of the Order of the Daughters of the King, a nationally recognized organization of women dedicated to prayer and service. The “Ruth Chapter,” at St. John’s, is renewing its activity in the parish. If you would like to learn more about connecting with this group visit www.stjohns-saginaw.org/DOK.



Greeters & Ushers, The First Point of Contact

Like the Cheers TV theme says, “Sometimes you want to go where everybody knows your name and they’re always glad you came.” Our team of greeters and ushers is part of a critical ministry at St. John’s. They are the first point of contact for guests and members alike and help our service and fellowship run smoothly. We would like to add some members to this ministry team. If you feel called to serve, please contact Amy Simons for details.



Old Town Christian Outreach, Volunteer Saturday

The fourth Saturday of each month, St. John’s sends a group of volunteers to assist in the soup kitchen at the Old Town Christian Outreach Center. We meet at St. John’s at 9:15am, then report to the Outreach Center and work until around 1:00pm. This is a huge help to the outreach center and we represent ourselves well in the community around us. There is no ongoing commitment; simply come when you can. For those of us with older children consider making this a family outing! You don’t need to wait until Thanksgiving to donate to a soup kitchen. St. John’s collects can goods and other non-perishables to donate to OTCO all year long. Simply place your contribution in the wicker basket in the Community Room and the volunteers will take it when they go!



Lunch Bag Outreach

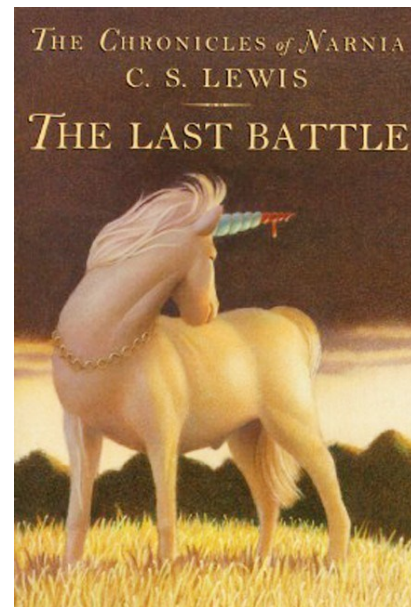
St. John’s provides a bag lunch to those in our community most in need Mon-Thurs from 9:00am-12:00pm. In 2012, we served nearly 4,400 lunches and that number continues to grow in 2013. This program would not be possible without the continued prayerful support, commitment and generosity of our parishioners. **In fact, through your generous donations we have been able to continue this program into 2013 despite the growing need!** Are you interested in supporting this outreach program? Could you help serve lunches once a month? We have some shifts to fill! You can also support the program by shopping for supplies or making a donation. Contact Amy Simons for details.



C.S. Lewis Pub Club | April 28 @ 7:00pm

Join us this May as the Pub Club discusses "The Last Battle," the final book in Lewis' fiction series, The Chronicles of Narnia.

"This is the apocalyptic volume of The Chronicles of Narnia. If The Magician's Nephew speaks of a creation reminiscent of the book of Genesis, this book speaks of an end reminiscent of that foretold in the book of Revelation. Here, everything comes to an end and the entire purpose of the existence of Narnia is finally explained by Aslan. The Christian references are unmistakable. Aslan, like the Biblical Christ in Revelation, triumphantly comes to bring an end to his world and save his people. Most of the material in this book is very Christian-like, all the way down to the separating of the creatures on the right and left hands of Aslan." - Amazon.com



We'll meet at Spencer's Route 46 at 7:00pm for food, drinks and discussion. Bring a friend!

Calling All Green Thumbs!

Do you have the gift of gardening? St. John's is calling those among us, individuals and groups, with green thumbs to "adopt" a patch of the grounds surrounding our building. Whether it's planting and weeding or trimming and pruning, you can help make St. John's look as good on the outside as it feels on the inside. Stop by the Community Room to view a map of adoptable sections and what is needed to keep each one in shape.



Happy Memorial Day

Every year on the last Monday in May is set aside as a national holiday to remember the soldiers who have died in the service of our country. As you honor the memory of friends and family that have made the greatest sacrifice for our country, also keep our armed forces in your prayers.

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them and grant through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



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MAY 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 <i>The 6th. Sunday of Easter</i> 8:00am—Holy Eucharist 9:00am—Choir Rehearsal 10:00am—Nursery / Sunday School	6	7	1 Noon—Morning Prayer w/ Eucharist 8 Noon—Morning Prayer w/ Eucharist 7:00pm—Vestry Meeting	2	3	4
12 <i>The 7th. Sunday of Easter</i> 8:00am—Holy Eucharist 9:00am—Choir Rehearsal 10:00am—Nursery / Sunday School	13 7:00pm—Finance Meeting	14	15 Noon—Morning Prayer w/ Eucharist	16	17	18 9:15am—Old Town Christian Outreach Volunteer Day
19 <i>The Day of Pentecost</i> 8:00am—Holy Eucharist 9:00am—Choir Rehearsal 10:00am—Nursery / Sunday School	20	21	22 Noon—Morning Prayer w/ Eucharist 6:00pm—Altar Guild Dinner Mtg.	23	24	25
26 <i>Trinity Sunday</i> 8:00am—Holy Eucharist 9:00am—Choir Rehearsal 10:00am—Nursery / Sunday School	27	28 7:00pm—C.S. Lewis Pub Club @ Spenser's Route 46	29 Noon—Morning Prayer w/ Eucharist	30	31	
11:45am—New Members Class						