

The Messenger

St. John's Episcopal Church | 123 N. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, MI 48602

www.stjohns-saginaw.org | 989-793-9575 | Care, Share, Worship, Celebrate & Love



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Parish Life

A solid foundation: that is what I think Jesus was pointing to when he gave his disciples the parable of the wise person who built his house on the rock. The storms and floods came against that house and it did not collapse because it was built on the rock. The Rock in scripture is a reference to our God as we see in 1 Samuel 2:2, “There is none holy like the LORD: there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God.” I am blessed to see St. John’s working to care for and maintain our historic church building, tending to the needs of the hungry and ministering to one another in a spirit of love and humility. Those are all signs to me that the people of this parish genuinely work to build our house on the Rock. It takes hard work and sacrifice, yes, yet there is no cause more rewarding. Know that I am grateful to each and every one of you for the ways you help to make this parish community vibrant and lasting.

Peace,

Fr. Daniel

UPCOMING EVENTS

Program Year Kick-Off | Sep. 13 @ 11:30am

Vacation is over, school has started and things are running full steam ahead at St. John's! Join us for a special Program Year Kick-Off **coffee hour** and **ministry fair**. We'll also be giving a **church/window tour** for those who want to learn more about our historic building. We'll reconnect with old friends, meet new ones and learn how we can all be more involved in our shared lives at St. John's.

Choir / Voice for Life | Sep. 13

Science has proved something church choir members have known for years... singing makes you a happier person! So if you want to be happier and grow in a deeper understanding of our faith and heritage as Episcopalians, you should really consider joining the choir.

Other perks include: making great friends and singing under direction of a talented teacher. (Did we mention that our very own Kevin Simons is also the Director of Choirs at SVSU?) Absolutely no experience is necessary only the desire to sing.

Rehearsals are each Sunday at 9:00am (beginning September 13) and Thursday evenings as scheduled.

Singing in the choir isn't just for adults. It can be an enormously formative experience for kids, too! Students third grade and above are

all invited to join our youth choir. At St. John's, we use the **VOICE FOR LIFE** curriculum, a comprehensive singing program that teaches students to read music, sing with good technique and hone their leadership skills. Student's will work with college music education students and sing with the adult choir on Youth Sundays and for other special

services. **Because age appropriate instruction is so important, Voice For Life students will rehearse following the 10:30 service each week.**

Sunday School Begins | Sep. 13 @ 10:30am

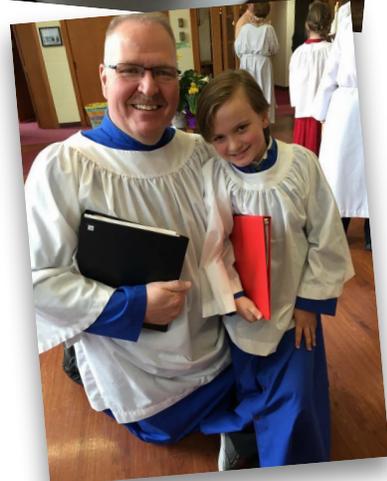
Experience is central to our formation as Christians, especially for children! St. John's knows it is important that families have the tools they need to worship and grow together in their faith. If you have a child between **preschool and 6th grade** they are welcome to join our Sunday

School class at any time.

Sunday School will meet each Sunday **between 10:30am and 11:05am** at which point children will join their parents in worship at the peace.

New this year, St. John's is using the **Spark Lectionary: Activate Faith Curriculum.**

This Bible-centered program not only teaches our students the foundations of our faith, but empowers our parents, teachers and students to continue the conversation all week long.



Animal Blessing | Oct. 4 @ 4:00pm

St. Francis is well known as the saint who talked to the wild animals; those who witnessed this say the animals responded to his loving presence as if they were tame. But beyond his relationship with the animals, St. Francis was also one of the most influential preachers and stewards of God's church in the Middle Ages. St. Francis is a model of the Christian Spirit and devotion to Jesus, of a love and respect for all life forms and of one who cared passionately for God's House and worked to keep the the churches alive to bless people throughout all generations. On October 4th at 4:00pm will have a special service honoring The Feast of St. Francis which includes an Animal Blessing.



Rummage Sale | Oct. 9 & 10

Our Annual Rummage Sale Fundraiser, which benefits our Lunch Bag Outreach Program will be October 9th and 10th! Donations can be dropped off October 6-8. And although we so very much appreciate your contributions, please try to keep donation drop-off on the designated dates. (Because of building use conflicts we're not able to store items before then.) Can you help sort and sell? Volunteers, please sign up in the Community Room.

Diocesan Convention | Oct. 23 & 24

Diocesan Convention is where the business of the Diocese of Eastern Michigan takes place. Resolutions are made and voted upon, the budget is outlined and the overall health and momentum of the region is discussed. But it's also a place where ministry is at the forefront. You don't need to be an official delegate to attend. Check out the details at www.eastmichconvention.org.



Presiding Bishop Watch Party | Nov. 1 @ Noon

How often does a new Presiding Bishop take office anyway? It happens every nine years so unless your date book extends to 2024 now is a good time to get a seat and watch (via telecast, of course) the investiture of our new Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Michael Curry.

We'll meet following the 10:30 service on November 1st. to stream the event and enjoy a potluck.

IN RECOGNITION

From the Building & Grounds Committee

Many thanks to Berney Jones, John Carter, Dave Humpert, Tom Grantham and Dennis Thom for their work in sealing the Church driveway and parking lot and for the preparation and painting of the Church window sills and various other areas of the Church and community room exteriors.

Special thanks to: (1) Dave Humpert for preparation work in filling many holes in the parking lot and preparing many of the sills for painting, (2) Berney Jones for acquiring all of the supplies needed and for caulking many windows prior to painting and (3) Al Gissendaner for being available whenever any assistance was necessary.

We appreciate your efforts in maintaining St. John's building and grounds.

The parking space lines will be painted after the lot is properly cured.

Tom Lynes

Summer Formation & Fellowship

A special thanks to Marcia Hoffman, Dawn Penny, Lori Baillargeon, Matt Gerhardt and any others who helped donate, prepare and serve snacks during **Vacation Bible School** this summer! St. John's is also looking for an **official Vacation Bible School liaison** who can attend a few meetings and help coordinate our efforts and participation with other area churches for Court House Square VBS 2016! Contact Amy Simons in the church office if you are interested in learning more.

Also, a huge thanks goes to the Rev. Pam Renna and Burris Smith for coordinating the **Golf Scramble** and again to the Rev. Pam Renna for coordinating our **Loon's Baseball Game** outing and to all members of the Fellowship Committee for organizing our **church picnic!**



NEWS!



Did you know that St. John's is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is one of five Episcopal Churches outside of the Detroit area to have such a distinction. In order to preserve this historic treasure we will be starting a **capital campaign** in the fall to maintain the windows and church steeple among other essential projects.

Check out the National Register with this link:

<http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/mi/saginaw/state.html> 4

Birthdays

Sep 1 - Claire Simons
Sep 1 - Nancy Birdsall
Sep 2 - Emily Gerhardt
Sep 3 - Jim Brown
Sep 7 - Roz Berlin
Sep 9 - Sue Ludwig
Sep 12 - Shawn Denney
Sep 15 - Mary Baukus
Sep 17 - Todd Barshaw
Sep 19 - Kyle Allen
Sep 22 - Mary Jo Scharffe
Sep 23 - Pam Renna
Sep 24 - Susie Emond
Sep 26 - Leslie Arnold
Sep 26 - Michael Keenan
Sep 28 - Askley Byron
Sep 30 - Barb Ilkka
Oct 5 - Michele Hoepfner
Oct 7 - Julie Remer

Oct 7 - Tony Vlassis
Oct 8 - Lexie Renna
Oct 9 - Jo Mitzel
Oct 10 - Jenna Brown
Oct 14 - Jane Girdham
Oct 14 - Kirk Smith
Oct 17 - Anne Beckley
Oct 20 - Sharon Kaylor
Oct 24 - Madison Shinaberry
Oct 25 - Claire Santhany
Oct 25 - Bruce Wells
Oct 27 - Daniel Keehn
Oct 27 - Chloe Sunderman
Oct 28 - Karen Martin
Oct 29 - Marvin Hoepfner

Sep 12 - John & Barbara Roberts
Oct 3 - Jim & Annerose Shannon
Oct 8 - Mike & Janis Rump
Oct 10 - Derek & Stephanie Peters
Oct 24 - Jim & Marsha Braun

Anniversaries

Sep 1 - Dick & Jan Stringer
Sep 4 - Bill & Mary Jo Scharffe
Sep 4 - Jim & Ruth Joswiak



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