

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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As we enjoy the beauty of summer and its many opportunities to engage in fellowship and recreation, my thoughts are brought back time and again to the place our little parish has in God's plan. Fellowship and recreation help us get to know one another as brothers and sisters in Christ and to be renewed in joy. The fun we have together as a church family strengthens our bonds and can help us renew our commitment to the ministry to which God has called us. But what is our ministry? What is the purpose for which God has called us together at this time in Saginaw? What is that purpose that unites us and makes all that we do, including the fun of fellowship, an expression of God's will for the world?

The scriptures call the Church the Body of Christ... or as I would describe it, the hands and feet of God embodied in the world. When we ask ourselves what our purpose is, what we are really asking is what is God's purpose. How does God want to be embodied among the people of Saginaw. Everything that we do as a church, the way we treat one another and those around us,

is an expression of how we embody God incarnate to the world around us. The church father Saint Athanasios said that "God became a human being [Jesus] so that human beings might become God." What does it mean to become the hands and feet of God? How do we love with the love of God? How do we care with the caring of God? How do we speak with the words of God and act with the deeds of God? This is the mission of the Church: To remember that God is with us; God is in us; God is in the people that we meet day to day. If we remember this, then all we do will be a ministry to God. If we forget this, nothing we do will achieve that most sacred purpose of being Church, the Body of Christ, given as a gift to the world. Peace, Fr. Daniel

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS SUMMER?

Church Picnic | July 18 @ 1:00pm

We'll be having a picnic at the Olsen Pavilion behind Center Courts located at 3320 N Center Rd. Bring a dish to pass, your lawn chair, drinks. We will provide plates, table service, lemonade, grilled hot dogs.

Remember, there will be play equipment for the kids!

Golf Scramble | August 16 @ 1:00pm

It's back! The St. John's Golf Scramble at the Sawmill Golf Course. The cost of \$20 includes 9 holes of golf, an electric cart and practice balls. Prizes awarded!!! There will be an opportunity for fellowship at the course after golfing.

Loon's Baseball Game | August 30 @ 2:05pm

If you've never been to Dow Diamond mark this fellowship event on your calendar! Comfortable seating and great views are the start of this baseball experience. For affordable ticket prices, you get all of the excitement of the major leagues an easy commute and a great evening with friends. August, 23 is also Family Night. This means that kids under 12 eat for free and get a chance to run the bases after the game!

Pick-Up Choir | @ 9:30am

Have you ever thought about singing in a choir? Maybe you weren't sure it was a good fit or couldn't commit to the rehearsal schedule? Maybe you know someone who likes music and could find a community at St. John's? Either way, mark your calendars for these Summer Pick-Up Choir services.

- July 5
- August 9
- August 30

Rehearsal begins at 9:30am and the choir will sing during the 10:30 worship service. You really won't need to sweat anything because there are no robes in the summer! Contact Kevin Simons (kevin@stjohns-saginaw.org) with questions.



WHO IS THE NEXT PRESIDING BISHOP?

What is a Presiding Bishop?

In the Episcopal Church of the United States of America, the **Presiding Bishop** is the chief pastor of the national church. This person has the responsibility for initiating, developing and articulating policy and strategy, overseeing the administration of the national church staff and speaking for the church on issues of concern and interest. The role and importance of the office has grown over time. Originally, the Presiding Bishop was simply the senior diocesan bishop who presided over the House of Bishops. In 1919, the office was transformed into an elected one and in the 1940s the decision was made that the Presiding Bishop should resign any other jurisdictions for which he or she might have pastoral responsibility.

Who is the Presiding Bishop now?

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori has held the position since she was elected in 2006 and invested and seated as Presiding Bishop in a service at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. She is the first woman to hold the position. Her term as Presiding Bishop will end on November 1, 2015.

The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Bishop of North Carolina, became the Presiding Bishop Elect on June 27, 2015, during the General Convention. He will be the first person of African Ancestry to hold the position.

Want to know more about the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry? Check out these sources...

- [Crazy Christians: A Call to Follow Jesus](#) by Michael Curry (Book)
- <https://www.facebook.com/bishopcurry?fref=ts> (Facebook)
- <https://twitter.com/bishopcurry> (Twitter)



STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

A SHORT HISTORY OF ST. JOHN HEALING THE CRIPPLE ELLEN REDFIELD

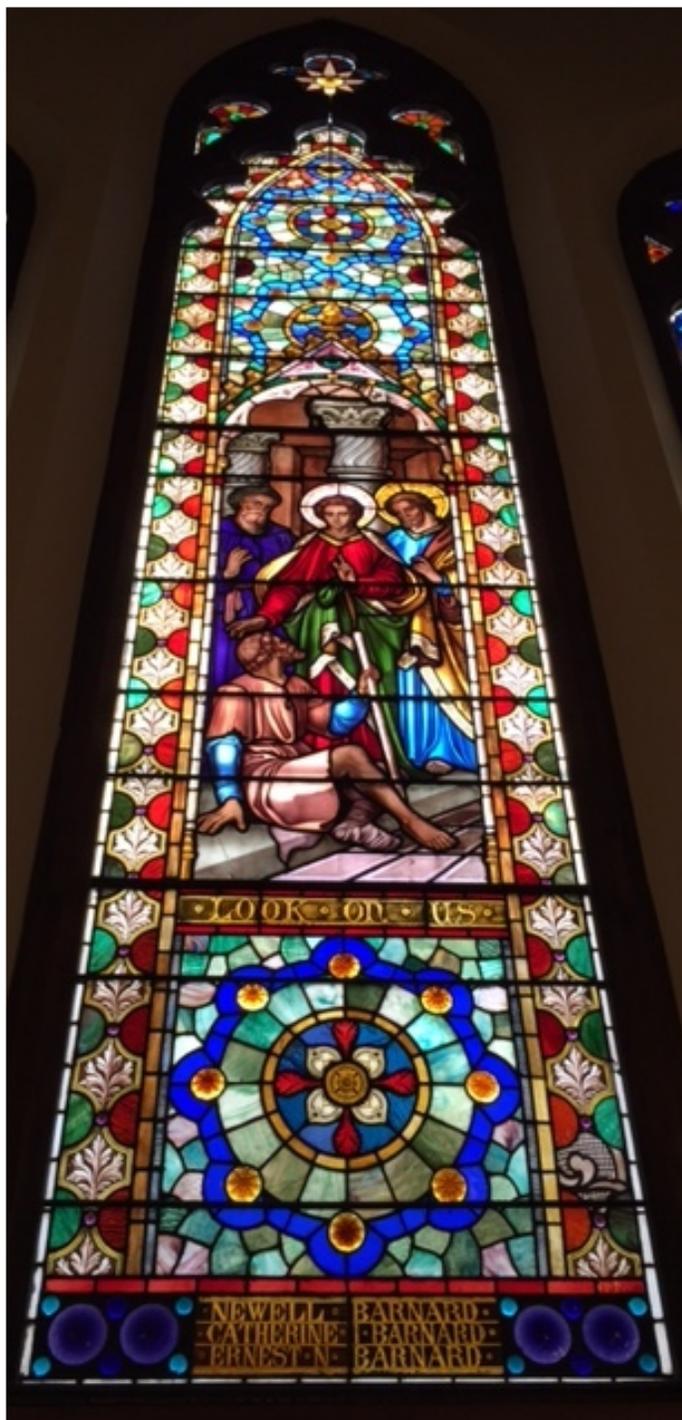
Before the chancel was switched around, generations of worshippers at St. John's were inspired by the beautiful stained glass window over the altar showing St. John healing the cripple at the gate of the temple. The story comes from the Book of Acts. The cripple is seated in the foreground, dressed in rags, with one leg bandaged. His hand is raised and his face shows amazement at the miracle he has been given. St. John is the main figure and St

Peter stands behind him. The memorial inscription reads: The Hon. Newell Barnard, his wife, Catherine, and their son, Ernest.

The Barnard family has a long history in Saginaw business and as members of St. John's. Newell Barnard served on the Vestry of St. John's in 1860 and in 1883. Newell was born in New Hampshire in 1825. The family came to Saginaw in the 1850's. Newell was involved in the lumber industry, was one of the organizers of Saginaw Salt Manufacturing Co. and was a director of the 1st National Bank of Saginaw. Barnard and Binder erected the iron front brick block located at the corner of Hamilton and Franklin (Hancock) known as the Barnard Block.

Newell Barnard also served his community as an assessor of Saginaw City and as a member of the Board of Supervisors for three years. He was among the organizers of the Saginaw Board of Trade. In 1882, Newell was elected to the State Legislature. He died at the age of fifty-eight after a brief illness.

Located now above the stairs as one enters the church from the Community Room, the Newell Barnard window is one of the largest and most significant of our windows. It is also the one most in need of repair. **A designated stained glass window fund has been established and contributions can be made at any time.** 4



RECOMMENDED RELIGIOUS PODCASTS

BY MICHAEL BUSCH

If you are someone with an interest in news and cultural trends related to religion, audio podcasts are a simple way of keeping up. As with radio, podcasts have the advantage of allowing you to listen while doing other things. Podcasts can be set up to automatically download to your computer or smartphone for listening at your convenience. And in case you did not pay attention the first time around, you can replay the podcast as many times as you like. Best of all, these podcasts are free and usually carry no advertising.

While there are a large number of podcasts about religion, I recommend the following shows, which parishioners at St. John's may find of special interest.

"Interfaith Voices"

<http://interfaithradio.org/>

Maureen Fiedler, a Roman Catholic nun, hosts this show on "religious and ethical issues behind the headlines." *Interfaith Voices* deals with



both controversial and mainstream topics. Recent shows include why men are missing from pews, when God talks back to evangelicals and religion in the White House.

Podcast link:

<http://feeds.feedburner.com/interfaithvoices-hour>

"On Being with Krista Tippett"

<http://www.onbeing.org/>

This weekly show is broadcast on National Public Radio and has conversations with invited guests on a wide range of topics related to spirituality and well being, such as aging, social change, shame and morality. At times the guests on the show are pedantic and lack focus, but if you are

looking for a more cerebral approach to spirituality, *On Being* is for you.

Podcast link:

http://onbeing.org/podcasts/episodes_only.xml

"The Spirit of Things"

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/spiritofthings>

This weekly radio program,

produced by the Australian Broadcasting Company (the other ABC), deals mostly with Christianity topics, but includes other faiths. As expected, discussions make reference to the Australian context. Since the Anglican church is culturally prominent Down Under, the show frequently deals with its current state of affairs.

Many of the show's guests come from around the world. Most notable is recent interview with the American theologian Marcus Borg, who passed away in March 2015, shortly after his interview. Borg was famous for his membership in the Jesus Seminar group and for debating with N.T. Wright, an evangelical Anglican scholar.

abc.net.au/radionational/feed/2884128/podcast.xml

"*Rhythm Divine*"

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/rhythmdivine/>

Another podcast from Australia, *Rhythm Divine* plays and discusses music created for religious practices. While there are many shows related to traditional hymns, other shows have conversations on diverse topics, such as Bob Dylan's gospel music, taizé and a Buddhist singing nun. *Rhythm Divine* is unique in its focus and worth listening to if you love church music.

Podcast link:

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/feed/2884966/podcast.xml>

"*Brothers of the Society of St. John the Evangelist*"

<http://www.ssje.org/>

The SSJE is an Episcopal religious order of men who post their weekly sermons for podcast downloading. The sermons run from 5-12 minutes with 3-4 sermons posted each week. The quality of these sermons is excellent and often surprising in their drama and humor. Of all the podcasts I listen to, this is by far my favorite.

Podcast feed:

<http://ssje.org/ssje/category/sermon/feed/>

There are many other good religious podcasts available, in particular Baylor University's <http://www.researchonreligion.org/> but as of this writing I was not able to find the podcast

feed links, so I have omitted these sites from my list. Of course, other radio and internet sources deal with religious topics from time to time. Noteworthy is a May 2015 Diane Rehm show www.thedianereshmshow.org about the rapidly declining numbers of Americans claiming no religious affiliation.

<http://thedianereshmshow.org/shows/2015-05-13/causes-and-consequences-of-declining-religious-affiliation-in-the-u-s>

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) produces several of what it lists as religion podcasts, but I could not find any to recommend. Oddly enough, they did not appear to be especially religious in orientation. Perhaps this is an emerging trend among Europeans because of their declining church affiliation.

Need to see those links again? Here you go!

Interfaith voices -

<http://interfaithradio.org>

On Being with Krista Tippett -

<http://www.onbeing.org>

The Spirit of Things -

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/spiritofthings>

Rhythm Divine -

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/rhythmdivine>

Brothers of the Society of the St. John's the Evangelist -

<http://www.ssje.org>

Birthdays

Jul 1 - Connie Grantham
Jul 1 - Dick Stringer
Jul 2 - John Carter
Jul 5 - Judy Stuart
Jul 6 - Matt Gerhardt
Jul 6 - Ralph Jackson
Jul 8 - Sarah Daugherty
Jul 9 - Thomas Grantham Jr.
Jul 10 - Bill Carroll
Jul 10 - Steve Seibert
Jul 11 - Dawn Penney
Jul 12 - Jill Wetmore
Jul 14 - Evan Rzeszutek
Jul 15 - Jim Mack
Jul 17 - Amy Simons
Jul 18 - Nancy Kraus
Jul 19 - John Roberts
Jul 20 - Matt Seibert
Jul 21 - Sarah Keenan
Jul 21 - Peg Vlassis
Jul 23 - Melanie Hollman

Jul 23 - Wendy Majask
Jul 24 - Jasen Wilson
Jul 25 - Judy Millar
Jul 26 - Jacquie Forrest
Jul 29 - Michael Busch
Aug 2 - Carl McLaughlin
Aug 4 - Tom Lynes
Aug 9 - Lori Baillargeon
Aug 10 - Connie Clements
Aug 10 - Tom Leach
Aug 16 - Ferris Arnold
Aug 16 - Jim Braun
Aug 16 - Valerie Gilchrist
Aug 18 - Thomas Renna
Aug 19 - Emma Barshaw
Aug 22 - Josie Keenan
Aug 23 - Mary Jane Spalding
Aug 24 - Marsha Braun
Aug 24 - Jo Lee
Aug 24 - Clara Vlassis
Aug 25 - Rea Corcoran
Aug 25 - Violet Harrell
Aug 25 - Sue Marquardt

Aug 27 - Ray Ilkka
Aug 28 - Paul Schaub
Aug 30 - Phyllis Richardson
Aug 31 - Lucas Curell

Anniversaries

Jul 2 - Barb & Berney Jones
Jul 2 - Jill & Ned Wetmore
Jul 15 - Lori & Marc Baillargeon
Jul 18 - Susan Ludwig & Steve Kempski
Aug 6 - Sue & Richard Marquardt
Aug 11 - Sue & Jerry Lockhart
Aug 12 - Jane Girdham & Michael Keenan
Aug 18 - Fred & Marie Blake
Aug 18 - Amy & Kevin Simons
Aug 21 - Katie & Mark Wilson
Aug 22 - Burce & Marilyn Wells
Aug 24 - Diane & Ted Grigg
Aug 29 - Duncan & Sandra Redfield



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Sexton

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