

# 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



## IN THIS EDITION

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## DEVOTED TO FELLOWSHIP

The church picnic is fellowship, right? The Detroit Zoo trip is definitely fellowship. Or is it? Either way, there is likely some extra church credit for participating, so let's get going!

As with most things we learn at church, fellowship has a deeper meaning than just having fun together. The Greek word for fellowship is "koinonia," and it comes from a root meaning **common or shared**. When we experience fellowship, we are really finding what we have in common with one another and participating in something together. We are also finding ways to share. We share time and insight as well as resources. For maximum fellowship experience we need to give *and* receive. This summer, could you open yourself to what someone else has to offer?

The early church was so devoted to fellowship, Christians met daily in the temple and ate meals in each other's home. It's easy to reason that the exponential growth of the early church was linked to this devotion of fellowship. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we, the people of St. John's, can also devote ourselves to fellowship with one another and building relationships that stand the test of time. Fellowship lives at the zoo, breakfast, coffee hour, choir practice, birthday parties, funerals and anywhere we are together.

Need an added blessing? Fellowship builds faith, accountability, empathy and God's kingdom. Read about how the early Christians did it in the Second Book of Acts. Then, prayerfully ask to be renewed in your fellowship today.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Pick-Up Choirs

July 3, July 24, & August 28 @ 9:30am

Have you always wanted to join the choir but didn't have the time or courage to give it a try? This summer is your summer! On July 3, 24 and August 28, a pick-up choir will meet at 9:30am to rehearse and sing during the 10:30 service. It's no sweat to give it a try... we don't even vest. Come! Let's have a good sing!

## Church Picnic

July 23, 2016 @ Noon

Join us for a church picnic at the Harvey Randall Wicks Park ([McCarty Rd](#))! We'll bring the hot dogs, lemonade and table service. Please bring the sides, desserts and games! We have reserved a pavilion, so this picnic will be made in the shade.

## Golf Scramble

August 7 @ 2:00pm

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 will be awarded! There will be an opportunity for fellowship at the course after golfing. **Deadline to sign up is July 31st.**

## Detroit Zoo Trip

August 20 @ 7:30am

Plan a trip to the Detroit Zoo and let us do the driving! We're setting a goal of having 56 people sign up for a bus to visit to the Detroit Zoo. **Because we must know how many seats are available on the bus, we need to have your paid reservations before counting you as officially signed up.** Please make checks payable to St. John's Episcopal Church with the memo, zoo trip. The cost of the tickets include zoo entrance and a seat on the bus.

Tickets for Youth & Seniors - \$28, Adults (age 15-61) \$32 **Deadline to sign up is July 31.**



# IN RECOGNITION

Known as Court House Square VBS, St. John's came together with Holy Cross Lutheran Church and First Presbyterian Church for **Vacation Bible School 2016**. The theme was Egypt: Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace and anyone familiar with Joseph's story (from the book of Genesis) knows there is a lot of wisdom in his response to hardships. Students focused on: recognizing gifts and talents in others, working to the best of their ability even in hard circumstances, forgiveness and faith. Crafts, songs, stories and small groups all helped youths discover more about the legacy they've inherited as Christians and how they can live into it each day. We also give our special thanks to Lori Baillargeon, Marcia Hoffman, Dawn Penney, and Amy Simons for helping prepare and serve snacks each evening.

# OPEN TABLE: AN OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

As a congregation, how do we elevate our outreach efforts from merely providing resources to building relationships? That is exactly the question St. John's has been asking this summer. Take a moment and explore with us an interesting possibility in outreach. It's a structure called [Open Table](#) and it's already making an impact in Saginaw.

You know the old saying, "Give a man a fish and he'll eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he'll eat for a lifetime." Well, this is it. Open Table is a ministry program that offers training and resources to congregations willing to work with an individual in need of their knowledge, networks and support.

Congregations involved in this ministry choose 6-8 members or partner with another church to form a "table" that will meet for one year. In this time, the table will seek to understand the needs and goals of an individual then help him or her network, and gain the skills necessary to meet his or her goals.

Interested in learning more? [www.theopentable.org](http://www.theopentable.org) is a great place to get started. Please take a few minutes to investigate Open Table and if you think you might be interested in moving forward, plan on attending an exploratory meeting on **Sunday, August 21 following the 10:30 service**.

## SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Search Committee continues to meet on Monday evenings as we look for a new rector. The questions we needed to answer for the search have been posted by the diocese since mid-May. We have been formulating questions for the interview process.

If you know of an Episcopal priest looking for a new home and you think he or she would be a good fit for St. John's, tell him or her about us and refer him or her to the Diocese of Eastern Michigan.

**Committee Members:** Marcia Hoffman, Chairman, Lucas Curell, Dann Federico, Matt Gerhardt, Jane Girdham, Dave Humpert, Berney Jones, Ellen Redfield, Paul Schaub

## Birthdays

Jul 1 - Connie Grantham  
Jul 1 - Dick Stringer  
Jul 2 - John Carter  
Jul 5 - Judy Sutart  
Jul 6 - Matt Gerhardt  
Jul 6 - Mike Houle  
Jul 6 - Ralph Jackson  
Jul 8 - Sarah Daugherty  
Jul 9 - Thomas Grantham  
Jul 10 - Bill Carroll  
Jul 11 - Dawn Penney  
Jul 11 - Harold Grnya  
Jul 12 - Jan Stringer  
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 21 - Peg Vlassis  
Jul 21 - Sarah Keenan  
Jul 23 - Melanie Hollman  
Jul 23 - Wendy Majask

Jul 25 - Judy Millar  
Jul 26 - Jacquie Forrest  
Jul 29 - Michael Busch  
Aug 3 - Sarah Beckely  
Aug 4 - Tom Lynes  
Aug 7 - Dan Hoffman  
Aug 9 - Lori Baillargeon  
Aug 10 - Connie Clements  
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 - Clara Vlassis  
Aug 24 - Jo Lee  
Aug 24 - Marsha Braun  
Aug 25 - Rea Corcoran  
Aug 25 - Sue Marquardt  
Aug 25 - Violet Harrell  
Aug 27 - Ray Ilkka  
Aug 28 - Paul Schaub  
Aug 28 - Sarah Hoffman

Aug 30 - Phyllis Richardson  
Aug 31 - Lucas Curell

## Anniversaries

Jul 1 - Huges & Kathryn Coman  
Jul 2 - Berney & Barb Jones  
Jul 6 - Ned & Jill Wetmore  
Jul 18 - Steve Kempiski & Susan Ludwig  
Jul 20 - Reed & Ashley Byron  
Aug 6 - Richard & Sue Marquardt  
Aug 11 - Jerry & Sue Lockhart  
Aug 12 - Jane Girdham & Michael Keenan  
Aug 18 - Amy & Kevin Simons  
Aug 22 - Burce & Marilyn Wells  
Aug 24 - Ted & Diane Grigg  
Aug 26 - Amy & Jeffrey Torok  
Aug 29 - Duncan & Sandra Redfield



### THE REV. PAM RENNA

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### AL GISSENDANNER

Sexton

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