

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - LANSING, MICHIGAN

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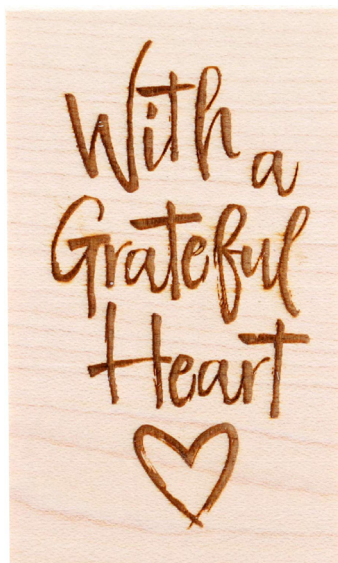


“God Winks”

By Ree Huber

I looked up through the rays of sunlight, smiled and said, “I know that was you, God.” It could be a spectacular scene in nature, a heartwarming friendship, a comforting word! Divine Interventions! Beautiful answered prayers! These are “God Winks”—“Small Miracles” --- “Random Acts of Kindness!” In Matthew 28:20 Jesus’ says, “I am with you always.”

And we see His “God Winks” everywhere and appearing all the time. Those are the same attributes of Stewardship—a smile, a comforting word, a sense of peace, kindness, a burning love and a sense of gratefulness. We have seen the beauty in the pictures, and we are sending out a challenge to continue looking everywhere and always for those “God Winks.”



Stewardship is much more than a fall pledge drive. It is all year long and every year. It is giving of our time to help others. It is giving of our talent to improve whatever needs improving. It is giving of our treasure to support our church as we support others outside the church and the greater community. We spread our “God Winks” to others with grateful hearts! We are a giving church! We ARE St. Paul’s Stewardship!

Pledge cards will be sent out and we will share our Stewardship attributes as we collect them on Sunday, October 13th. Then it is time to celebrate! Where should we go?

Let’s all go back to Culver’s! On October 14th from 5:00 to 8:00-- right off Exit 110 on Okemos Road, we will gather for food, fun, laughter as we even get a percentage of the proceeds! JOIN IN ON THE FUN!

“Let us Praise the Lord from the rising of the sun to its setting!” Let us continue With A Grateful Heart looking for Jesus’ Winks and for sharing those winks with others with your time, your talent, and your pledge.

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...and more!



We're on the web!
www.stpaulslansing.org

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SEPTEMBER 16TH VESTRY MEETING

- Vestry Minutes for August 19, 2019 were approved.
- Financial Report as of August 31, 2019.
- Restricted Funds – Show a loss of \$755 for August, yearly net income of \$71,570
- Currently 67% through the year with 76% of pledge revenue received

Discussion Items:

- Silver Bells in the City, November 22
- Request for LAAN to hold a round table session at St. Paul's to be facilitated by T. Flynn. Approved request by consensus.
- Planned a potluck on October 20th.
- If Music be the Food Sept. 22: Coffee, juice and finger food.
- Lack of a homily on September 15 was discussed.

Team Reports:

- Facilities – Window replacement in the Merrifield Room; Sanctuary lights under warranty; plaster will be repaired; fall cleanup; organ electrical assessment; and electric bills were discussed.
- Communications Team – Working on the next issue of the St. Paul's News. Articles needed.

DID YOU KNOW?

All About the Vestry

By Sally Boron, Secretary

What does the vestry do? Vestry meets once a month to review the status of St. Paul's and to make decisions to maintain or improve the church.

When and where does the Vestry meet? Regularly scheduled vestry meetings are on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 in the Hill Room.

Who can attend a Vestry meeting? Any member of the congregation may attend any meeting as a guest. Just show up at the meeting without any advance notification. While you cannot vote, you may participate in the discussion and express your opinion.

Dinner anyone? The vestry has dinner together at 6 pm for \$7. If you wish to attend for dinner, it is necessary that you make a reservation by contacting the office or Sr. Warden, Amanda Ross,

How can I find out what has happened at a Vestry meeting? Read the Vestry Highlights in the St. Paul's News. Or read the minutes of vestry meetings that are posted on the bulletin board outside of the office. Minutes for the previous monthly meeting are posted after they have been approved by the vestry as being accurate.

- Community Life – A new adult group - introductory meeting on September 25.
- Liturgy & Music Team – The choir has new robes.
- Mission & Outreach Team – written report
- Pastoral Care team – visitations are being made.
- Stewardship Team – A letter will be written and sent with pledge cards. Return will be in October.

Action Items:

- Electronic Votes approved for the minutes –
- Repairs to plaster (\$1,250) using funds from the SP21 Restore account.
- Doberman bid \$1,078 to purchase a new computer for the Office Administrator.
- Approved a fundraiser application for a Culver's Night to raise funds for SP21 Restore.
- Congregational Endorsement for T. Flynn application as a Candidate for Priesthood – Tabled until October meeting.
- Time off for the Associate Rector – Approved Associate Rector S. Carter for an additional 2 weeks of vacation to be taken in addition to the two weeks already approved. Vacation will cover the week of Sunday October 20 through the week of November 10.

What are Ministry Teams? Ministry Teams are groups that help oversee the many functions of operating the church.

Can I volunteer to be on a Ministry Team? Yes, you are welcome to do so.

What are the Ministry Teams? Teams and contact persons:

- Communications – St. Paul's News: Michael Hart and website: Amanda Ross
- Community Life – Karen Lewis+ and Amanda Ross
- Facilities Team – Bob Merriman
- Liturgy and Music – Karen Lewis+ and Tim Flynn
- Mission and Outreach – Sue LeDuc
- Pastoral Care – Susan Carter+ and Maria Wawro
- Stewardship – Isaac Francisco

Who is on the Vestry? Amanda Ross, Senior Warden; Maria Wawro, Junior Warden; Justin Alexander, Jane Bryce, Jim Clark, Isaac Francisco, Michael Hart, Jennifer Humphries, Sue LeDuc, Bob Merriman, Margaret Schulte, and Gloria Sutton.

We Are Community

MISSION AND OUTREACH MINISTRY

By Sue LeDuc

If ever there was a time that community is needed it is now. "I am God's child, deserving of love and respect, and God will use me to change the world." A phrase we hear on the second Sunday of every month when we celebrate Baptism Anniversaries. This is what Mission and Outreach is all about.

How do we - with our busy lives - find time to "change the world?" The answer is that making an effort to help, to reach out, can make all the difference to someone. We cannot always know what our efforts have meant but that does not make them any less important. Let me give some examples:

- Marilyn Maloney takes our grocery products down the block to First Presbyterian Church for their food pantry. One day as she arrived, a woman noticed that Marilyn had laundry soap for the pantry (You may remember that soaps, diapers, and cleaning products are not eligible for food stamps). The woman was so thrilled to have the soap to wash her family's clothes she was practically in tears! A small but meaningful gift of community.

- Whenever I drop off diapers, wipes and other items at the Early Childhood Intervention office the caseworkers are so thrilled. They are responding to families in the midst of a mental health crisis (and by extension, we are too) and your donation means a lot to beleaguered family members that are now temporary caregivers.
- Mission and Outreach Ministry will strive to provide a monthly list of opportunities – large and small – for all of us to help. It may be something the entire parish will take part in...or individuals on their own time. It may be things we can do many times or once...seasonal or all the time. Look for our list – and change the world.

Our 45 Year Old "Unsung" Commitment to Mission

By Sue LeDuc

Many of you may not know that in 1974 this church community, by vote of its vestry, passed the following resolution:

10% of any unrestricted money donated to the church goes to the Mission and Outreach Fund.

We have never wavered from this policy, even when we struggled financially.

The Mission and Outreach Ministry makes recommendations about where the M&O Fund money can be used, with a final vote of approval by the vestry. This important policy is a wonderful demonstration of our commitment to building Christ's community here on earth. We are all a part of this mission.

Thank you for your Prayers

My brother, Ron, was on the prayer list for the past year as he continued his treatment for lung cancer. Not once, but twice. After his extensive radiation, chemotherapy and surgery, we rejoiced in the good news that he was cancer free. We were so thankful. I took his name off the prayer list. Three months later, the cancer was back. Same spot. Ron was determined to do everything he could to get his cancer cured. Back on the prayer list went his name. More chemotherapy and lots of prayers later, I am happy to report that he is once again cancer free – and intends to stay that way! You won't find his name on the prayer list these days. Thanks be to God. And thanks be to St. Paul's prayerful congregation.

~ Carol Thomas



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Living a Life of Prayer: An Adult Formation Opportunity this Fall

By Dr. Timothy Flynn

On Tuesday evenings Sept. 24, Oct. 2 and Oct. 8, Dr. Timothy Flynn will be leading a series entitled, Leading a Life of Prayer, in the Merrifield Room. Dinner will be offered at 6 pm and the program will follow, beginning at 7:00 pm. Each presentation is independent so you do not need to commit to the full series if your schedule does not allow. All are welcome. Childcare will be provided for those with little ones.

The program on Sept. 24 is entitled What is Prayer? Different ways of praying and will explore the various methods of praying, including contemplative prayer, centering prayer, Lectio Divina, and corporate/individual prayer. We will also view a brief video of Trappist monk Fr. Thomas Keating, who was the major proponent of

contemplative and centering prayer in the country. The Oct. 1 program is entitled Visio Divina: Praying with Art Works and will explore the ancient tradition of praying with holy images and ways we can use artworks to help us touch the divine. The final installment, Praying with the Mystics, will explore the prayer traditions of mystics from the ancient desert mothers and fathers to mystics of the present day including Richard Rohr, Cynthia Bourgeault, and others. This series is designed to introduce us to new ways of thinking about prayer as well as new ways of praying. As St. Paul reminds us, "Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit!"



Some of the ladies who attended the July St. Paul's Women's luncheon at Cheddar's; there were 16 total in attendance.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Coming Soon! Save the Dates!

November 23 and December 7, 2019

Signup sheets will be available in the Merrifield Room in early October.



New Choir Vestments this Fall

By Dr. Timothy Flynn

One of the first things you've probably noticed this fall as we return to worshipping in the church is that the choir has new vestments. We are now vested in cassocks and surplices, the traditional black and white vestments of the Anglican tradition. This practice can be traced back to the 1552 Prayer Book. At that time, the surplice (the white outer garment) was the only vestment permitted for the clergy to wear; however, bishops who could wear a fancier, laced surplice known as a rochet. From the fourteenth to the nineteenth century, debates regarding vestments of both clergy and choir continued in the Anglican Church and ranged widely from the traditional Roman Catholic-like vestments, to the simple surplice and stole (or tippet) worn over their street clothes, which for priests was a cassock, the long black robe. It was not until the Oxford movement in England (mid-19th century) when Anglican/Episcopal vestments as we know them today were restored in many cathedrals and parishes alike. While the cassock is most commonly black, especially when worn by clergy and laity, purple ones are often used by cathedral choirs which serves the bishop, who also wears purple; and red cassocks are traditionally worn by canons of a cathedral. Scarlet cassocks are worn by Chaplains to H.M. the Queen and by members of Royal peculiars (churches directly under the jurisdiction of the monarch), such as Westminster Abbey, one of about a dozen such institutions.

The cassock and surplice combination is also commonly known as "choir dress," because all those assisting at the

various Holy Offices (Matins, Evensong, Compline, and the like) wore these more simple cassocks and surplices. While at Eucharist, the singers, who were normally clergy, retained the choir dress, and the celebrants, both clergy and bishops, wore more elaborate Eucharistic vestments like we see today. One of the purposes of vestments in general is to identify who does what. It is a uniform of office, one might say. Each person, both lay and cleric, has a specific role in the celebration of the Offices and Eucharist, and this role is in part identified by their vestments. Likewise, there are specific vestments which are unique to ordained and lay people; however, the cassock and surplice are worn by both. The use, color, type, and history of our liturgical vestments is often complicated, detailed, and sometimes rather confusing! There are many resources which shed light on these subjects and trace their history and development from the early church to the present day.

Our previous choir vestments served us well for many years, and while some are still in good shape, others are beginning to show signs of wear, as is natural. The plan is to share the ones which are in good shape with other parishes who may have need of them. Our new cassocks and surplices were a generous gift to the parish by an anonymous donor, and we are most grateful for their kindness and generosity.

The CROP Walk Fights Hunger

By Jim Milne



2019 is the 50th Anniversary of the CROP Walk in the U.S. and the 43rd Annual Greater Lansing Area CROP Hunger Walk is Sunday, October 13, 2019. Registration starts at 1:00 P.M. at Grace United Methodist Church (corner of Boston Blvd. & Mt. Hope in Lansing). Opening remarks are at 1:45 P.M. and the 5k walk starts at 2:00 P.M.

There are several ways that you can participate: as a walker, as a CROP Rocker in rockers provided at Grace United Methodist Church and at the rest stop at Mayflower Congregational Church, or you can be a Spirit Walker and participate in spirit by raising money even if you can't be there physically. And, of course, donations from sponsors are always gratefully appreciated.

Participants are asked to donate one or all of the following items that will be collected at the walk to make Church World Service (CWS) School Kits that are donated to areas like the Bahamas that are hit by natural disasters:

- 1 pair of blunt tipped scissors;
- 3 70-count 1-subject bound notebooks (no loose leaf or filler papers);
- 1 30-cm/12" ruler;
- 1 hand-held pencil sharpener (with or without pencil shaving holder);
- 1 large eraser (no pencil cap erasers);
- 6 new, unsharpened #2 pencils;
- 1 24-count box of crayons (only 24-count please);

This year there is also a youth team challenge. Each participating church or organization is invited to enter a team of 3 or more youth in the Youth Team Challenge. Each team can help increase the amount of CROP Walk money by raising \$500 or more, triggering a \$250 matching gift credited to St. Paul's. The combined \$750 can provide 8 families with seeds, tools, a hen, a rooster, and training on how to raise good crops and healthy chickens. It also provides high energy milk and nutritious food for 16 malnourished children.

25% of the proceeds will be distributed locally to organizations like Advent House Ministries, Grand Ledge Emergency Assistance Program, Greater Lansing Food Bank, South Lansing Ministries, Southside Community Kitchen, Sparrow Clinton Hospital Foundation, and The Garden Bank Project of the Great Lansing Food Bank.

In 2018 CROP Walk funds were used in the U.S. to supply:

- >\$2 million in grants to 1,670 U.S. non-profits and provide life-saving services to refugees in 34 communities across the U.S.
- CROP Walk funds helped to build houses in Haiti.
- In Egypt, CROP Walk funds were used to provide education, health, and counseling programs to > 30,000 refugees, including 3,700 unaccompanied children.
- In Kenya, 36% of all refugees resettled in the U.S. were processed by the Church World Service Support Center Africa in Nairobi.
- CROP Walk funds were used to pay for locally produced solar systems to provide a low-cost source of hot water for school bathrooms and kitchens in Moldova.
- In Vietnam, a Church World Service program educates people on the importance of sanitary latrines and teaches them how to build them.
- CROP Walk funds were used in Cambodia to help >30,000 people start or expand vegetable gardens, teach people how to make sure their children have nutritious meals, built or improved latrines, started new businesses, and now have access to clean water.

Last year St. Paul's had 8 walkers who raised \$1,625. That was more than any of the other Episcopal churches in the Greater Lansing area. Let's do even better in 2019 and end hunger one step at a time!

There's a CROP Walk display in the Merrifield Room and Carol Thomas and Jim Milne will be available to sign up walkers and to answer any questions. You can also raise funds on-line at www.crophungerwalk.org/lansingmi.

Project Laugh and Play

By Carol Thomas

Joyful laughing and drumming ... a great combination for these troubling times. Laugh and Play helps us keep life in perspective as we continue to pray for peace in our land and the return to normal for people affected by hurricanes. Please consider joining us and supporting Lansing Intentional Communities. We have a new co-facilitator, Gail Kendall. She brings all her great drums and lots of positive, fun energy. Bob Merriman also provides drums and percussion instruments for all to share. Every second Sunday of the month, 12:00 to 2:00, Merrifield Room.



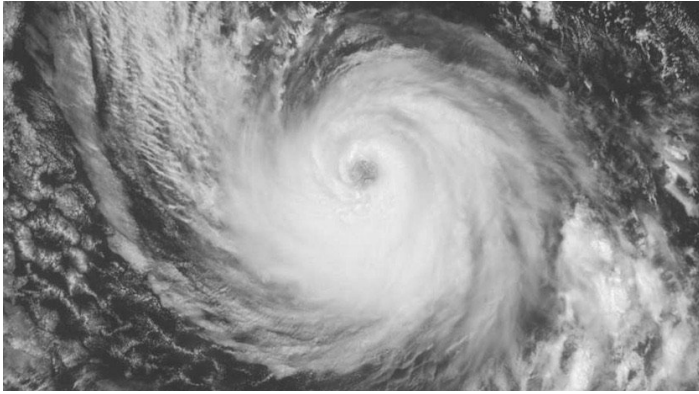
Riddle Elementary School Teacher Supplies Summer Project

By Carol Thomas

Our generous, thrifeful summer shopping was a huge success. Every student at Riddle Elementary School had the necessary supplies to start the new school year. And teachers were stockpiled with tissues and sanitizer wipes to tackle cold and flu season. Our shopping cart overflowed with love and support. The Riddle Elementary School teachers, staff, and administrators say thank you from the bottom of their hearts.



RESPONDING TO HURRICANES



Credit NOAA/RAMMB

Currently, members of **Episcopal Relief & Development's US Disaster Program** are working closely with dioceses in the path of Hurricane Dorian. In addition, the organization is working through the **Anglican Alliance** to support the **Anglican Diocese of the Bahamas & the Turks and Caicos** as they begin assessing the damage. The organization's **Partners in Response and Resilience** stand ready to respond in the coming weeks as the full extent of the slow-moving storm becomes clear.

To make a donation, please fill out the coupon below and mail it in with your check or credit card information. You can also contribute online to our Hurricane Relief Fund at support.episcopalrelief.org/hurricane-relief.

Thank you for your compassion and prayers. With your partnership, we are working together for lasting change.

Episcopal Relief & Development partners with dioceses as they respond to hurricanes and other tragic storms and we would like to invite you to join this vital partnership.

Your contribution to **Episcopal Relief & Development's Hurricane Relief Fund** will support communities as they respond to storms like Hurricane Dorian. Your donation will meet urgent needs by providing critical supplies such as food, water and other basics and will help provide long-term assistance as needed.



www.episcopalrelief.org
1.855.312.4325

Please make checks payable to Episcopal Relief & Development.

Mail to P.O. Box 7058
Merrifield VA 22116-7058.

Enclosed is my gift to the Hurricane Relief Fund to assist those who are in need.

\$50 \$100 \$250 \$500
 \$1,000 \$2,500 \$5,000 Other \$_____

FOR CREDIT CARD DONATIONS

Please charge my gift to my:

VISA MasterCard
 AMEX Discover

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Address

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Your email address

Phone Number

Name of your church City

Account number Expiration date

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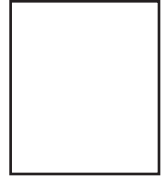
All gifts are tax-deductible.

Calendar

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion - Chapel 9:00 AM Usher's Breakfast - Hill Room 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion - Sanctuary	30 The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 9:00 AM Myers - Backflow testing 6:15 PM Men of Orpheus - Choir Room	1 The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service - Chapel	2 The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 12:00 PM AA Meeting - VanAtta Room 6:00 PM Family Dinner - Merrifield Room 7:00 PM Living a Life of Prayer w/Dr.Tim Flynn	3 OFFICE CLOSED The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 6:00 PM Jeremy Alexander at class 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room	4 FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OFFICE CLOSED The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical	5 The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 9:00 AM Jeremy Alexander at class
6 FOOD BANK SUNDAY The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion - Chapel 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion - Sanctuary 4:00 PM Blessing of Beasts - Merrifield Room	7 The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 6:15 PM Men of Orpheus - Choir Room	8 Clergy Conference The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service - Chapel 6:00 PM Family Dinner - Merrifield Room 7:00 PM Living a Life of Prayer w/Dr.Tim Flynn	9 Clergy Conference The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 12:00 PM AA Meeting - VanAtta Room 5:45 PM Mission & Outreach Ministry - VanAtta	10 Clergy Conference OFFICE CLOSED The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 5:00 PM LINC'S Family Meeting - Merrifield Room 6:00 PM Jeremy Alexander at class 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room	11 OFFICE CLOSED The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical	12 Bishop Gibbs Deanery Celebration - St. Paul's Jackson The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 9:00 AM Jeremy Alexander at class 3:00 PM AGO Organ Program - Sanctuary 5:30 PM AGO Dinner - Merrifield Room 6:30 PM AGO Concert - Sanctuary
13 Baptism Anniversary Celebration Crop Walk The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion - Chapel 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion - Sanctuary 12:00 PM LINC'S Laugh & Play - Merrifield Room 1:00 PM Crop Walk Registration - Grace UMC	14 Columbus Day - Office Closed The Rev. Lewis on Sabbatical 6:15 PM Men of Orpheus - Choir Room	15 The Rev. Lewis back from Sabbatical 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service - Chapel 11:59 PM SPN Deadline!!	16 Clericus 12:00 PM AA Meeting - VanAtta Room	17 The Rev. Lewis - FreshStart 6:00 PM Jeremy Alexander at class 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room	18 OFFICE CLOSED	19 9:00 AM Jeremy Alexander at class
20 The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion - Chapel 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion - Sanctuary 11:30 AM Welcome back Potluck - Merrifield Room 1:00 PM Tim Flynn w/Young Adults	21 The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away 12:00 PM Facilities Ministry Team Meeting - VanAtta 6:00 PM Vestry Dinner - Meeting @ 6:30 pm - Hill Room 6:15 PM Men of Orpheus - Choir Room	22 The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service - Chapel	23 The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting - VanAtta Room 5:30 PM Pastoral Care Ministry - VanAtta Room	24 The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away 4:00 PM Planning Team for Islamic Teaching - Islamic Center 6:00 PM Jeremy Alexander at class 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room	25 Diocesan Convention - Novi OFFICE CLOSED The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away	26 Diocesan Convention - Novi The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away 9:00 AM Jeremy Alexander at class
27 The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion - Chapel 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion - Sanctuary	28 The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away 6:15 PM Men of Orpheus - Choir Room	29 The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service - Chapel	30 The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting - VanAtta Room	31 The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away 6:00 PM Jeremy Alexander at class 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room	1 ALL SAINTS DAY Bishop Elect joins Diocesan Staff OFFICE CLOSED The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away	2 The Rev. Dr. Susan Carter Away 9:00 AM Jeremy Alexander at class

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
218 W. Ottawa St.
Lansing, MI 48933



ST. PAUL'S STAFF

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Associate Rector

The Very Rev. Dr. Susan Carter

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Dr. Timothy Flynn

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Theresa Milne

Sexton

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