

# Journey Pages

CONNECTING, GROWING AND SERVING FOR GOD'S SAKE FOR OVER A HUNDRED YEARS

574 S. SHELDON ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170



Good morning and welcome to St. John's Plymouth! We are glad you are here and hope you have a great worship experience with us today.

Our faith tradition is known by a motto seen on signs in big cities and small towns across the country: *"The Episcopal Church Welcomes You."* Our community takes that phrase to heart, opening our hearts and our worship to everyone, especially those who may have been turned off by or turned away from previous church experiences for any reason.

St. John's is a community built on varied backgrounds and faith experiences; we love our tradition and rituals, but we love people even more. We are committed to opening our doors as wide as possible because we pattern our lives after Jesus' teachings and his message of radical welcome and inclusive love.

If you are visiting for the first time, we are happy that God led you to this place and hope that you will return again. Again, welcome home. Open your heart today and let God do something wonderful.

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR Dana

*Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ, thy Son our Savior. AMEN (BCP p. 816)*

This Sunday, Protestant Christians throughout the world will be marking the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. It was on the Eve of All Saints, or "All Hallows Eve," (Halloween) that the Augustinian monk Martin Luther posted 95 theses or points of debate challenging the integrity of the church's practice of selling

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR Dana (CONTINUED)

"indulgences" to allegedly retrieve dead loved ones from purgatory and in the process fund the construction of St. Peter's in Rome.

Earlier this year the two primates of the Church of England, Justin Welby and John Sentamu, said that while it directly contributed to "great blessings" felt by many Christians, The Reformation also caused "lasting damage . . . to the unity of the Church, in defiance of the clear command of Jesus Christ to unity in love."

They said, "Those turbulent years saw Christian people pitted against each other, such that many suffered persecution and even death at the hands of others claiming to know the same Lord. A legacy of mistrust and competition would then accompany the astonishing global spread of Christianity in the centuries that followed."

"Remembering the Reformation," they said, "should bring us back to what the reformers wanted to put at the center of every person's life, which is a simple trust in Jesus Christ. This year is a time to renew our faith in Christ and in Him alone. With this confidence we shall then be ready to ask hard questions about those things in our lives and the life of our churches that get in the way of sharing and celebrating faith in Him."

In this intentional time of transition for St. John's, the goal is very much akin to the sentiments expressed in the prayer above and in the primates' comments. This time of transition is not a time to sleep until the new Rector arrives. It is a time of reformation and renewal, of spiritual deepening and discovery, of listening, learning and loving and praying as we prepare for a new chapter in the life and mission of St. John's. Stay tuned. Such opportunities are on the horizon. In the meantime, join me in praying every day for God's presence and action in the life of our congregation during this intentional time of transition.

Faithfully,  
Pastor Dana Runestad, Interim Rector

Curious about Centering Prayer? Learn more about it here: (<https://www.contemplativeoutreach.org/category/centering-prayer>). Let Pastor Dana know if you are interested in being part of a centering prayer group that meets weekly.

## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS



Please make sure to stop by the Annual Giving Campaign table in the narthex to drop off your pledge card (or drop it by the office during the week). We will bless the pledge cards during worship today. Need to learn more about how your pledge dollars are put to work at St. John's Plymouth? Contact our SJP Treasurer, Beth Frolick-Rapson, at 248-765-0889 or [elizabeth.frolick@ally.com](mailto:elizabeth.frolick@ally.com).

### Pipes Spooktacular & Trunk or Treat

TONIGHT, OCTOBER 29 ~ 6:30PM

Join us for a Halloween-themed concert for children of all ages, featuring spooky and just plain silly music and readings performed by the SJP Department of Music. Suggested admission donation is \$5 for individuals, \$15 for families. *Trunk or Treat* in the church parking lot after.

### REMEMBERING LOVED ONES WHO HAVE DIED

November 5 is All Saints Sunday, when the church lifts up those who have died in the past year (since All Saints 2016). The list of these names is called the "Necrology." If you would like a loved one remembered, sign up on the Sign-Me-Up board or email his or her name to [pikegami@stjohnsplymouth.org](mailto:pikegami@stjohnsplymouth.org) no later than Tues., Oct. 31.



### SPECIAL GUESTS AMONG US NOVEMBER 5

November 5 we will witness the baptism of John Robert Hall, 8 month old great-grandson of Rev. Bob and Lucianne Miller. Family friend Rev. Barb Cavin will be with us to preside at the baptism and preach that day, and Rev. Ruth Strang, M.D. will also be with us and will assist in bearing a chalice. Pastor Dana will be the celebrant. What an appropriate remembrance for All Saints Sunday. Bob and Lucianne are part of the great cloud of witnesses that have helped shaped lives of faith in our community.

### VESTRY LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY



The vestry is the nine-member governing board of the church working with Pastor Dana to lead and manage the parish. Each member serves a three-year term. This year

at our Annual Meeting in January we will be electing three new members. This provides overlap and continuity and an opportunity to get to know others in the church in a small and very meaningful setting. The vestry meets monthly and members also serve on one of three commissions; Property, Finance or Administration. **If you are interested in more info about serving on vestry, contact Pastor Dana at 734-765-1141 or [pastordana@stjohnsplymouth.org](mailto:pastordana@stjohnsplymouth.org) asap.**

## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5!

It's that time of year again, time to turn back your clocks one hour on Saturday before you go to bed!



### PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET/VISIONING MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14 AT 7PM

All ministry leaders are asked to attend the parish council budget/visioning meeting. Vestry liaisons will be presenting ministry leaders budget requests for 2017. Vestry members will be providing refreshments and all are welcome to attend!



### HAT, SCARF & GLOVE DRIVE FOR STARFISH

The Youth of St. John's will be holding a Hat, Scarf and Glove Drive for their Ministry Partners, Starfish Family Services, during the month of November. Please consider a donation of new hat, scarf and/or gloves-sizes toddler though adult are needed. We will be collecting items through December 3. They will be delivered to Starfish on Dec. 4. The collection bin will be by the Family Ministry bulletin board.

### ST. JOHN'S 13TH ANNUAL SOCK DRIVE

For the last twelve years, the Men's Devotional Group has led the SJP sock drive providing socks for St. Leo's and Crossroads Soup Kitchens. A \$25 contribution can provide over 55 pairs of socks. We need to deliver the socks by early-Dec, so if you wish to join the effort, **please write your check to St. John's with "socks" in the memo line by November 26.** Contact Hadyn Notestine at 734-658-8244 or Larry MacLeod at [jlmacleod@wowway.com](mailto:jlmacleod@wowway.com) with questions.



### LIFELINE SCREENING COMING TO ST. JOHN'S

Life Line Screening will be at St John's on **Monday, November 13.** Check the bulletin board for more info.

### VOLUNTEER TO BE A SJP BLOOD DRIVE HOST!

We need a volunteer (or two) to be a friendly face and check-in host for our Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, Nov. 27. Contact Phyllis in the office at 734-453-0190 or email her at [pikegami@stjohnsplymouth.org](mailto:pikegami@stjohnsplymouth.org) if interested.

### TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS DEDICATION

*In Celebration of  
Maria McCord's 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday*



### TODAY'S AUMBRY LIGHT DEDICATION

*In Memory of Frances Eastman*

## *A different sense of prosperity*

GLEN MITCHELL

There are people I know who live their lives very sacrificially, just like Moses and Paul did. Moses was called by God to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, something he was not willing to do at first; but God persisted, supporting Moses in his sacrifice doing what God wanted. The people I know do this too. They respond to God's call to care for the poor, the naked, the hungry and those in prison. In loving their neighbor, often far away from their own country, they live sacrificially to love God and their neighbor.

Paul delights in this: "So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us." (1 Thes: 2:8) Paul wants "to please God who tests our hearts." (1 Thes: 2:4)

The people I know live sacrificially; they could easily earn much more if they lived in the United States or Canada, and live much more securely; they have chosen to not follow the advice of the wicked. They really are "like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper." (Psalm 1:3)

The people I know have a different sense of how they prosper. Their currency of exchange is really not money, but how much they love their God and their neighbor. Elizabeth of the Trinity, a 19<sup>th</sup> century Carmelite nun, said, "Let us ask God to make us true in our love, to make us sacrificial beings, for it seems to me that sacrifice is only love put into action." Christians who love God and their neighbor have the currency of the baptismal covenant to guide us. Our

currency is God's love. "Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad our days." (Psalm 90:1) In rejoicing and in being glad our all days, God's love is all we need to prosper.

In our baptismal covenant Christians declare their belief in God, Jesus Christ and God the Holy Spirit. We, with God's help, declare that we will continue in fellowship, the breaking of the bread, prayer, resisting evil and repenting, proclaiming the Good News, seeking and serving Christ in all persons and loving

### For reflection...

- Do you know people, as I do, who live their lives sacrificially? Make a list if you do. Learn about it — ask why they live so sacrificially by listening for God and loving their neighbor.
- How could you live your life more sacrificially and encourage others to do the same?

our neighbor, striving for justice and peace and respecting the dignity of every human being. In Canada, Anglicans also agree to strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation and respect, sustain, and renew the life of the earth.

The people I know live their lives sacrificially in the way that Elizabeth of the Trinity suggested we all do. In rejecting the rampant consumerism of the age, in rejecting the disparity between the super-rich and the poor, we are called to live sacrificially as we live out our baptismal covenant, loving God and loving our neighbor just as the people I know do, as did Moses and Paul.



Glen Mitchell is the Stewardship and Gift Development Director for the Diocese of New Westminster. He has worked in the fundraising world as an employee and consultant since 1984. He is a Certified Fund Raising Executive and holds a Master of Arts in Theological Studies from the Vancouver School of Theology.



During the month of October, St. John's is holding our Annual Giving Campaign. It is a time when everyone is asked to prayerfully consider making a financial commitment to St. John's for 2018.

Many of you have responded! You wrestled with this call to give, held those important family conversations, counted the blessings you enjoy in this life and made your financial commitment to God and St. John's. If you are one of the households that already returned your pledge card we offer a big THANK YOU!!

If you have not yet made a pledge, we request you prayerfully consider doing so in the coming week. In November the vestry and ministry leaders will begin the process of developing the 2018 budget based on the pledges received from the congregation for next year.

As we walked through this month together we've received some thoughtful questions about the Annual Giving Campaign which we'd like to share along with our responses.

***When should I make my pledge?***

Now. The Annual Giving Campaign continues through the month of October. During that time we hope you will make a pledge to give your chosen amount to the Operating Fund during 2018.

***When should I give?***

Your pledge is what you commit to give to St. John's for the upcoming year on a schedule of your own choosing. Pledges can be a single gift or in as many payments as you wish throughout the year.

***What is the Operating Fund? How will my donation be used?***

Each year the Annual Giving Campaign seeks pledges to the Operating Fund. This collection of money is used to support the ongoing expenses of our church like personnel costs, property maintenance, and money needed to support the many ministry groups at St. John's.

***Do I get bills or statements from the church?***

St. John's sends out quarterly statements that show all donations made during the year, including money contributed to the Operating Fund in fulfillment of your pledge.

***How do I pay my pledge?***

You have many options. You can use SecureGive, our online giving platform, to pay with credit card, debit card or by ACH (electronic check from your bank account). You can sign-up to have your bank to send St. John's checks each week/month or you can fulfill your pledge by placing cash in giving envelopes, writing checks or giving St. John's a donation of stock.

***Do I have to pledge? What if I can't give or can't estimate my giving for next year?***

Pledging is NOT a prerequisite for participating in the common life of St. John's. We welcome all to share in the celebration of our faith and community regardless of your financial situation. If your situation is such that are unable to pledge or unable to estimate your giving we encourage you to participate in this year's campaign. Please return a pledge card and simply indicate you will give as you are able.

***More Questions?***

The Wardens, Treasurer and Vestry are always available to answer any questions you may have regarding pledging. Please contact them through the church office by calling 734-453-0190 or sending an e-mail to [pikegami@stjohnsplymouth.org](mailto:pikegami@stjohnsplymouth.org).

## ST. JOHN'S Prayer LIST

We offer prayers today for those who have requested inclusion on our prayer list. Add names at our prayer station in the Narthex. Prayers continue for 30 days.

Gretchen	Henry
Lexy	Marie
Cheryl Crouse	Jeff Holland
Janis Kljun	Susan Lutz
Marilyn Mason	Justin Rush
Connie Schamante	Scarlet Synowiec
The Roger Schlee Family	The Mike Robinson Family
The Reck Family	

### For those in uniform

Matthew J. Mitchell - U.S. Navy Chief  
Thomas Dolce - U.S. Air Force  
Carly Bair - U.S. Navy  
Joe James - U.S. Army  
Ian Smith - U.S. Navy  
Dylan Racine - U.S. Army  
David Peraino - U.S. Army  
Taylor Blair - U.S. Army  
Nate Jesgarz - U.S. Navy



### SERVING TODAY - OCTOBER 29

**Preacher** Rev. Dana Runestad  
**Altar Guild** Jan McLeod,  
Nancy Mitchell



#### **Lay Ministers**

8:00 Ralph Reeves  
10:00 Carolyn Setty, Krista Dessin, Connie Hierta,  
Becky Nickels

#### **Acolytes**

8:00 Maya Crouse, Ryan Crouse  
10:00 Michael Zuckerman, Karen Sole, Bennet Watson

#### **Ushers**

8:00 Dee Fleming  
10:00 Dave Smith, Robert Hurley, Alan Taracuk

### SERVING NEXT WEEK - NOVEMBER 5

**Preacher** Rev. Dana Runestad  
**Altar Guild** Beth Wideman, Penny Striegel

#### **Lay Ministers**

8:00 Susan Wainwright  
10:00 Lana Klosterman, Ken Sanders,  
Larry Brandenburg, Sister Magdalena

#### **Acolytes**

8:00 Maya Crouse, Ryan Crouse  
10:00 Jocelyn Dessin, Ella Binder, Clare Binder

#### **Ushers**

8:00 Dee Fleming  
10:00 Dave Smith, Robert Hurley, Jane Libbing

# THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

*Office Hours ~ Monday – Friday ~ 8:30am – 4:30pm*

## **SUNDAY, October 29**

**Sunday Holy Eucharist** ..... 8:00 & 10:00am  
Nursery (infant-3yrs) .....9:45-11:45am  
Sunday School.....9:45am  
Coffee Hour – Gathering.....11:15am  
Choir Practice.....11:15am  
Joyful Noise Youth Choir.....11:15am  
Parent Small Group.....11:15am  
Spooktacular Concert & Trunk or Treat.....6:30pm

## **MONDAY, October 30**

Robinson Memorial.....3:00pm  
Narcotics Anonymous.....7:00pm

## **TUESDAY, October 31**

Bible Study.....9:30am  
Food Pantry.....2:00-4:00pm

## **WEDNESDAY, November 1**

Wednesday Women's Study.....9:00am  
Midweek Prayer Service.....10:30am

## **THURSDAY, November 2**

OA Meeting.....8:30am  
Men's Group (departs for St. Leo's).....8:30am  
Diocesan Priest Developer Group.....1:00pm  
Food Pantry.....2:00-4:00pm

## **FRIDAY, November 3**

## **SATURDAY, November 4**

Men's Bible Sunday.....7:30am  
Al Anon Meeting .....8:00am  
SafeGuard Training-Working with Minors.....8:45am  
SafeGuard Training-Working with Adults...12:45am

## **SUNDAY, November 5 – All Saints Sunday**

**Sunday Holy Eucharist** ..... 8:00 & 10:00am  
Property Commission Meeting.....9:00am  
Nursery (infant-3yrs) .....9:45-11:45am  
Sunday School.....9:45am  
Coffee Hour – Gathering.....11:15am  
Choir Practice.....11:15am  
Joyful Noise Youth Choir.....11:15am  
Parent Small Group.....11:15am



## **Dates to Remember**

Prayers & Squares Quilters.....Wednesday, Nov. 8  
YAYNET Diocesan Meeting.....Thursday, Nov. 9