

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. We suggest you visit 3-4 times, this Sunday may be different from the next!

We would like to *thank you* for visiting! Please fill out a "Get Connected" card found in the pews. We also suggest you visit our website for more information about our community.

ALTAR FLOWER & AUMBRY LIGHT DEDICATIONS



TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION
In Memory of Norma Lee & Andrew Sabonis, Jr.

TODAY'S AUMBRY LIGHT DEDICATION
Given by Deborah Chamulak

THE THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

Today we light three candles on the Advent wreath. While society goes crazy with Christmas preparations and the northern hemisphere grows darker each day, we gather to wait for God to bring us into peace and light. In the gospel reading (*John 1:6-9, 19-28*), Jesus is described as the "light of the world." John the Baptist calls us to make a pathway for Christ. Moved by the spirit of the Lord, the prophet Isaiah (*61:1-4, 8-11*) announces good news for those who are oppressed. Isaiah anticipates what so many among us will be doing next week: preparing and delivering food for the hungry at Crossroads.



In anticipation of that service at Crossroads, and as a companion to this Sunday's sermon, I encourage you to listen to this podcast interview with Father Greg Boyle by Krista Tippett, from her American Public Radio program *On Being*: <https://onbeing.org/programs/greg-boyle-the-calling-of-delight-gangs-service-and-kinship/>.

Father Boyle is a Jesuit famous for gang intervention programs in L.A. His inspiring stories offer connections between service and delight, and compassion and awe. He heads Homeboy Industries, which employs former gang members. "This is not work of helping," he says, "but of finding *kinship*." The point of Christian service, as he lives it, is about "our common calling to delight in one another."

As I listened, I couldn't help but think of St. John's own Rev. Teresa Wakeen who works out of a similar paradigm as she leads "The Church at Crossroads." I hope when you are at Crossroads next Sunday you'll take the opportunity to connect with Teresa and some of the folks who worship there, and even stay for worship in the afternoon.

When it works, bringing good news to the oppressed is an exercise in mutuality. Caring like this is an enduring aspect of St. John's identity as a community of faith. May it continue!

Faithfully,
Pastor Dana

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS



SCHEDULE YOUR BAPTISM NOW FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 7 AT THE 10am SERVICE

To schedule a baptism, please complete a baptism form found outside the office and contact Pastor Dana at 734-765-1141 or pastordana@stjohnsplymouth.org. **Deadline for scheduling is TODAY.**

SIGN-UP TO BE A COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOST

We have resurrected our Coffee Fellowship Hour and need hosts to sign up to prepare coffee, beverages & snacks each Sunday. A hosts' responsibility is to arrive early to make coffee, beverages and lay out snacks in the Gathering for coffee hour after the 10am service. Please sign-up on the bulletin board in the hallway.



PLEASE REVIEW YOUR SJP 2017 GIVING

SJP Giving Statements for the period of January-November 2017 will be mailed to your home in the next week. Please take a few minutes to review the giving history in this statement. This is also a good time to make sure you are up to date on your 2017 pledge.



If you believe any portion of this statement to be in error, please contact the St. John's Treasurer Beth Frolick-Rapson at 248-765-0889 or elizabeth.frolick@ally.com with questions.

Please note ~ if you are submitting donations toward your 2018 pledge before years end, please write "2018 pledge" on the memo line of your check or on the comment area of your SecureGive account.

We thank you for your generous support of the mission and ministry of St. John's.

SAVE THE DATE! SJP ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018 AT 11:15am

There will be only **one worship service at 10:00am**. We will gather afterwards for a potluck lunch to celebrate the past year and look forward to the future. Please plan to attend this important ministry meeting!

Ministry Chairs ~ We are in the beginning stages of laying out this year's Annual Report. Please be on the lookout for an email inviting you to update your ministry description to be placed in the Annual Meeting Booklet. Reports will be due to the Parish Administrator by January 7, 2018.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

WEDNESDAY HEALING WORSHIP SERVICE MOVING TO 11:00am IN JANUARY

The Wednesday Morning Healing Worship Service will be moving to 11:00am beginning on January 3.

WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY MOVING TO 9:30am IN JANUARY

The Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study will be moving to 9:30am beginning on January 3.

MANY THANKS TO OUR SJP MEMBERS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY OF TIME, TALENT & TREASURES!



Starfish Family Services Hat, Scarf & Glove Drive - We would like to thank all the very generous members of SJP for the many hat, scarf and glove/mitten donations which will keep those at Starfish Family Services warm this winter. The collection bin was overflowing with 291 items! We would also like to thank Jayne Watson for spearheading this effort! To learn more about Starfish, visit their website at www.starfishfamilyservices.org/about/.

The 13th Annual Sock Drive - We would like to thank SJP members and friends who generously donated \$1,200 to go toward the purchase of over 2,400 pairs socks which will provide warm feet for those who visit the **St. Leo's Soup Kitchen & Crossroads Soup Kitchen** during the Christmas season. We would also like to thank the Thursday morning men's group for spearheading this effort!



DID YOU KNOW??

Between January - November 2017, the St. John's Food Pantry has served:

- 312 Families
- 1,128 People
- 997 Bags of Groceries
- \$11,077 - Value of Donated Food

One of the families who receives assistance from the pantry did so because the husband was on medical leave and the family wasn't receiving his salary. Just before Thanksgiving, the wife came to the pantry and asked if she could use the wagon to bring food in. "Food in?" Yes, her husband was able to go back to work and wanted to give back to the pantry that helped them in their time of need!

Thank you to all for your donations to the pantry and the many volunteers who staff it. Thank you also to the Long family who pick up Panera each week to stock the pantry!

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



Advent & Christmas

- Sundays in Advent**
Worship ~ Dec. 17 & Dec. 24 8:00am & 10:00am
- Saturday, Dec. 23**
Crossroads Prep at SJP 9:00am
- Sunday, Dec. 24**
Serving at Crossroads Soup Kitchen-Detroit 9:00am
- Christmas Eve Worship – Sunday, Dec. 24**
Family Service with Eucharist
& Christmas Pageant 4:00pm
- NEW ADDITIONAL SERVICE TIME!**
- Carols & Anthems Prelude 8:30pm
Traditional Liturgy with Eucharist 9:00pm
- Carols & Anthems Prelude 10:30pm
Traditional Liturgy with Eucharist 11:00pm
- Christmas Day Worship – Monday, Dec. 25**
Worship Service with Eucharist 10:00am
- First Sunday after Christmas**
Worship with Eucharist – Sunday, Dec. 31
Lessons & Carols 8:00am & 10:00am
(No Sunday School; Children's activity in worship)
- New Year's Eve Progressive Dinner, Sunday, Dec. 31**
(see article in the next column) 7:00pm-12:15am
- New Year's Eve Service, Sunday December 31**
Readings & Prayers for New Year w/ Eucharist 11:15pm

SJP'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



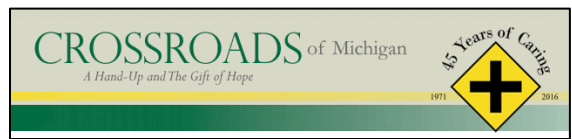
It is a St. John's tradition that the Christmas story is presented by our youth during the 4:00pm Christmas Eve service. This year is no exception. All children and youth, ages 3 and up, are invited to participate in this "walk-up pageant" (no rehearsal needed). We will have angels, shepherds, sheep, wise men, etc. and each child will be in costume. All children are invited to participate!

CHRISTMAS DEDICATIONS – EXTENDED UNTIL TODAY!



Every year, SJP offers poinsettia and music dedications that are inserted in the Christmas Eve bulletin as a way to honor or memorialize a friend or loved one. To donate, complete the half-sheet form in the Narthex, enclose payment and return to the office or offering plate. **Deadline to sign up is TODAY!**

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



LAST CALL FOR CROSSROADS

COOKED TURKEYS:

- We could use 4 more turkeys!
- Deliver your thawed and sliced turkey to St. John's NO LATER THAN Saturday, Dec. 23 at 10:30am
- If you need turkey instructions, they are on the Sign-Me-Up board in the hallway or contact the office



PIES:

- If you signed up to donate and have not yet made your donation, please do so today

COOKIES:

- The kids at Crossroads don't necessarily like pie so we are collecting cookies. Place them in the cookie bin in the front hallway

VOLUNTEERS:

- Volunteers for Saturday Prep on Dec. 23 should be at SJP by 9am (we will finish by noon)
- Volunteers for Sunday, Dec. 24 should be at Crossroads (2424 W Grand Blvd, Detroit, MI 48208) between 8:30-9:00am (we will finish by noon)

QUESTIONS:

- Contact Dick Bass, SJP Crossroads representative at 248-477-8481 or dickbass1943@gmail.com.



IMPROMPTU NEW YEAR'S EVE PROGRESSIVE DINNER AND WORSHIP SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 BEGINNING AT 7:00PM

What are you doing New Year's Eve? Attend the SJP New Year's Eve Progressive Dinner and Worship. We will begin with appetizers, then soup/salad, then a light main course, then dessert at Pastor Dana & Barry's home. After dessert we will head to the church for a "Readings and Prayers for the New Year and Eucharist" service at 11:15pm.

We will need a volunteer to host "Appetizers" at their home beginning at 7pm, a volunteer to host "Soup/Salad" at their home at 8pm, a volunteer to host "a light main course" at their home at 9pm. Desserts will be hosted by Pr. Dana and Barry in their home at 10pm.

Come usher in the New Year at St. John's! If you will be attending or would like to host a course in your home, please sign-up at www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080D44AEA62AA5FB6-sjpnew. **And if you can't make dinner, join us at church at 11:15pm for worship!**

SERVING TODAY – December 17

Preacher Rev. Dana Runestad
Altar Guild Beth Wideman, Pat Sonntag,
Dawn Florkowski/Danisa Saltarelli,
Nancy Mitchell

Lay Ministers
8:00 Susan Wainwright
10:00 Becky Nickels, Krista Dessin, Dick Bass

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

Ushers
8:00 Dee Fleming
10:00 Dave Smith, Robert Hurley, Carolyn Setty,
Paul Kapusky

SERVING 4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT – Sunday, December 24

Preacher Pastor Dana Runestad
Altar Guild Penny Striegel
Lay Ministers
8am Ralph Reeves
10am Ken Sanders, Connie Hierta, Krista Dessin

Acolytes
8am Maya Crouse, Ryan Crouse
10am TBD

Ushers
8am Dee Fleming
10am Dave Smith, Sal Cavallaro



SERVING CHRISTMAS EVE – Sunday, December 24

Preacher Pastor Dana Runestad
Altar Guild 4pm- Maribeth Sala-Gietzen, Beth Wideman
9pm- Irene Jarrell, Tracy McCord, Beth Wideman
11pm- Nancy Mitchell & family

Lay Ministers
4pm Carolyn Setty, Ken Sanders, Dick Bass, Becky Nickels
9pm Catherine Boileau, Stephanie Boileau, James Boileau,
Sr Magdalena
11pm Sally Lindroth, Jocelyn Dessin, Becky Nickels,
Richard Dessin

Acolytes
4pm Ella Binder, Amelia Dowswell, Clare Binder
9pm Meganne Skoug 11pm Jocelyn Dessin

Ushers
4pm Robert Hurley, Sue Skaggs, Alan Taracuk
8:30pm Robert Hurley, Carolyn Setty
10:30am Jane Libbing, Carolyn Setty

SERVING CHRISTMAS DAY - Monday, December 25

Preacher Pastor Dana Runestad
Altar Guild Beth Wideman
Lay Ministers
10am Jacqueline Dessin

Acolytes
10am Richard Dessin

Ushers
10am Sal Cavallaro

ST. JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

Clyde Donald
Gray Lexy
Cheryl Crouse John Culotta
Jeff Holland Janis Kljun
Kitty Kremer Susan Lutz
Marilyn Mason Carole Mitchell
Pat Nickels Suzanne Parker
Justin Rush Ken Skoug
Ernst Sternberg Rhonda Cheek Williams
The Mike Robinson Family The Reck Family
The Horvath/Roy 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
Taylor Blair – U.S. Army
Nate Jesgarz – U.S. Navy



THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

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

SUNDAY, December 17

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

MONDAY, December 18

Narcotics Anonymous.....7:00pm
Stock Club..... 7:00pm

TUESDAY, December 19

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

WEDNESDAY, December 20

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

THURSDAY, December 21

OA Meeting.....8:30am
Men' Devotional Group.....10:00am
Food Pantry.....2:00-4:00pm

FRIDAY, December 22

SATURDAY, December 23

Men's Bible Sunday.....7:30am
AI Anon Meeting8:00am
Crossroads Prep at SJP.....9:30am

December 24 & 25 (see schedule on pg. 3)