

# 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.

## AUMBRY LIGHT & ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Members and friends of St. John's sign up to dedicate the aumbry light or altar flowers in honor of, in memory of or in celebration of a life event. **There are many open dates** on the 2018 dedication sign-up sheets on the Sign-Me-Up board in the hallway. An Aumbry Light dedication is a \$5 donation; Altar Flower dedication is a \$50 donation (*flowers may be taken home after the 10am service if desired*).

## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DANA

### The Wise Woman's Stone

*A wise woman who was traveling in the mountains found a precious stone in a stream. The next day she met another traveler who was hungry, and the wise woman opened her bag to share her food. The hungry traveler saw the precious stone and asked the woman to give it to him. She did so without hesitation.*

*The traveler left rejoicing in his good fortune. He knew the stone was worth enough to give him security for a lifetime.*

*But, a few days later, he came back to return the stone to the wise woman. "I've been thinking," he said. "I know how valuable this stone is, but I give it back in the hope that you can give me something even more precious. Give me what you have within you that enabled you to give me this stone."*



The wise woman in this story reminds me of my mother, Barbara Runestad, who died Saturday morning January 20. I know that what my mother had within her that enabled her to be so generous was her faith. I give thanks to God for the gift and the inspiration she has been in my life and in the lives of so many others. Thank you for your kind expressions of sympathy. I am away this week and will be returning Wednesday January 31. Rev. George Davinich is covering for any pastoral emergencies and is here today to preside and preach. Enjoy and be inspired!

Faithfully,  
Pastor Dana

## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

### ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

This past Sunday we gathered together as one, and we were all fed spiritually and physically. Following a wonderful service and tasty potluck was our 2018 Annual Meeting, the one time a year we are required by church and state law to come together to address some of the important business of our church. It was our time to come together again to remember who we are called to be as a community of faith seeking to serve others and live into our common call to be followers of Christ. Our slate of Vestry candidates was affirmed, we heard a report on our finances from our faithful Treasurer, and we received the 2017 Annual Report.

The three documents that were distributed – the 2017 Annual Report, the 2018 Slate of Vestry Candidates, and the Report on the St. John's Finances from the Treasurer. You may pickup a copy on the entrance table in the hallway or access it via the SJP website (link on the homepage).

The Annual Report was referenced throughout the meeting. It contains a great deal of information detailing all of the work of our Commissions and Ministries, overviews of the Transitions and Discovery Processes, detailed results of the Annual Giving Campaign, and much more. The Slate of Vestry Candidates contains short bios of the Vestry Slate joining the current Vestry. The new Vestry is as follows:

- Mark Eissler, Sr Warden – returning
- April Cooke, Jr Warden – returning
- Linda Griffin – returning
- Liz Needleman – returning
- Beth Frolick-Rapson – Treasurer
- Dick Bass – incoming
- Richard Dessin – incoming (1-year term)
- Robert Hurley – incoming
- Larry MacLeod – incoming (1-year term)
- Ken Skoug – incoming

The Report on the St. John's Finances is a summary of the 2017 budget assessment, a brief overview of the 2018 Annual Giving Campaign results, and a synopsis of the 2018 budgeting process. In order to balance the budget this year, there were two very important decisions that the Vestry made after extensive consideration and prayer. They are as follows:

- 1) Effective 4/1/18, the Parish Administrator position will return to part-time.
- 2) The Director of Family Ministry position will be funded for five months starting in August.

For any budget related questions, please reach out to St. John's Treasurer Beth Frolick-Rapson. For other questions regarding the Annual Meeting or the Annual Report, please reach out to Pastor Dana or one of the Wardens – Mark Eissler or April Cooke.

*(continued on the next column)*

## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

### ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)

2018 will be a very important year for St. John's as we discern our vision and work through the next steps in our transition process. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the direction of Pastor Dana, and the faith demonstrated by our many lay leaders, St. John's will find its way to a bright future.

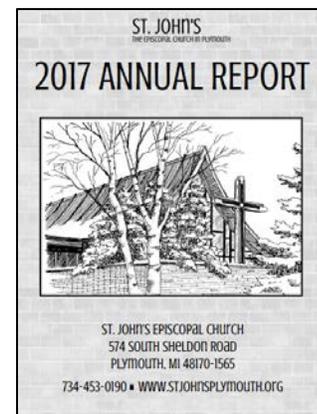
In Christ,  
The Executive Committee of St. John's Episcopal Church –

Mark Eissler  
Senior Warden  
mark.r.eissler@gm.com

April Cooke  
Junior Warden  
dr.april.cooke@gmail.com

Beth Frolick-Rapson  
Treasurer  
elizabeth.frolick@ally.com

Pastor Dana Runestad  
Interim Rector  
pastordana@stjohnsplymouth.org



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Decorators:** We are looking for volunteers to decorate the church for Lent. If you would like to learn more, contact Pr. Dana at [pastordana@stjohnsplymouth.org](mailto:pastordana@stjohnsplymouth.org) or 734-765-1141.

**Kitchen Ministry:** We are in need of a volunteer to come in twice a month to look after the kitchen, making sure the frig, freezer, counters, sinks and kitchen hospitality supplies are maintained. Interested? Contact Phyllis in the church office.

**Paper Recycling:** We are in need of a volunteer to take our paper recycling to the paper recycle bin next door to the West Middle School property.



**Coffee hour Hosts:** We need hosts for our 11:15 Coffee Fellowship Hour! Please sign-up on the bulletin board in the hallway.

**Lenten Soup Supper and Mardi Gras Events:** See the Lenten Opportunities section for more details.

**Music Volunteers:** Adult or teen volunteers to help with the Joyful Noise Choir as a room monitor. Contact Liza Calisesi Maidens, at [lmaidens@stjohnsplymouth.org](mailto:lmaidens@stjohnsplymouth.org).

### YEAR END GIVING STATEMENTS

Year end giving statements will be mailed next week. Please be on the lookout and double check to make sure they are accurate. Questions can be directed to our SJP Treasurer Beth Frolick-Rapson at [elizabeth.frolick@ally.com](mailto:elizabeth.frolick@ally.com) or 248-765-0889.

# LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

## Sunday Mornings

Sermon DISCUSSION GROUP ~ BEGINS FEBRUARY 11



We begin a sermon discussion group to dig deeper into the sermon message for that week. We will meet after the 10am service. Questions can be directed to Betsy Sole at fredandbetsy41@gmail.com or 734-420-6973.

## Promise, Blessing and Transformation

Wednesdays, February 14 – March 14  
9:30am and/or 8:00pm

Each Sunday during Lent our Sunday readings lift up God's covenantal and renewing ways with Israel, and then we hear something about Jesus' way of the cross and the obedience of discipleship. It's a stark contrast. Celebration of covenant. Call to follow the way of the cross. Joy and suffering. Faith and discipleship. Dying and rising. Even before the "paschal mystery" is joyfully proclaimed at Easter, all of the signs of its meaning are here in Lent.

We will be "digging in" to these Scriptures and their themes in small group study Wednesday mornings at 9:30am and/or Wednesday evenings at 8:00pm, following Evening Prayer. This study is open to anyone and everyone. **This study will double as an "Inquirer's Class" for those interested in exploring baptism and/or membership at St. John's.** This study will be facilitated by Pastor Dana. Please sign-up on the Sign-Me-Up board in the hallway.

## Centering Prayer Workshop – Repeat of Introduction

Saturday, February 3 from 10am–12pm

Pastor Dana will repeat this introduction to centering prayer; a method of silent prayer that is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. This is the same workshop that was offered on December 2 & 16. Come for the first time or just for review!

## Centering Prayer Small Groups

Tuesdays beginning February 6 from 5:15–6:45pm  
or Wednesdays beginning February 14 from 9:00–9:30am

These small groups will include a 30 minute "sit," a teaching, and opportunity to share about your CP practice. Attending the Centering Prayer Workshop on February 3 is suggested but not required (see workshop article above).

## Mardi Gras Family Dinner Night

Sunday, February 11 at 5:00pm

Enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship **for the whole congregation!** The evening will include dinner, games and skits. Entrée will be provided, sign up for sides and desserts. Please sign-up on the Sign-Me-Up board.



## ASH Wednesday

### HOLY COMMUNION & IMPOSITION OF ASHES

February 14 at 12:00pm & 7:00pm

SJP Joyful Noise & Adult Choirs will be performing at the 7:00pm service. Handbells will rehearse at 5:30pm, SJP Choir & Houseband will rehearse at 6:00pm that evening. *(If you are an adult who would like to join the choir for this one evening, just show up at rehearsal at 6:00pm that evening or contact Liza at lmaidens@stjohnsplymouth.org if you have questions).*

## Evening Prayer Service & Faith Stories at 7:00pm

We will celebrate Wednesdays in Lent with Holden Evening Prayer which will feature faith stories from SJP members:

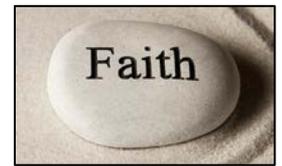
February 21: April Cooke

February 28: Joe Sabo

March 7: Becky Nickels

March 14: Teri Long

March 21: Howard Zuckerman



**We will also continue Wednesday Prayer Service on Wednesdays but time will be moved to 12pm during Lent.**

## Lenten Soup Suppers

Wednesdays ~ February 21–March 21 at 6:00pm

Enjoy a fellowship meal of soup, salad and bread on Wednesdays before attending our Lenten evening prayer service.



Please sign-up to **COORDINATE** or bring soup, salad or bread on Wednesdays on the Sign-Me-Up board.

## Lenten Art Classes presented by Danisa Saltarelli

Thursday Evenings ~ March 1, 8, & 15 ~ 6:30–8:30pm

If you enjoy being creative, acrylic painting is fun and easy to learn! The cost of each class is \$20.00 payable that evening. **Class size is limited to 12 so sign up early on the Sign-Me-Up board.** Supplies are provided with the exception of old newspaper to cover tables. Dress in something old and comfy. Email Danisa Saltarelli (danisart1215@gmail.com) with questions.



## service calendar

### SERVING TODAY – January 28

**Preacher** Rev. George Davinich  
**Altar Guild** Beth Wideman, Pat Sonntag, Irene Jarrell  
**Lay Ministers**  
 8:00 Susan Wainwright  
 10:00 Larry Brandenburg, Krista Dessin, Patricia Ponte, Becky Nickels  
**Acolytes**  
 8:00 Maya Crouse, Ryan Crouse  
 10:00 Maria McCord, Casey McCord, Bennett Watson

**Ushers**  
 8:00 Dee Fleming  
 10:00 Patricia Ponte, Robert Hurley, Alan Taracuk

### SERVING NEXT WEEK – FEBRUARY 4

**Preacher** Pastor Dana Runestad  
**Altar Guild** Rita Smith, Penny Striegel, Dawn Florkowski/Danisa Saltarelli  
**Lay Ministers**  
 8:00 Ralph Reeves  
 10:00 Amy Higgins, Dick Bass, Valerie Sanders, James Boileau, Becky Nickels  
**Acolytes**  
 8:00 Maya Crouse, Ryan Crouse  
 10:00 Ella Binder, TJ Rapson, Clare Binder

**Ushers**  
 8:00 Dee Fleming  
 10:00 Dave Smith, Jane Libbing, Carolyn Setty

## 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.

Vicki G.	Maisie J.
Lexy	Sharon M.
Kim Adams	Richard Baldwin
Cheryl Crouse	John Culotta
Jon Eissler	Jeff Holland
Janis Kljun	Pat Nickels
Tara Nickels	Justin Rush
Family of Reg Gerig Sr.	Family of Barbara Runestad

#### For those in uniform

Carly Bair, US Navy	Taylor Blair, US Army
Thomas Dolce, US Air Force	Joe James, US Army
Nate Jesgarz, US Navy	Matthew Mitchell, US Navy
Dylan Racine, US Army	Ian Smith, US Navy

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

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

### **SUNDAY, January 28**

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

### **MONDAY, January 29**

Narcotics Anonymous.....7:00pm

### **TUESDAY, January 30**

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

### **WEDNESDAY, January 31**

Wednesday Women's Study.....9:30am  
 Midweek Prayer Service.....11:00am

### **THURSDAY, February 1**

Men's Group (departs for St. Leo's).....8:30am  
 OA Meeting.....8:30am  
 Diocesan Priest Developer Group.....10:00am  
 Food Pantry.....2:00-4:00pm

### **FRIDAY, February 2**

### **SATURDAY, February 3**

Men's Study & Fellowship.....7:30am  
 AI Anon Meeting .....8:00am  
 Introduction to Centering Prayer.....10:00am

### **SUNDAY, February 4**

**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  
 SJP Choir Practice.....11:15am  
 Joyful Noise Youth Choir.....11:15am  
 Parent Small Group.....11:15am

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

PFLAG Meeting.....Sunday, February 11  
 BeFriender's Meeting.....Monday, February 12  
 Ash Wednesday.....Wednesday, February 14