

Journey Pages

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

574 S. SHELDON ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170
(734)-453-0190 TUESDAY THRU FRIDAY 9:30AM - 3:30PM

*Good Morning and Welcome to
St. John's Plymouth!*

We hope your experience in worship inspires and equips you to love and serve God and God's people in the world. We hope you are able to connect with God, with yourself, and with others here through God's Word, song and prayer, and the meal of Holy Communion. Please take a moment to fill out the "Get Connected" card in the rack in front of you so we might follow up with a personal contact. You can learn more about St. John's Plymouth by visiting www.stjohnsplymouth.org. You can learn more about the Episcopal Church, of which we are a part, by visiting www.episcopalchurch.org.

This is an exciting and challenging time for St. John's. We are in a time of transition between rectors (senior pastors). That means we are taking the time to engage in a process of discovery, exploring questions like "Who are we?" "What's going on here?" "Who are our neighbors?" and "What is God calling us to be and do in this place at this time?" Another way to say it is, "Be who you are, see what you have, do what matters to God." Because we have an interim rector, we have the luxury of taking the time to be thorough about this process. We are preparing to live into the next chapter God has in store, and call our next rector who has the gifts, skills and passion to help lead us there.

In the meantime, we worship, learn and serve together in the name of Christ. Explore these pages to see where you might engage. Wherever you may be on your journey, we invite you to join us on ours!

AUMBRY LIGHT & ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS



TODAY'S AUMBRY LIGHT DEDICATION
In Memory of Jane & Arthur Brummitt

ST. JOHN'S SCAVENGER HUNT WHO ARE WE?

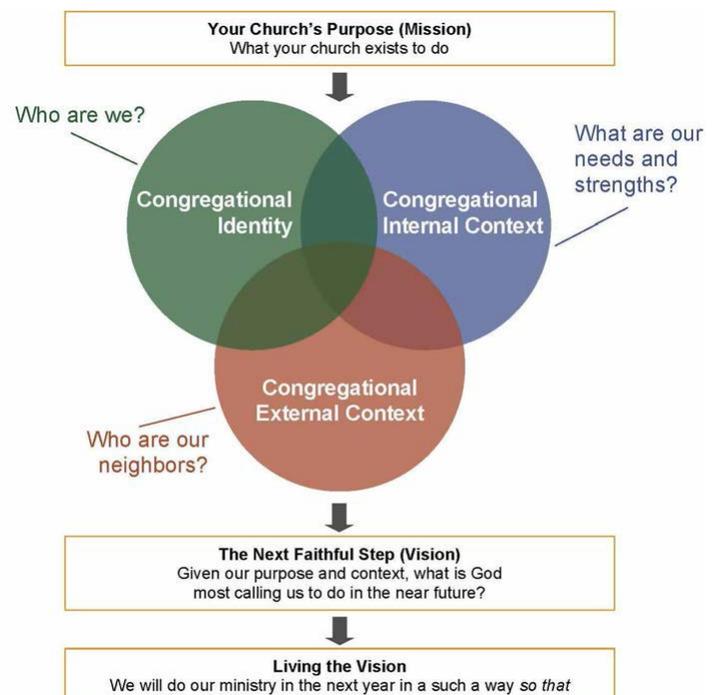
What: St. John's Cultural Heritage Scavenger Hunt!

When: Sunday, April 22 after each service (15-20 min.)

Who: Everyone encouraged to participate!

How: Walk throughout the church, noting "artifacts", activities, and traditions.

Why: The first step in the Discovery Process to identify the unique qualities of St. John's parish in preparation for the search for a new rector.



(For more on the Discovery Process, see Pg. 2)

TO CALL A NEW RECTOR

This is a great time to be an Episcopalian, especially at St. John's Plymouth! Why? Because we need a permanent rector. I know, some of you are saying "What's so great about that?". Well, in some faiths, the congregation has no control over the assignment of a rector to a parish. (I am thinking back to my youth as a Roman Catholic and how the Bishop simply sent a rector to my parish to replace the rector that left.) The great thing about our situation is that as Episcopalians, WE get to call a new Rector.

To call a new rector involves a lot of work and many decisions. One of the decisions that is completed is the Vestry's decision to utilize the interim rector transition process. But this not a quick process, and it is not without challenges. The process has many places where our parish members are required to ask tough questions, give truthful answers, and work together so that as a community we can determine *Who We Are*, see *What We Have*, and together, *Do What Matters to God*.

On *Page 7* of our 2017 annual report, there is an overview of the transition process. Since our annual meeting in January, we have been working toward completing Step 3A, *Discernment and Information Gathering*. Our interim rector, Pastor Dana, has brought us a unique tool to help us with the task of discernment and information gathering. We have been calling it 'The Discovery Process' but the complete name for this tool is: '*Discovering God's Future for Your Church – What next faithful step is God calling your church to take?*'. It was developed by The Lewis Center for Church Leadership in Washington DC. While it can seem complicated and confusing, The Discovery Process is a very well thought out method that we can use to remind us of our history and heritage as a congregation (our *Congregational Identity*), a tool that will help us to understand our needs and strengths (our *Internal Context*), and a tool that will help us determine who our neighbors are (our *External Context*). You will remember these as the three intersecting circles from the diagram that is on *Page 9* of our 2017 annual report (and on the previous page). It is the Lewis Center's assertion that our *Next Faithful Step* will be found at the intersection of these three circles. Every facet of this Discovery Process is described, examples are given and worksheets are provided in a DVD/CD set that came from the Lewis Center for our use. I think in the near future, we will schedule another general viewing of the DVD in the Gathering during Coffee hour for those who wish to see it again (or for the first time).

You will be happy to know that we are forming teams that will lead us through the tools and tasks of the Discovery Process. Jayne Watson and Bill Brave are coordinating the overall Discovery Process. Meanwhile, Betsy Sole, Cindy Wisnewski, and Jackie Binder are taking on one of 'The Circles' of the process, "Congregational Identity". We look forward to the information that will be gathered by their team.

By implementing this process and learning these things about ourselves and our congregation, we will be better able to align our needs and direction with the talent and skills of available rector candidates so that we can call a partner who can help us live into Our 'Next Faithful Step'.

To learn more about the Episcopal Church Transition Ministry, I encourage you to visit the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan website, at www.edomi.org/transition-ministry/. Here you can find and download the Diocesan transition manual, '*Reaching Out for What Lies Ahead*'. (You will also learn that we are not alone on this Transition journey.)

And if you are curious about the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, and the '*Discovery Process*', you can find more information at www.churchleadership.com/product/discovering-gods-future-church/.

Remember, this is a great time to be an Episcopalian!

Faithfully, Mark Eissler, Senior Warden

ST. JOHN'S Prayer LIST

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

SJP and the Discovery Process

Lexy	Pastor Dana Runestad
Taylor	Cheryl Crouse
John Culotta	Jeff Holland
Janis Kljun	John Urso

Family of Kathy Gassel

Family of John Hone, *family friend of the Sala-Gietzen family*
 Family of Joy Tomasin
 Family of Pat Nickels, *Mother of Becky Nickels*

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
 Sierra Cavallaro - U.S. Marines
 Dylan Racine - U.S. Army
 Taylor Blair - U.S. Army
 Nate Jesgarz - U.S. Navy



SERVING SUNDAY - APRIL 22

Preacher Pastor Dana Runestad
Altar Guild Beth Wideman,
 Nancy Mitchell, Maribeth Sala-Gietzen

Lay Ministers

8:00 Ralph Reeves
 10:00 Krista Dessin, Tracy McCord, James Boileau

Acolytes

8:00 Maya Crouse, Ryan Crouse
 10:00 Casey McCord, Maria McCord, TJ Rapson

Ushers

8:00 Dee Fleming
 10:00 Patricia Ponte, Virginia Warden, Sue Skaggs

SERVING NEXT WEEK - APRIL 29

Preacher Pastor Dana Runestad
Altar Guild Beth Wideman, Tracy McCord,
 Penny Striegel

Lay Ministers

8:00 Ralph Reeves
 10:00 Dick Bass, Patricia Ponte, Sr. Magdalena,
 Richard Dessin

Acolytes

8:00 Maya Crouse, Ryan Crouse
 10:00 Meganne Skoug, Karen Sole, Kenji Sole

Ushers

8:00 Dee Fleming
 10:00 Dave Smith, Jane Libbing, Virginia Warden

Serving
 one
 another

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, April 22

Sunday Holy Eucharist8:00 & 10:00am
 Nursery (infant-3yrs)9:45-11:45am
 Sunday School.....9:45am
 Discovery Process Cultural Scavenger Hunt.....11:15am
 Joyful Noise Youth Choir.....11:15am
 SJP Choir Practice.....11:15am
 Coffee Hour - Gathering.....11:15am
 Confirmation Class.....11:15am

MONDAY, April 23

American Red Cross Blood Drive.....10:30am
 Narcotics Anonymous.....7:00pm

TUESDAY, April 24

Bible Study.....9:30am
 Food Pantry.....2:00-4:00pm
 Centering Prayer.....5:30pm
 Vestry Meeting.....7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, April 25

Centering Prayer.....8:45am
 Women's Bible Study.....9:30am

THURSDAY, April 26

OA Meeting.....8:30am
 Men's Devotional Group.....10:00am
 Interim Clergy Group.....1:00pm
 Food Pantry.....2:00-4:00pm
 EDOMI Total Ministry Meeting.....6:30pm

SATURDAY, April 28

Men's Study & Fellowship.....7:30am
 Al Anon Meeting8:00am

SUNDAY, April 29

Sunday Holy Eucharist8:00 & 10:00am
 Nursery (infant-3yrs)9:45-11:45am
 Sunday School.....9:45am
 Joyful Noise Youth Choir.....11:15am
 SJP Choir Practice.....11:15am
 Coffee Hour - Gathering.....11:15am
 Confirmation Class.....11:15am



DATES TO REMEMBER

American Red Cross Blood Drive.....Monday, April 23
 Diocesan Ministry Fair.....Saturday, May 5
 Confirmation (St. Paul, Brighton).....Tuesday, May 15

MINISTRY Fair 2018

WATERS OF RECONCILIATION: TURNING AGAIN TO CHRIST

Sat., May 5, 9-4pm
St. Paul's, Lansing



Keynote Speaker: Rev. Melanie Mullen, Director of Reconciliation, Justice and Creation Care for the Episcopal Church.

“The Rev. Mullen brings a unique blend of experiences and gifts to this position,” Spellers said. “She’s a trained community organizer with a heart for building teams and leading communities to make a difference. She has demonstrated

a passion for environmental justice and economic justice. She knows parishes, she knows Capitol Hill and she knows the trenches, and she’s ready to work with our already strong team to take the Episcopal Church’s engagement around reconciliation, justice and creation care even deeper.”

There will be 18 exciting workshops designed to form and to inform us as disciples; disciples who, through the Waters of Reconciliation, are Turning Again To Christ.

Registration is \$15 with a box lunch available at an additional cost of \$10.00. A vegetarian option is also available.

Reception & Benefit For The Church at Crossroads

Tuesday, May 22
6 - 9pm

House of Pure Vin Wine Shop
1433 Woodward Ave.
Detroit, MI



Sample wine & food pairings
curated by sommeliers & expert staff

Tickets: \$100, available at www.edomi.org/crossroads

Space is limited, early registration is encouraged.
Can't attend? Donations are also gratefully accepted.

***Note: The Church at Crossroads is led by SJP's own Rev. Teresa (Sasinowski) Wakeen.**

Visit <https://www.edomi.org/crossroads/> to learn what it's about.

WHAT IS CONGREGATIONAL CULTURE?

FROM LOVETT H. WEEMS, JR.'S BOOK, "TAKE THE NEXT STEP"

*Culture is the shape a place takes when it's
inside the head of its peoples – all the
habits, attitudes, and values they take for granted.*

- Fintan O'Toole

Culture is in essence “who we are and how we do things around here.” It captures all the spoken and unspoken assumptions that make up a particular community of faith. A congregation’s culture will share countless similarities with that of other churches, but the way those elements are expressed, and especially how they are combined, makes each culture unique.