



**St. John's  
Episcopal  
Church**

# The Red Door

WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME

*Monthly newsletter of the people and ministries of  
St. John's Episcopal Church*



**May 2026 - Volume 2, Issue 4**



## Fr. Mitch's May Monthly Message

As I sit here pondering the events of the last few weeks, my heart remains very heavy, yet my spirit rejoices and I actually get a big smile on my face. My feelings were reinforced in a big way by my parishioners. St. John's is the most incredible community I have ever had the privilege to be a part of. It's beyond community - it's family. And family is a close-knit ball of love that just keeps giving and giving and giving. Going through probably the roughest few weeks of my life wasn't easy - and that's an understatement. But the love, prayers, thoughts, and actions of all of you are what has gotten me through this far. I don't know how to express it except to say thank you, thank you, thank you, from the bottom of my heart. I don't think I can express enough the love that I have for each and every one of you, and the special place that I hold for all of you in my heart. That love shines brightly to every person that walks through this door, and it's this family - you - that will be solely responsible for causing us to grow and bring other members into our family. My prayers of thanks for being called here and being a part of this place go up to God multiple times daily.

Our Holy Week and Easter services were incredible experiences, and offered remembrance and praise to Jesus Christ in a big way. Our collective efforts in offering glory and worship were evident in making this solemn week pleasing to God. Thank you for everyone for the hard work in making everything happen!

While the busy period of Holy Week has passed, we must stay focused on a few big events that are coming up quickly here. Our Craft Bazaar on May 9 is gaining a lot of attention. It's been broadcast widely through word of mouth, local news, and especially our Facebook page. It's interesting to note that our Facebook following has grown to 453 folks who view our posts and watch the live feed of our services. I would like to commend Jacquie Ritter, who puts much time and effort into posting relevant information on our page. This gets much attention and the results are starting to bear fruit. Plans are to enhance the online videos with more webcams, a studio-quality microphone, and possibly feeding all videos to YouTube so they will remain longer than the 30 days that Facebook allows. If you would like to be a part of any of this, please see Deacon Jenny or myself.

Speaking of the bazaar, it takes many hands to be successful with large events. Our collective efforts not only help us to be successful in bringing much-needed revenue in, but more importantly, it demonstrates to many people coming in just what St. John's is all about. It's not just about the work, but it's also fellowship: A family working together with a common goal in mind. Please consider coming to help on May 9, for the entire event or even part of it. If you're not able to work, please at least be a presence with us. In case you haven't noticed, we have fun and enjoy being together, and I'm sure this event will be no exception.

*continued on next page*

*Worship With Us - All are Invited*

### Sunday Services



- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>May 3</b>  | <b>9:30 am Holy Eucharist</b><br><i>Celebrant &amp; Preacher:</i><br><i>Fr. Mitch Yudasz</i>                        |
| <b>May 10</b> | <b>9:30 am Holy Eucharist</b><br><i>Celebrant &amp; Preacher:</i><br><i>Fr. Mitch Yudasz</i>                        |
| <b>May 17</b> | <b>9:30 am Holy Eucharist</b><br><i>Celebrant &amp; Preacher:</i><br><i>Fr. Mitch Yudasz</i>                        |
| <b>May 24</b> | <b>9:30 am Holy Eucharist /<br/>Pentecost Sunday</b><br><i>Celebrant &amp; Preacher:</i><br><i>Fr. Mitch Yudasz</i> |
| <b>May 31</b> | <b>9:30 am Morning Prayer</b><br><i>Officiant: Jim Godbout</i><br><i>Reader: Nick Hamblin</i>                       |

## Fr. Mitch's Message *continued from page one*

There are a few more events that are approaching. The Wayne Rd. Cruise will be held in early June. This is a fun event and gives us a chance to be outside and again to show people just what St. John's is made of. If you're real lucky, you may get to see yours truly help push another disabled car down Wayne Rd. into a parking lot! In addition to the cruise, we will be manning a table at the Canton Pride Festival at the end of June. It's a few hours to give many in the community the opportunity to know that they are radically welcomed to be a part of our wonderful community. Information and sign-up sheets will be on the sign-up table in the narthex by the front doors, and in the small hallway coming from the back entrance of the church.

The carillon project kicked into action as a result of the loss of Chuck was a welcomed surprise to me. A most appropriate way to remember not only him, but all of those we wish to offer remembrance that have gone before us. More about that in a future article here in the Red Door.

Again... thank you from one very grateful and humbled priest.

Fr. Mitch+



Photo by Violet Streeter

## FlockNote

Recently, we have had several instances where quick notification to everyone in the parish was necessary. Whether it was to announce a death, or a problem that may be responsible for modifying or cancelling a service, our current communication of just an email list in the parish email has proven to be ineffective at best. Outdated and missing contact information has left some people in the dark, and we are going to work at changing that here in the near future.

A platform called **FlockNote** is offered to churches to solve this issue. This platform will maintain a parish database with all necessary information for each person and family in the parish. For the most part, there is not a cost to be a part of this. Additional modules that include finance, donations, prayer requests, and more are available at additional costs. We've decided to give this system a try just using the free features that are provided.

With this system, we will be able to instantly and simultaneously send out emails and texts from the contact information in the database. Weekly events and announcements with a copy of the bulletin, emergency notifications, notifications to various groups (e.g., altar ministers, altar guild, Daughters of the King members, etc.) can be sent and are just a part of what this will be used for.

We will be coming up with a form for everyone to fill out that will get us the information that will be put into the database. You can also access it and fill/update your own information as is necessary.

We will make an announcement when the form is available on the sign-in tables. PLEASE be sure to fill out that form so we can get accurate contacts in place to keep everyone informed. Thanks in advance for your help!

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH invites you to our 2026

**Spring**  
*Bazaar*

Featuring

🌸 Arts 🌸 Crafts 🌸 Flowers

🌸 Baked Goods 🌸

Lunch Available

**Saturday, May 9, 2026**

**Noon - 5 pm**

get  
flowers  
for Mom

**Mother's Day 2026**  
Sunday, May 10

yummy  
baked  
goods



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

555 S. Wayne Rd., Westland, MI 48186

For more info call (248) 982-8588

Or email jacquie3ritter@gmail.com

# Who are the DAUGHTERS OF THE KING?

The Daughters of the King are not only nice ladies who provide nice coffee hours, provide meals for those who are ill or for families that have lost a love one, they are far more than that. Our Daughters have monthly meetings on what can be done in the community. We have Service projects such as making lap blankets for those who are ill. We also raise money for our church, but most importantly, we serve our Priest, our Deacon and the World.

## Our Anglican Tradition

Recognizes Episcopal (bishop's) oversight.

Believes that Holy Scripture contains all things necessary for salvation.

Acknowledges the gift of the Holy Spirit in Baptism, the real presence of our Lord in the Holy Eucharist, and worship according to The Book of Common Prayer (or the standard liturgies of Lutheran, Roman Catholic, or other Anglican churches that sponsor chapters.)

## Prayer, Service, and Evangelism

Reaffirming the promises made at Baptism and Confirmation, a Daughter pledges herself to a life-long program of prayer, service and evangelism. She receives support in this commitment from a worldwide community of like-minded women.

In solidarity with one another, all Daughters everywhere make the same promises upon their admission to The Order:

To obey the two Rules of The Order: the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service.

To offer at all times loyal aid to our clergy and parish to spread Christ's kingdom.

To wear faithfully the cross of The Order.

To work for the purposes of The Order as God may give us the opportunity.

## The Mission of The Order

The Mission of The Order is the extension of Christ's Kingdom through Prayer, Service and Evangelism.

## The Motto of The Order

For His Sake, I am but one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. What I can do, I ought to do. What I ought to do, by the grace of God, I will do. Lord, what will you have me do?

## Vision Statement of The Order

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our vision as Daughters of the King is to know Jesus Christ, to make Him known to others, and to become reflections of God's love throughout the world.

## Order vs. Organization

A Christian order is a community of men or women living under a religious rule. Because Daughters of the King accept a Rule of Life, we define ourselves as an order, not an organization. Our community is found primarily in our local chapters, but it extends around the world.

We don't just enroll as members and attend meetings. After a three-month period of study and discernment, each new member takes vows to uphold the two Rules of The Order, the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service. *continued on next page*



## May Birthdays:

2	Hannah Russell	18	Kyle Fowler
7	Ryan Erickson	21	McKenna Erickson
10	Priscilla Hardison	31	Amelia Hamblin
11	Sande Godbout		



## Happy Anniversary To:

May 20 Don & Violet Streeter

*Our apologies if your name should have appeared here! Please help us update our list. Send your special day to: [minutemgr@gmail.com](mailto:minutemgr@gmail.com)*

# DAUGHTERS OF THE KING *continued*

## Women of All Ages

Membership in The Order is open to women at every stage of life. The diversity of ages strengthens and enriches our adult, or senior, chapters. Younger women benefit from the discipleship of experienced spiritual mentors, and older women are invigorated by the fresh faith and energy of youth. Many senior chapters help spread the Kingdom to the next generation by sponsoring and supporting a Junior Daughters chapter at their churches.



## Junior Daughters of the King

Junior Daughters are young women and girls from 7 to 21 years of age, who make a promise to pray daily and serve our Lord Jesus Christ. Membership is extended to all baptized girls, regardless of denomination. Junior Daughters meet in chapters of three or more girls, under the guidance of a senior Daughter who serves as Directress. Upon admission, Junior Daughters receive a silver Greek fleury cross with the initials FHS, For His Sake, as a symbol of their promise of daily prayer and service.

*Daughters of the King information compiled by Jacquie Ritter.*

## May Altar Guild Schedule

May 3	Wendy, Violet
May 10	Sande, Priscilla
May 17	Sande, Julie
May 24	Wendy, Violet (Pentecost Sunday)
May 31	Sande, Priscilla



## FOOD PANTRY OPEN

Thursday, May 14,  
11:00 am - 12:30 pm  
On the last Sunday of the month  
collection plate donations go to our  
Food Pantry Ministry.



## MAY EVENTS CALENDAR

Fri. May 8	Spring Bazaar Set Up 11am - 4 pm
Sat. May 9	Spring Bazaar 12 pm - 5 pm
Sun. May 10	Outreach Committee, <i>after service</i>
Sun. May 17	Vestry Meeting, <i>after service</i>

Join us for **Coffee Hour** after our 9:30 services.  
Enjoy coffee, tea, light refreshments and fellowship.

## St. John's Episcopal Church

555 S. Wayne Rd., Westland, MI 48186

Office: (734) 721-5023

Parish office hours: (to be determined)

[www.stjohnswestland.com](http://www.stjohnswestland.com)

[stjohnschurchwestland@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnschurchwestland@gmail.com)

We're on Facebook!

St. John's Church Westland

Live-streamed every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsepiscopalwestland>

## ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH CLERGY & STAFF

Rev. Mitch Yudasz, Priest-in-Charge

[frmitchy@gmail.com](mailto:frmitchy@gmail.com)

Rev. Jenny Ritter, Deacon

[jjritter@comcast.net](mailto:jjritter@comcast.net)

Parish Secretary (to be determined)

[stjohnschurchwestland@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnschurchwestland@gmail.com)

Dan Dillingham, Music Director/Organist

[mclungave@comcast.net](mailto:mclungave@comcast.net)

## 2026 OFFICERS

Sande Godbout, Senior Warden

Don Streeter & Nick Hamblin, Junior Co-Wardens

Mary Vellardita, Clerk

Erin Downey-Tarnowski, Treasurer

## 2026 VESTRY MEMBERS

Amelia Hamblin, Nick Hamblin, Julie Jones, Susan Mallard