



**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



June 2026 - Volume 2, Issue 5



Fr. Mitch's Joyful June Message

What a busy month it has been. We've gone through the Easter season already, and I'm writing this the day before Pentecost. As usual, time is moving quick. Now if the weather would only reflect the time of the year we're in, we'd be in good shape. I know this is Michigan, and the weather is subject to change without notice, and I further know that we have had some miserable Memorial Day weekends, but hopefully things will stabilize out soon.

The Spring Bazaar was a whopping success! We had lots of vendors, lots of baked goods, food, and a lot of foot traffic. The best part was hearing the feedback from people on what they thought of St. John's. Everyone talks about this cool "spirit" in this place. I told them that although it's truly the Holy Spirit, the people that make up the St. John's family are directly responsible for what this place is and what this place means. I further told them that we are all horrible actors (especially yours truly,) and that what you see is what you get at any time around here.

We have a couple more opportunities coming up to show off what St. John's really is. On Saturday, June 6, the Wayne Road Cruise goes right by in front of our church! This is really a fun event – lots of classic cars and lots of people meandering about. We will be set up out front (probably setting up between 10 and 11, and will be selling pop, hotdogs, and chips. We will be giving out free water and popsicles to anyone as well. Chuck's sisters, Penny and Michele, will be here. They want to offer cookies, brownies, banana bars, and pumpkin bars, for freewill donations to the carillon upgrade. We are almost halfway there to making this a reality. While we have donations that are in memorial to several different people, I'm really humbled and grateful for the number of donations in memory of Chuck.

Toward the end of the month, we have another event. On Thursday, June 25, from 4pm-8pm, we have the Canton Pride Fest. Through the efforts of Jacquie Ritter, we've been given a free table to go and show that community the love, welcome, and inclusiveness St. John's is all about. Keep in mind that this is a community that in many instances have been hurt by their church. It's so vital for them to know that's not the case here, and that their presence and their gifts will be welcomed with open arms. If you are able to come spend some (or the entire) time out there, it's another chance to spread the love of this place! See Jacquie or Jenny if you'd like any further details.

In case you haven't heard yet, Mary has taken the position in the office, replacing Janet Swanson who left us as the parish secretary in April. The office hours are being expanded, as are the duties as assigned. The new title of Parish Administrator reflects these changes. Office hours will be expanded to three days a week, including Saturdays. Welcome aboard, Mary! I'm sure I'm not the only one that's excited to have you in this position!

Hopefully I can be sincere in assuming that the weather is going to be great by the time you read this. On that note, enjoy it!!

-Fr. Mitch+

*Worship With Us -
All are Invited!*



Sunday Services

- June 7 9:30 am Holy Eucharist**
Celebrant & Preacher:
Fr. Mitch Yudasz
- June 14 9:30 am Holy Eucharist**
Celebrant & Preacher:
Fr. Mitch Yudasz
- June 21 9:30 am Holy Eucharist**
Celebrant & Preacher:
Fr. Mitch Yudasz
- June 28 9:30 am Morning Prayer**
Officiant: Nick Hamblin
Reader: Julie Jones



We did a FABULOUS job organizing and coordinating the Spring Bazaar! It was very successful with streams of people coming and going.

Many of our long-time parishioners stated, "This is incredible! I haven't seen this many people in this church in decades." Thank YOU for all the hard work, your service and kindness and your prayers, they worked!!

For Father Mitch and Deacon Jenny for making their rounds and introducing themselves to the vendors, it meant a lot to them. A gigantic thank you to Rod, Nick and Deacon Jenny for relocating some of our outdoor vendors to the inside, as a storm passed through. For everyone that came to set up/break down tables, those that served tirelessly both in the kitchen and at our 18ft bake sale table! What a wonderful outreach to the community! Many smiling faces and much laughter echoed through our hallways, Parish Hall and outdoors.

Our next event will be the Wayne Road Cruise on June

6, 2026, where we will be reserving spots for cruisers. Please reach out to anyone with a classic car that would like to park on our lawn and have them RSVP with Jacquie at 248-982-8588. Those cruisers that decide to park will receive FREE lunch, as well as FREE parking! We will be setting up at 10AM, so come on out, bring your tent/canopy and a couple of lawn chairs and enjoy the day with us!!!

We will have hot dogs/buns with condiments, chips, pop and Walking tacos!! The tacos were such a hit at the Bazaar, we decided to offer them at the Cruise as well!

Our next Outreach Meeting on Sunday, June 7 and we will be tossing around ideas of how to keep us engaged with the community over the summer. Mary V. suggested an Ice Cream Social and a Junk in the Trunk sale. Great ideas Mary!!

We also have our annual Rummage Sale coming up and we are resurrecting the Fall Festival, which will include craft vendors, food, fun, Beer/Wine tent, entertainment and more FUN! Details to come as we plan. If you'd like to help out with planning or helping out at the event, please contact Jacquie at 248-982-8588.

Finally, I, Jacquie would like to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who made our Spring Bazaar a success. I look forward to continuing to help grow our church and get out into the community! God's Blessings to YOU all!

Prayer Bell – The Angelus – Daily at 12 noon and 6:00 pm

Our bells ring several times daily, and this is not just for the purpose of ringing the bells. There are several deep-seated traditions for various times of prayer during the day. These customs began hundreds of years ago in the monasteries and convents, and have carried on and expanded as time has gone on. You may be interested in adopting these prayer-times into your prayer routine. Even if you're not near the church when the bells ring, you can pray these with others throughout the world at the same time who have made these a part of their discipline. While these times of prayer originated in the Roman Catholic Church, many faith traditions, including the Episcopal Church, have adopted them. *See page four for the Angelus prayer.*



Left: Daughters of the King ran our Bake Sale. Above: Event Chairperson Jacquie Ritter showcasing our "Walking Tacos" as vendors set up. Below: Fr. Mitch enjoyed meeting and talking to our many Spring Bazaar vendors.



A FULL PARKING LOT!!



Carillon Update is Moving Forward Quickly

Recently, there have been several folks in the parish who have experienced major loss in their lives. Discussion among everyone over the course of a week came to a conclusion that a tangible, unique, and long-lasting way to remember and honor those who have gone before us came up. It was decided that the attempt to get the upgraded digital carillon/bell system would be most appropriate.

As we all know, our current carillon is in the area of 25-30 years old, and is completely obsolete. That being said, it's working for the time being. That could change in an instant. We've been told by Chime Masters that there are no parts for any component of this system, and if it goes, it's gone. We've learned by using the system a lot more than we did in the past, that we've gotten nothing but positive feedback from not only us in the parish, but surprisingly the community surrounding the church. People look forward to hearing our bells and the hymns that are played, and have enjoyed the extra times that the carillon is being used. We've made it a point to play it when Fr. Mitch or Deacon Jenny are working at the church. As an outreach tool, it's gotten us notice. People anticipate hearing it, and it has even drawn a few people from the neighborhood in for church services - and they have returned several times already. This is an important outreach tool for us!

The new system is totally digital, can be programmed and activated online and if any maintenance or upgrades are needed, the vendor can simply do the work that needs to be done online without the necessity of service calls. A keyboard is included that will allow us to "live" play music out of the tower and also digitally store custom music in the system for later playback. Dan, Father Mitch, Sande, and anybody else with keyboard skills will be able to easily play any custom songs in the system. Perhaps a new ministry is in the works as the "carillonneur" for the week!

Memorials to loved ones will include a hymn request that will be played on the anniversary date of death after the daily DeProfundis (remembrance of the departed) bell tolls at 8pm. That song request will play annually on that date.

We've gotten quite a few donations from various folks both in and outside of the parish to donate to the new system. Our goal is around \$15,000, and we're almost half way now! Any amount beyond that will be held in a special account that will be used for any maintenance, including the online subscription for the sys-

tem. A blue-colored form to contribute, complete with song requests, is available on the sign-in table in the hallway in the back and the in the narthex. Multiple people can be added in memorial on a single donation. Donate any amount you feel you can offer. If you need any information, please speak with Fr. Mitch, Mary Vellardita, or Sande Godbout.

Prayer Bell – The De Profundis – Played Daily at 8:00 pm

The De Profundis is a special prayer bell rings daily at St. Johns at 8:00 pm. This time of prayer traditional goes back hundreds of years to the monasteries and convents. The purpose of this bell is to remind the faithful to pray for the dead at the end of each day. The bell is a slow, solemn toll, that is rang for one minute. Traditionally the bell tolls 9 times. Because of limitations with our current carillon system, it rings 7 times in a minute. Someday with the carillon upgrade that will be corrected.

De Profundis translates to "out of the depths". The prayer that is said at that time is a take-off on Psalm 130, out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. While an Our Father may be said at the time, tradition (and appropriateness) of the words of Psalm 130 are suggested. Some places do 8pm, some do 9pm. Suffice it to say, that if we're able to get into the discipline of reciting this at 8pm, we will be in very good company!

De Profundis

*From the depths, I have cried out to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplication.*

*If you, Lord, were to mark iniquities, who, O Lord, shall stand?
For with you is forgiveness; and because of your law,
I stood by you, Lord.*

*My soul has stood by his word.
My soul has hoped in the Lord.*

*From the morning watch, even until night,
let Israel hope in the Lord.
For with the Lord there is mercy,
and with him is plenteous redemption.*

And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

June Birthdays:



2	Jon Erickson	12	John Harmon
3	Yvonne Williams	16	Nicholas Hamblin
4	Grant Brown	17	Michael Montgomery
9	Joshua McGowan	26	Heather Kellog



Happy Anniversary To:

June 18 Cheryl & Michael Montgomery

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

The Angelus Prayer *continued from page two*

The Angelus originated many years ago, and in many places is prayed 3 times daily: 6 am, noon, and 6 pm. We don't ring the 6 am time just out of consideration for the neighborhood, but it very well could be prayed at that time. The pattern for the bells is 3-3-3-1, meaning 3 tolls 3 times, and then a 1 minute swinging bell. We follow the bell with 3 hymns on the carillon. The Angelus commemorates the incarnation – when the Word became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:14). The name Angelus is Latin, meaning angel, from the opening line of the prayer. The Angelus invites us to pause in the midst of our daily routines to recall Christ coming to earth as one of us. The prayer is as follows:

*The angel of the Lord announced to Mary,
and she conceived of the Holy Spirit*

*Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee,
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death, Amen.*

*“I am the handmaid of the Lord,
be it done to me according to his Word.*

*Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee,
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,

now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

And the Word was made Flesh, and dwelt among us.

*Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee,
blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of
thy womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death, Amen.*

June Altar Guild Schedule

June 7	Sande, Julie
June 14	Wendy, Violet
June 21	Sande, Priscilla
June 28	Sande, Julie



FOOD PANTRY OPEN

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



JUNE EVENTS CALENDAR

No June Daughters of the King Meeting
Sat. June 6 Wayne Road Cruise 12 pm - 5 pm
Sun. June 7 Outreach Committee, *after service*
No June Vestry Meeting

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

St. John's Episcopal Church

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Office: (734) 721-5023

Parish office hours: Mon., Thur., Sat. 11 a.m.- 4 p.m

www.stjohnswestland.com

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

Rev. Jenny Ritter, Deacon

jjritter@comcast.net

Mary Vellardita, Parish Administrator

stjohnschurchwestland@gmail.com

Dan Dillingham, Music Director/Organist

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