



**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*

September 2026 - Volume 2, Issue 8



Fr. Mitch Yudasz

Moving into the Gorgeous Autumn Months

Just like that, we're already in September! We went through what appeared to be a quick summer but what a nice one nonetheless. I hope that everyone enjoyed what they did during this time, I had plenty of opportunity to get some breaks in. It's always important to be able to get away from it all, even if we don't get away, it's nice to just take it easy for a little while.

As we go into fall, we have a few activities that will keep us busy. As I've mentioned and the Vestry addressed at their last meeting, this is 125th anniversary year of St. Johns. We did a little research into our history, yet we cannot determine what the exact date that our parish started was. We were incorporated on November 13, 1942. That was long after the parish was already together, but it seemed like a logical date to pick. The Sunday closest to that is November 15, so that will be the day.

We will plan on doing a special service that day, followed by a potluck and every parishioner will get a commemorative gift. I have been looking for sources for the clapper for the bell out in the sign, but so far I have had no luck. I will continue looking to that fact. In the meantime, please try to bring in pictures of past events involving the parish. We will be displaying those on the bulletin board in the parish hall.

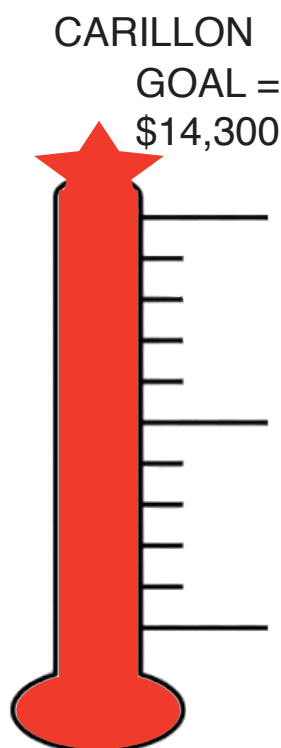
Jenny is planning to roll out the ministries that there have been sign up sheets for. To those of you who signed up to be a part of these different ministries in teams, *thank you*. To those who are interested and didn't put their name on the sign in sheet, please see Deacon Jenny. She will provide information on when she will meet with everyone. It will likely be during a coffee hour after a service in early September.

And now for the really big news...we have met our goal for the carillon bell system upgrade!! Thanks to everyone who has donated. A memorial plaque is in the works. If you donated but didn't provide a name(s) to honor someone there is still time to do so. The plan is to hopefully get that system installed soon and have it up and running for the 125th celebration.

We will also be preparing for our annual rummage sale. More information will follow on page three.

Happy early fall!
Fr. Mitch+

We Did it!!



Worship With Us - All are Invited! Sunday Services



- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Sept. 6 | 9:30 am Holy Eucharist
<i>Celebrant & Preacher:</i>
<i>Fr. Mitch Yudasz</i> |
| Sept. 13 | 9:30 am Holy Eucharist
<i>Celebrant & Preacher:</i>
<i>Fr. Mitch Yudasz</i>
<i>No music.</i> |
| Sept. 20 | 9:30 am Holy Eucharist
<i>Celebrant & Preacher:</i>
<i>Fr. Mitch Yudasz</i> |
| Sept. 27 | 9:30 am Morning Prayer
<i>Officiant: Jim Godbout</i>
<i>Reader: Sande Godbout</i> |

Our 192nd Annual Diocesan Convention

192nd Annual Diocesan Convention October 23-24, 2026
 Diamond Center at the Vibe Collection
 46100 Grand River Ave, Novi, MI 48374
 Call To Convention!

Dear Friends in Christ,

On behalf of our bishop, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Bonnie A. Perry, I am pleased to announce the official call to the 192nd annual convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan. Our annual convention will take place at the Diamond Center at the Vibe Collection in Novi, Michigan. At our 20256 Annual Meeting, Sande Godbout, Jacquie Ritter and Sharon Scott were voted in as our three delegates. Julie Jones will serve as alternate. For more convention information, visit: <https://www.edomi.org/convention/>



The Joys of Altar Guild Ministry

In the words of former Presiding Bishop Curry, "People go to church to refocus. Focus on God. What you do for God matters. The altar guild helps us to refocus. Focus on God the Creator then follow Jesus into the world." The altar guild is charged with this awesome responsibility and privilege of tending to the Sanctuary and enabling our congregation to engage in worship that is filled with order, beauty, peace, and tranquility.

At some churches, the altar guild also includes the flower guild and sacristy team. What joy it is for us to set the stage for the "sacred theatre." As with theatre production, so much happens behind the scenes. During this time of preparation, it is an opportunity for us to experience spiritual reflection as we work with our hands and work in quiet meditation. While we know that God is everywhere and all of creation is sacred, there are some places where God's presence is more intensely felt, as in the sanctuary — a sacred space.

The altar guild is not a social group. We don't have pot lucks; we seldom have meetings. We are not involved in the business of the church. We don't take votes or make momentous decisions. Most of what we do is invisible to the congregation and is meant to be that way. The work we do facilitates and enhances our worship and particularly the Eucharist.

Joining the altar guild means learning many fascinating aspects of Church tradition, including the esoteric names for all the various vessels, vestments, linens and paraments we use in worship. Most importantly, serving on the altar guild is a spiritual ministry. Caring for the altar is a way to act out our relationship with God. It is quiet, prayerful work.

We could use more Altar Guild volunteers at St. John's. If you are interested in learning more about the Altar Guild, please contact Sande Godbout, our Altar Guild Directress and Senior Warden.





Thursday, Oct. 1- Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026

This is a huge event so we can use extra hands! If you can help out, please email Angela or Cindy at one of the emails listed below.

Rummage Sale Hours:

Thursday, Oct. 1 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Friday, Oct. 2 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Saturday, Oct. 14* 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

(*Saturday only: 1/2 off or \$5 per bag!!)

PLEASE NOTE

Donation drop off times are: Saturday 9/26/26, and Sunday 9/27/26. You can also drop off items during church office hours: Mondays, and Thursdays from 11 am - 4 pm.

If you have questions, email:
angelahamblin@sbcglobal.net or
c_omaweng@yahoo.com

Donations may be placed at the back of the Parish Hall.



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

555 S. WAYNE RD, WESTLAND 48186
(between Cherry Hill & Palmer roads)

Proceeds to St. John's Outreach Projects

September Birthdays:

6	Donald Streeter	16	Alex & Max Clayton
12	Gracie Russell	20	Catherine Coleman
15	Lizzy Buehner	21	Julie Jones

Happy Anniversary To:

Sept. 26. Cindy & Kyle Fowler



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



ST. FRANCIS DAY
AT THE **Detroit ZOO**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3
10 A.M. - 1 P.M.

Celebrate the Feast of St. Francis with our animal friends at the Detroit Zoo.

Children and youth tickets are free, and adult tickets are half-price!

Scan for more information and to register




September Altar Guild Schedule

Sept. 6	Wendy, Violet
Sept. 13	Sande, Priscilla
Sept. 20	Sande, Julie
Sept. 27	Wendy, Violet



FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Thursday, September 10,
11:00 am - 12:30 pm
On the last Sunday of the month
collection plate donations go to our
Food Pantry Ministry.



SEPTEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR

Sept. 6	Daughters of the King Meeting
Sept. 20	Vestry Meeting
Join us for Coffee Hour after our 9:30 Eucharist services, the first three Sundays of the month: September 6, 13 and 20. Enjoy coffee, tea, light refreshments and fellowship. (no Coffee Hour after Morning Prayer)	

*Mark Your Calendars for Our
125th Anniversary Celebration on
November 15, 2026!*



The celebration will start with a special service at 9:30 am followed by a potluck, a bell ringing ceremony, a celebration concert with our new carillon system and a gift for everyone.

St. John's Episcopal Church

555 S. Wayne Rd., Westland, MI 48186

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 Yudas, 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