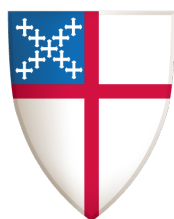


The EPISCOPAL DIOCESE
of **WESTERN MICHIGAN**

Lansing, Michigan | November 2-3, 2018

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BISHOP'S WELCOME MESSAGE

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I greet you in the Name of God and welcome you to the 144th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan. This year's convention theme is "Moving Deeper." We have made a pivotal turn in the life of our diocese as we engage the restructuring resolution unanimously passed at last year's convention. We are placing resources and personnel in place to better help every congregation be vital and thriving not just existing. We are well on the way to taking more intentional control of our ministries instead of waiting for things to break. We are now more proactive than reactive all pointing to greater health within the diocese.

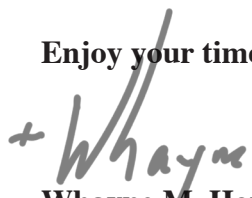
In this year's convention I will invite you to move deeper in three ways: 1) Refocusing on a personal rule of life utilizing materials introduced by our Presiding Bishop at General Convention, The Way of Love: Practices for a Jesus-Centered Life. 2) Reengaging our congregational life by utilizing a Parish Vitality Assessment Tool developed by our Diocesan Task for Vitality. 3) Reexamining our role in perpetuating systems of racism in all aspects of our life.

I am very happy to welcome the Rt. Rev. Robert Wright, Bishop of Atlanta as this year's keynote speaker. Bishop Wright is a much sought-after speaker recognized widely for his keen insight on church dynamics, his prophetic interpretation of scripture, and for his engaging energetic presentation style. He has been a great teacher to me personally having introduced me to Adaptive Leadership theory and the excellent work of Walter Bruggemann Reality, Grief and Hope which I commended to you in advance of this convention. I have greatly benefited from Bishop Wright's counsel and wisdom and I am happy to call him friend. Welcome to Western Michigan, Rob!

We will continue our tradition of a Friday night Dance Party and Saturday morning Festival Eucharist with confirmation. Special thanks to the good people of St. Paul's, Lansing for hosting this service and warm welcome to the St. Paul's, Flint Gospel choir who will provide uplifting music for this service.

I continue to be tremendously thankful to be your bishop and for all the goodness and grace I see and experience from you. The Spirit is leading us and we are bravely following. As we go forward, little glimpses of grace are sprouting up all around us, showing us the Kingdom of God has indeed come near. We have so much to be thankful for my friends.

Enjoy your time together. Peace,



Whayne M. Hougland, Jr.

IX Bishop

The Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan



CONVENTION AGENDA

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND

8-10:00 AM	Registration, <i>Lobby of Ballroom</i>
9:15 AM	New Delegate Orientation, <i>Regency I</i>
10:00 AM	Morning Prayer, <i>Ballroom</i>
10:15 AM	Opening and Introductions Business Session
11:15 AM	Bishop's Address
Noon	Noonday Prayer Lunch
1:00 PM	Keynote Address - The Rt. Rev. Robert C. Wright, Bishop of Atlanta
2:30 PM	Business Session Elections and Affirmation Appointments Budget Review
4:00 PM	Presentations
4:45 PM	Announcements
5:00 PM	Adjourn
7-9:00 PM	Celebration Party, <i>Ballroom</i>

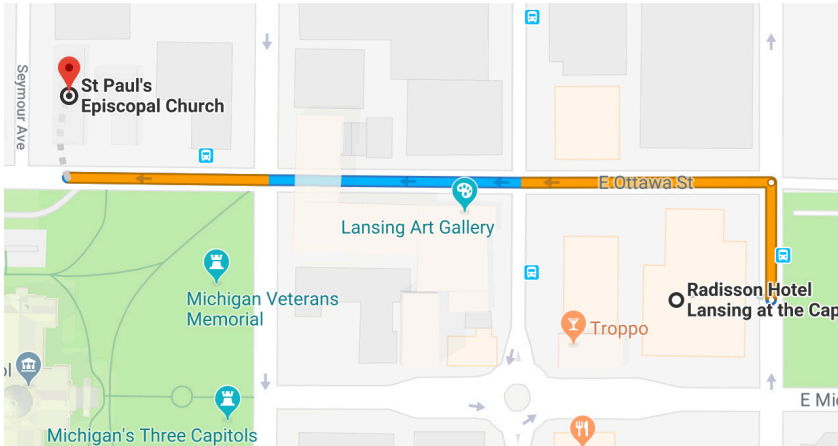
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD

9:00AM	Rehearsal for Confirmands, Participants in Eucharist Service, <i>St. Paul's Episcopal Church</i>
10:00 AM	Convention Eucharist with Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation, <i>St. Paul's Episcopal Church</i>
Noon	Lunch, <i>Ballroom</i>
1:00 PM	Business Session Resolutions, Courtesy Resolutions
2:30-3:00 PM	Bishop's Closing Prayer and Adjournment

*These times are subject to change.

DIRECTIONS TO THE CONVENTION EUCHARIST

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 218 W OTTAWA STREET LANSING, MI 48933



DIRECTIONS TO ST. PAUL'S

This is a 0.2 mile trip.

1. Head north on N Grand Avenue toward E Ottawa Street.
2. Turn left onto E Ottawa Street.
3. St. Paul's Episcopal Church will be on the right-hand side.

PARKING INFORMATION

Free weekend parking in the ramp just behind St. Paul's.

UPCOMING DIOCESAN EVENTS

2018

Racial Reconciliation Retreat (HS, Adults)

November 10-11 in Grand Rapids
Register: tinyurl.com/edwmtallturf18

Advent Youth Retreat (Middle School)

December 1-2 at Plainsong Farm

The Gathering Youth Event (HS, YAs)*

December 27-30 in Lansing
Register: tinyurl.com/edwmgathering18

2019

Vigil of Our Lord's Baptism Confirmation

January 12 at Grace, East Grand Rapids
Register: tinyurl.com/edwmconfirmation18

Bishop's Workshops

Southern Region - February 23

Central Region - March 2

Northern Region - March 30

Invite, Welcome, Connect Training*

May 4 at St. John's, Midland
Register: eastmich.org/iwc19

CHARGE Youth Event (MS)*

March 22-24 at the Great Wolf Lodge
Register: tinyurl.com/edwmcharge18

The Great Vigil of Easter Confirmation

April 20 at St. Paul's, St. Joseph
Register: tinyurl.com/edwmconfirmation18

DREAM Mission Project*

June 15-22 in the Dominican Republic
Register: michigan-dominican.org

Episcopal Youth Camp

Summer 2019 | www.episcopal-youthcamp.org

Progressive Youth Mission Trip (HS)

June 27-July 1, All Over the Place!

Big Provincial Gathering (Province V of TEC)

July 12 in Kalamazoo

The 145th Diocesan Convention & Confirmation Service

November 1-2 in Grand Rapids
Register for Confirmation:
tinyurl.com/edwmconfirmation18

*Collaboration with the Dioceses of Eastern MI, MI

CONVENTION & DIOCESAN LEADERSHIP

CONVENTION

Chancellor & Credentials Chair

Constitution/Canons Chair

Convention Secretary

Assistant Treasurer

Parliamentarian

Dispatch of Business

Nominations/Elections Chair

Resolutions Chair

Convention Committee Chair

Exhibitor Chair

Registration Co-Chairs

Assistant to Registration Chair

Bill Fleener, Jr.; St. David's, Lansing

Bill Fleener, Jr.; St. David's, Lansing

The Rev. Canon William Spaid

Dave Croal; St. Mark's, Coldwater

Bill Fleener, Jr.; St. David's, Lansing

Janet MacKenzie; Epiphany, South Haven

Fred Skidmore; St. Andrew's, Grand Rapids

The Rev. Jennifer Adams; Grace Church,
Holland

Joanie Smith; Grace Church, Holland

Anne Davidson; St. Mark's, Coldwater

The Rev. Deacon Pat Vinge; St. Martin of
Tours, Kalamazoo

The Rev. Mike Wood; St. Barnabas, Portage
& St. Francis, Shelbyville

Bill Hanson; St. Martin of Tours, Kalamazoo

DIOCESAN STAFF

Bishop

Canon Missioner for the Northern Region

Canon Missioner for the Central Region

Canon Missioner for the Southern Region

Canon for Evangelism & Networking

Finance & Benefit Administration

Children, Youth, & Young Adult Ministry

Executive Assistant to the Bishop

Finance Assistant

The Rt. Rev. Wayne M. Hougland, Jr.

The Rev. Canon Anne C. Hallmark

The Rev. Canon Valerie Ambrose

The Rev. Canon William Spaid

Canon Katie Forsyth

Tammy Mazure, CPA, CGMA

Genevieve Callard

Molly Ettwein

Catherine Rhodes

IN MEMORIAM

REMEMBERING THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED, OCTOBER 2017 - SEPTEMBER 2018

O God, the King of saints, we praise and magnify thy holy Name for all thy servants who have finished their course in thy faith and fear; for the blessed Virgin Mary; for the holy patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs; and for all thy righteous servants, known to us and unknown; and we beseech thee that, encouraged by their examples, aided by their prayers, and strengthened by their fellowship, we may also be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; through the merits of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ST. JAMES, ALBION

Diane M King
Gust Johnson

Carolyn Dorgelo
Richard Hake
Brett Harper

Stuart A Holley

ST. MARY'S, CADILLAC

Howard Thorpe

ST. THOMAS, BATTLE CREEK

Dorothy Addison
Tom Adrianson
Steven Franklin
Ellen Norine Jones
Sharon Kobs
Barbara Neller
Jeffrey Norman
Joyce Prechtel
Ella Stephenson
Niles Wiley

ST. PHILIPS, BEULAH

Priscilla Belden
Harvey Bennet
Robert Bishop
Art Davis
Carol Eberly
Robert Henning
Lynn Kercher
William Lauppe
Richard Marlet
Kenneth Matteson
Jaimie Jo McNerney
Kathryn Northway
Patricia Schlotterbeck
Jack Taylor

CHRIST CHURCH, CHARLEVOIX

Richard Donaldson
Joyce Hosmer
Skip Schumacher
Milburn Shafer

HOLY SPIRIT, BELMONT

Marcia Duvall

ST. JOHN'S, CHARLOTTE

Mary Ellen Bussa
Mike Stahl

ST. AUGUSTINE'S, BENTON HARBOR

Ruth Johnson Blair
Debb Bush

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY, BOYNE CITY

Kathryn Gilbert

ST. PAUL'S, DOWAGIAC

Patricia Joanis
William Keefe
Janet Pendergrass
The Rev. Robert A. Smith

IN MEMORIAM, CONT.

ST. PAUL'S, ELK RAPIDS

Rose Mertz

TRINITY, GRAND LEDGE

Donald Stolz

ST. PAUL'S, GREENVILLE

Muriel Marie Butler

Maudie Josephine Root

ST. ANDREW'S, GRAND RAPIDS

Frankye Bellah

Dorothy Eleanor Carnes

James Thomas Carbonneau

Michael Edward Giszewski

Linda K Rieck Isakeit

Gerald E Lindquist

Susanne Osmer

Ross Warren Mast

Charles "Chuck" King
Miller

Elie Ndayizeye

Paul Nelson

Russell P Posthumus

Harrison "Skip" Smith

Roy Stram

MEDIATOR, HARBERT

Marge Baggie

Joan Ozust

Ronnie Riedhauser

Fred Willaims

EMMANUEL, HASTINGS

Stephen Alexander Elles

Mary B. Sherwood

GRACE, HOLLAND

Bette Comport

Eskill Corneliussen

Vernon DePree

Mary Jenkins

Kenneth Patterson

William Rhodes

Betty Sova

Rosemary Turpin

ST. LUKE'S, KALAMAZOO

Daniel Bateman

Mary L. Brand

Margaret Elizabeth Eiszner

Kenneth Owen Green

Richard Arthur Hall

Grant A. Luther

Clifford Lee Samuels

John Marinus Van Sweden

Gage Michael Wilson

ST. MARTIN'S, KALAMAZOO

Patricia Bigelow

Alfonso Alvarez

Helene Birkhold

Nathan Cottrell

The Rev. Judith Nieman

Harry Sloan

Audrey Steffens

Frances Underhill

Thomas VanEck

HOLY CROSS, KENTWOOD

Josephine Rae Hauschild

ST. DAVID'S, LANSING

Anna Cannell

Pauline Espinaza Katz

Ruby Anne Magee

Kathleen Tuttle Paff

Eleanor Grace Robinson

Michael Stahl

Robert Joseph Thomas

Barbara Underhill

Paulette Winke

HOLY TRINITY, MANISTEE

Lois Culbert

Peggy Futterer

TRINITY, MARSHALL

Ruth Bamfield

Joseph Boughton

Rosemary Connelly

James Mason

ST. JOHN'S, MT. PLEASANT

Nina Nash-Robertson

Forrest Thompson Robinson

ST. GREGORY'S, MUSKEGON

IN MEMORIAM, CONT.

Wanda (Winki) M. Jepsen
Richard James McGarry
Margaret Ann Zimmerman

ST. PAUL'S, MUSKEGON

Thomas Rice Costas
Norma DeYoung
Charles E. Dobberstein
Donald Hulander
Beverley Kretchmar
John R. Ladd
Margaret Mell

TRINITY, NILES

Marylyn W. Barrett
Michael E. Bashara
Richard D. Jane
David L. Martin
Sandra K. Neumann
Stanley A. Williams

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S, NORTHPORT

Sylvia Linde-Guback

ST. MARK'S, PAW PAW

Virginia Chamberlin
Marla Rae Brinkmoeller

ST. JAMES, PENTWATER

Lloyd Anderson
Celene Idema

Gretha Moak
John Rosebrough

EMMANUEL, PETOSKEY

The Rev. William T. Heil, Jr.
Mary Juanita Burns McKee
VaLaura Milburne Nibbelink
Patricia Jean Rinker

ST. TIMOTHY'S, RICHLAND

Leona E. Gillespie
Louis C. Hall
Johanna Hirsch
Brian Lee Kelley
Judith M. Luykx
Catherine VanDeWeghe

ALL SAINTS, SAUGATUCK

Roger Garvelink
Cheryl Hildebrands
Betty Marple
Don Meyer
Mary Olendorf
William Vandenberg

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, SHELBYVILLE

Jack Kubizna
Blas Liceaga
Marjorie Shoemaker

EPIPHANY, SOUTH HAVEN

Robert Jon DeHaven

ST. PAUL'S, ST. JOSEPH

Benjamin Franklin
Donaldson, III
Richard Lee O'Connor

ST. JOHN'S, STURGIS

Rodney Lee Baker

TRINITY, THREE RIVERS

Patricia A. Frye
Veronica Marie Hornblower
Margaret Ann Lakey
Beatrice Porath

GRACE, TRAVERSE CITY

Sara "Sally" Lynn Benner
Suzanne "Sue" S. Bennett
Ronald McKay Buller
David O. Fredrickson
Judith S. Hoeffler
Arthur M Keillor
Elizabeth "Betty" J. Lewis
John Edwin Lewis
Richard F. Monaghan
William R. Montgomery
Marion Elaine Schubot
Edwin G. Thirlby
Constance "Connie" Vaughn

MORNING PRAYER

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd | LANSING, MICHIGAN

The Invitatory and Psalter

All stand

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.
Alleluia.

Officiant The mercy of the Lord is everlasting.

People Come let us adore him.

Jubilate Psalm 100

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *

serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *

he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; *

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; *

and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Psalm 40

1 I waited patiently upon the LORD; *

he stooped to me and heard my cry.

2 He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; *

he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.

3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; *

many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.

4 Happy are they who trust in the LORD! *

they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.

5 Great things are they that you have done, O LORD my God! How great your wonders and your plans for us! *

there is none who can be compared with you.

6 Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! *

but they are more than I can count.

7 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure *

(you have given me ears to hear you);

8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, *

and so I said, "Behold, I come.

9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: *
‘I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep in my heart.’”
10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; *
behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O LORD, you know.

At the end of the Psalms, say together

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

Reader A Reading from Revelation.

And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads; and on its horns were ten diadems, and on its heads were blasphemous names. And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And the dragon gave it his power and his throne and great authority. One of its heads seemed to have received a death-blow, but its mortal wound had been healed. In amazement the whole earth followed the beast. They worshiped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?"

The beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months. It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. It was given authority over every tribe and people and language and nation, and all the inhabitants of the earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb that was slaughtered.

Let anyone who has an ear listen:

If you are to be taken captive,
into captivity you go;
if you kill with the sword,
with the sword you must be killed.

Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints. *Revelation 13:1-10*

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People Thanks be to God.

The First Song of Isaiah *Ecce, Deus Isaiah 12:2-6*

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, * and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing * from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, * and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Reader A Reading from the Gospel of Luke.

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all

kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. *Luke 12:13-31*

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

The people stand as they are able

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

*Officiant and People pray **The Lord's Prayer** together.*

Then follows the Suffrages:

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
 R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth. V. Let your way be known upon earth;
 R. Your saving health among all nations.
 V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
 R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
 V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
 R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for Fridays

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. *Amen.*

Then, the Prayer for Mission is added:

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People:

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Officiant concludes with the grace

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen. (Ephesians 3:20, 21)*

NOONDAY PRAYER

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd | LANSING, MICHIGAN

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

People O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.
Alleluia.

Psalm 54

1 Save me, O God, by your Name; *
in your might, defend my cause.

2 Hear my prayer, O God; *
give ear to the words of my mouth.

3 For the arrogant have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, *
those who have no regard for God.

4 Behold, God is my helper; *
it is the Lord who sustains my life.

5 Render evil to those who spy on me; *
in your faithfulness, destroy them.

6 I will offer you a freewill sacrifice *
and praise your Name, O LORD, for it is good.

7 For you have rescued me from every trouble, *
and my eye has seen the ruin of my foes.

At the end of the Psalm, all say:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Officiant:

If anyone is in Christ he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

People Thanks be to God.

The Officiant then begins the Prayers

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Officiant and People

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us,
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Officiant Lord, hear our prayer;
People And let our cry come to you.
Officiant Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, send your Holy Spirit into our hearts, to direct and rule us according to your will, to comfort us in all our afflictions, to defend us from all error, and to lead us into all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Free intercessions may be offered including thanks for the meal we are to receive.

We will observe a moment of silence for those remembered In Memoriam.

Officiant

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

CONVENTION EUCHARIST

SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION | SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd

Organ Voluntary

Opening Hymn

Who are these like stars appearing

Hymnal 286

The people standing, the Bishop says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Bishop then continues

There is one Body and one Spirit;

People There is one hope in God's call to us;

Bishop One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People One God and Father of all.

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Bishop Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

People Amen.

The Lessons

A Reading (Lesson) from the Prophet Isaiah 25: 6-9.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples

a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,

of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain

the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death for ever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the LORD for whom we have waited;

let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 24

- 1 The earth is the LORD'S and all that is in it, *
the world and all who dwell therein.
- 2 For it is he who founded it upon the seas *
and made it firm upon the rivers of the deep.
- 3 "Who can ascend the hill of the LORD? *
and who can stand in his holy place?"
- 4 "Those who have clean hands and a pure heart, *
who have not pledged themselves to falsehood, nor sworn by what is a fraud.
- 5 They shall receive a blessing from the LORD *
and a just reward from the God of their salvation."
- 6 Such is the generation of those who seek him, *
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.
- 7 Lift up your heads, O gates, lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.
- 8 "Who is this King of glory?" *
"The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle."
- 9 Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.
- 10 "Who is he, this King of glory?" *
"The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory."

A Reading from the Revelation to John 21-16a

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

‘See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.’

And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

Lord we have come at our own invitation

Hymnal 348

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, ‘Where have you laid him?’ They said to him, ‘Lord, come and see.’ Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, ‘See how he loved him!’ But some of them said, ‘Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?’

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, ‘Take away the stone.’ Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, ‘Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?’ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, ‘Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.’ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The Bishop says

The Candidate(s) will now be presented.

Presenters I present these persons for Confirmation.

or I present these persons to be received into this Communion.

or I present these persons who desire to reaffirm their baptismal vows.

The Bishop asks the candidates

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidate I do.

Bishop Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidate I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

After all have been presented, the Bishop addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People We will.

The Bishop then says these or similar words

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Bishop Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Bishop Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Bishop Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Bishop Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidates

The Bishop then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. *Amen*

A period of silence follows.

Then the Bishop says

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you have made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

For Confirmation

The Bishop lays hands upon each one and says

Defend, O Lord, your servant N. with your heavenly grace, that he may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more, until he comes to your everlasting kingdom. *Amen.*

For Reception

N., we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. Amen.

For Reaffirmation

N., may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom. Amen.

The Bishop concludes with this prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Peace is then exchanged

Bishop The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Offertory Collection will be used for youth scholarships to summer camp.

*A very special **Thank You** to the Rev. Karen Lewis, Rector of St. Paul's, Lansing and the good people of St. Paul's for their kind hospitality. To the Rev. David Pike and the good people of St. David's, Lansing for their support of this liturgy. To the Rev. Dan Scheid, Mr. Rafael McDaniel and the wonderful Gospel Choir of St. Paul's, Flint. To the Rt. Rev. Wendell N. Gibbs, Jr, for permission to worship here.*

Offertory Music by the St. Paul's Episcopal Church Gospel Choir, Flint Michigan, Mr. Rafeal McDaniel, Director.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For in the multitude of your saints, you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses, that we might rejoice in their fellowship, and run with endurance the race set before us; and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that never fades away.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Hymnal S129

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen. .

The Breaking of the Bread

The Fraction

Hymnal S154

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

The Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All who hunger for God are invited to God's table, including Children. You may consume the bread and then drink from the chalice (please grasp the bottom of the chalice to guide it to your lips.) Also, you may dip the bread in the wine and then consume it, or you may leave the bread in your palm for the chalice bearer to dip in the wine and place in your fingers. Those who do not wish to receive communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. If you are unable to come forward and wish to receive communion in your seat, please let one of the ushers know.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

Communion Music by the St. Paul's Episcopal Church Gospel Choir, Flint Michigan, Mr. Rafeal McDaniel, Director.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

May God bless you with **discontent** with easy answers, half-truths, superficial relationships, so that you will live from deep within your heart.

May God bless you with **anger** at injustice, oppression, abuse, and exploitation of people, so that you will work for justice, equality, and peace.

May God bless you with **tears** to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you will reach out your hand to comfort them and to change their pain to joy.

May God bless you with the **foolishness** to think you can make a difference in this world, so that you will do the things which others tell you cannot be done.

Closing Hymn

Holy God, we praise thy name

Hymnal 366

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Lay Nominee

Anne Davidson

St. Mark's, Coldwater

Brief Biography:

Anne is a cradle Episcopalian, raised across the big lake in the Diocese of Fond du Lac. She studied at Lawrence University, University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh, Southern Utah University, Utah State University, and Kellogg Community College. She worked as a Physical Therapist Assistant for 10 years, in Battle Creek and Coldwater. Anne is well-known in the diocese as an iconographer - a painter/writer of icons, and her work can be seen in the Display area at Diocesan Conventions, as well as in churches and homes in the diocese and across the country. She worked for many years as part of the Diocesan Consulting Team, primarily assisting parishes in transition to organize and make good decisions re the rector search process. Anne studied Appreciative Inquiry with Rob Voyle+. Serving on the Standing Committee is a role Anne considers very important, and she is seeking a second term. She is married to Neal, lives in Coldwater, and they have two grown daughters and a grandson.



Most recent parish level ministries and offices:

Vestry member (current), Memorial Fund Comm.(chair), Worship/Liturgy Committee (chair), Verger/Eucharistic Minister/Lector, Prayer Shawl Comm.(co-chair).

Most recent diocesan or church-wide ministries and offices:

Currently a member of Standing Committee, seeking a second term;

Lay Deputy to 2018 General Convention;

Chair of the Certification of Minutes Committee at the 2018 General Convention;

Served on the House of Deputies' Staff at 2015 General Convention as Assistant Minutes Secretary;

Anti-racism training or engagement:

Certified: Healing Racism Workshop - Feb. 2018

Current service in the community:

Currently a member of Women Who Care of Branch County;

Participant in the 'Warming Fence' project at St. Mark's, for the benefit of the community;

Former board member of the Tibbits Opera Foundation, and former chair of the Tibbits Summer Theatre Committee;

Clergy Nominee

The Rev. Jodi Baron

St. Philips, Beulah

Brief Biography:

I have been an Episcopalian since 2008. I was ordained to the priesthood in 2014 and have served two parishes: two years as a curate at Grace Episcopal Church in Holland, MI before being called to serve as Co-Rector of St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Beulah, MI, where I have been for just over two years. I love to fish, backpack, read, play games with my kids, hunt for rocks on the beaches, travel to beautiful places, and work alongside my partner in life. I love my work as priest and believe serving on the councils of the church to be a part of my vows. I have shared my experiences of the ordination process with multiple candidates in the past few years and consider those conversations to be sacred and important to the furthering of the future of our church, which is part of the reason why I am running for Standing Committee. I was blessed to be born and raised in this part of creation and have lived here my whole life, except for a brief detour to Texas for seminary.



Most recent parish level ministries and offices:

Co-Rector, St. Philip's, Beulah

Most recent diocesan or church-wide ministries and offices:

None, currently. Most recent: Served two years on Diocesan Council, both years to fill unexpired terms of other clergy. My time on Diocesan Council deepened my knowledge of our diocese and my appreciation for the depth of work all of our committees, councils and boards.

Anti-racism training or engagement:

My undergrad degree work (minor: Spanish; major: Sociology with emphasis on Race & Gender Relations) gave me a foundation for understanding societal patterns that keep our nation sick with the sin of racism, discrimination, and sexism. I served on the Implicit Bias Education Action Team of Ottawa County area, which was dedicated to help train faith communities, local non profits, and members of the community to identify our own implicit biases and provide tools to empower small groups to work to heal our communities. My current work with Moms Demand Action is an important part of healing racism: people of color (especially Black Americans) are ten times more likely than white Americans to die by gun homicide. I have also engaged with my community at St. Philip's in the discussion of Bryan Stevenson's book, Just Mercy, which is about the systems of racism built into the bedrock of our nation. I will continue to address areas that need healing in my own life and that of my faith community.

Current service in the community:

Board of Directors, Lighthouse Immigrant Advocates, 2015-2016

Girls On The Run Coach, 2016, 2018

Faith Lead, Mom's Demand Action for Gun Sense in America (Traverse City Chapter) 2018

Spiritual Director for The Order of Naucratus-West Michigan, Board of Directors 2014-present

Clergy Nominee

The Rev. Brian Coleman

Church of St. Thomas, Battle Creek

Brief Biography:

Fr. Brian has served in ordained ministry for 20 years first in his sponsoring diocese in Los Angeles, then in Sheffield, England, and for the past ten years in Battle Creek. He is married to Dr. John Moore, a psychology professor at Olivet College. He is an iconographer studying with the Prosopon School of Iconology. He recently served as priest-in-residence for two weeks for St. James' Mission on Beaver Island.

Most recent parish level ministries and offices:

Rector, Church of St. Thomas, Battle Creek

Most recent diocesan or church-wide ministries and offices:

Standing Committee

Deputy to General Convention

Task Force for Restructuring the Diocese

Dean of the Eastern Deanery

Vice-President of Diocesan Council

Anti-racism training or engagement:

Healing Racism Workshop 2018

Anti-Racism Training 2013

Current service in the community:

Community Organizer

City Council Human Relations Board

Plainsong Farm Board Chairman



Clergy Nominee***The Rev. Dr. Jared Cramer******St. John's, Grand Haven******Brief Biography:***

The Rev. Dr. Jared C. Cramer grew up here in West Michigan and has served for the past eight years as Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Grand Haven, MI. At St. John's, he also leads the El Corazón Latino Ministry Initiative. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Biblical Studies, with a minor in Biblical Languages from Rochester College and a Master of Divinity from the Graduate School of Theology of Abilene Christian University in Abilene, TX. He received his Anglican training through the completion of a Master of Sacred Theology at the School of Theology of the University of the South in Sewanee, TN. In 2017, he was also awarded a Doctor of Ministry degree from the same institution with a focus upon Anglican liturgy, theology, and history and its intersection with the life of a congregation. He has also done training through the Lombard Mennonite Center in Healthy Congregations, Mediation Skills for Church Leaders, and Clergy Clinic on Emotional Family Practices.

***Most recent parish level ministries and offices:***

Rector, St. John's Episcopal Church, Grand Haven, MI

Most recent diocesan or church-wide ministries and offices:**DIOCESAN**

First Alternate Deputy, General Convention 2018

Convener of the Deans of the Dioceses (2010–2016)

Dean of the Lakeshore Deanery (2010–2016)

Chair of the Commission on Ministry (2013–2015), Member of COM in 2012

CHURCH-WIDE

Representative of Episcopal Church to the Faith & Order Commission of the National Council of Churches, (2010–2014)

Anti-racism training or engagement:

Fr. Cramer serves on the Leadership Team for the Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance in Northwest Ottawa County. He has been active in that organization, participating in trainings and workshops as well as planning initiatives since 2014. Additionally, he has actively participated in that organization's annual Summit on Race and Inclusion, most recently attending in 2016. In September of this past year, he facilitated a four-part series on Race Relations using resources from Trinity Wall Street's "Epistles and Prophets" series.

Current service in the community:

Leadership Team for the Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance in Northwest Ottawa County (2014–current) Advisory Council for Extended Grace in Grand Haven

Clergy Nominee

The Rev. BJ Heyboer

St. John's, Fremont & St. Mark's, Newaygo

Brief Biography:

Mother BJ grew up in west Michigan. She worked for more than twenty years in religious publishing, including as co-founder of Brazos Press and Senior Marketing Director of Brazos Press and Baker Academic, two divisions of Baker Publishing Group. Through the invitation of friends, she became an Episcopalian in the 1990's in Chicago. When she moved back to Grand Rapids in 1999, she found a home at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Grand Rapids. Before her call to ordained ministry, she served God through St. Andrew's in many roles, including senior warden and lay Eucharistic Minister.

Mother BJ received her M.Div. from the School of Theology of the University of the South (Sewanee). In seminary she received the Woods Leadership Award, presented to one outstanding student annually. She was ordained deacon and priest in 2016, returning to West Michigan.

Mother BJ is a lover of words; she is a contributing author to the forthcoming book, "Sunday Morning: Reflections on Episcopal Worship."

Most recent parish level ministries and offices:

Priest-in-Charge: The Episcopal Churches of Newaygo County—St. Mark's Newaygo and St. John's Fremont (2016—present)

Most recent diocesan or church-wide ministries and offices:

Anti-racism training or engagement:

Certified during seminary education/formation at the School of Theology.
Dismantling racism workshop, "Becoming Beloved Community," 2018.

Current service in the community:

Director of Vera's House—A Community Health and Wellness Center (an outreach ministry of St. Mark's Newaygo).
Mentor for participants in the "Women in Transition" program at Vera's House.



Clergy Nominee

The Rev. Anne Schnaare

Trinity, Marshall

Brief Biography:

Mother Anne Schnaare grew up in Wisconsin as an Episcopalian at St. Matthias, Waukesha. She attended the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, where she majored in Theatre and Music, and met her husband, Matthew. They were married in 2001 and soon after went on a short-term mission trip to Brazil. After Anne discerned a call to the priesthood, she and her husband relocated to Sewanee, Tennessee, where she earned a Master of Divinity and their daughter, Phoebe, was born.

Mother Anne spent the first two years of ordained ministry as a curate at Calvary Episcopal Church in Americus, GA. Although she enjoyed her time Down South, she was glad to return to the Midwest when she was called to serve Trinity, Marshall in 2011. They have just celebrated their seventh anniversary of ministry together. In her spare time, Mother Anne enjoys knitting, reading, and going for walks with her family and their German Shepherd, Casey.



Most recent parish level ministries and offices:

Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, Marshall, MI, Vestry, Pastoral Care Team, Finance Committee

Most recent diocesan or church-wide ministries and offices:

Deputy to the 79th General Convention (2018)
Standing Committee (Secretary)
Commission on Ministry

Anti-racism training or engagement:

Trinity Institute 2018: Values in Action (Feb. 2&3, 2018)

Current service in the community:

Oaklawn Hospital Disaster Drill Volunteer,
Speaker for World Religion Day at Marshall Middle School,
Provided prayers for various community activities such as City Council Meetings, United Way Breakfast, Marshall Prayer Breakfasts, etc.

Resolution 1 -

(Second Reading) Constitution Change - Composition of Convention Resolution

Resolution

Youth delegates shall be adult communicants in good standing, between ages 16 and 21 years. Each deanery shall select one (1) youth delegate and an additional five (5) youth delegates shall be selected as prescribed by canon.

Rationale

By eliminating the crossed through portion of Constitution IV.2.h the selection of youth delegates will be consistent with the canons, and avoid the confusion we had about seating youth at previous conventions.

In 2017, Convention passed this constitutional amendment on a first reading. In order to amend the constitution, the same amendment must be passed once more.

Resolution 2 -

Furthering the Jesus Movement in Western Michigan

Originator: The Rev. Nurya Love Parish

Submitting Committee or Group: General Convention Deputation

Resolution:

Be it resolved, that this 144th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan is committed to the priorities of the Jesus Movement as articulated by the Presiding Officers of The Episcopal Church at the 79th General Convention, namely racial reconciliation, the care of creation, and evangelism, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan recognizes with gratitude the work done by the Healing Racism Commission of the Diocese toward racial reconciliation, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention desires to further the priorities of the Jesus Movement, continuing progress toward racial reconciliation as a matter of urgent necessity and adding work in the areas of care of creation and evangelism, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention requests that the Bishop appoint new diocesan commissions for the Care of Creation and for Evangelism and Church Planting, while continuing the Healing Racism Commission in conversation with its existing members and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention requests that the names of the commission members be published to the diocese, by March 1, 2019, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention recognizes the interrelationship between care of creation, racial reconciliation and evangelism and therefore urges these commissions to coordinate work through some shared meetings, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention requests that the co-chairs of such commissions as may be appointed report to the 145th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan regarding the scope of their work, the goals they set for themselves, and any challenges and opportunities they see for the furthering of the identified priorities of the Jesus Movement in Western Michigan.

Rationale:

By eliminating the crossed through portion of Constitution IV.2.h the selection of youth delegates will be consistent with The diocesan deputation to the 79th General Convention recognized that there exists a gap between the espoused values of the Jesus Movement as articulated by the Episcopal Church's Presiding Officers and the lived reality on the ground in Western Michigan. We believe our diocese has the capacity to close that gap with greater intentionality about the deployment of all orders of ministry towards these ends, which we see as deeply aligned with the values and priorities articulated in our diocesan vision. Having successfully completed our internal restructure, the time is ripe for us to make progress to live out Jesus' incarnational way of love by organizing ourselves towards the priorities of The Episcopal Church.

We recommend that the commissions for Racial Reconciliation, Care of Creation, and Evangelism and Church Planting be co-chaired by laity and clergy and be made up of not fewer than five and not more than ten members. We recommend an application process be used and publicized throughout the diocese before appointments are made to these commissions, and that in keeping with our Diocesan vision, the recruitment and appointment of young adults should be a priority.

Supporting Documentation:

PDF - The Jesus Movement by the Episcopal Church - view online at tinyurl.com/EDWMres2.

Resolution 3 - ***Parish Vitality and Viability Assessment***

Originator: Dr. Barbara Kelly

Submitting Committee or Group: The Parish Vitality Taskforce

Resolution:

Be it resolved, that this 144th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan accepts the Task Force's report *Mutuality, Vitality and Viability: Characteristics of Congregations Growing In Mission*, and approves and supports the use of the EDWM Parish Vitality and Viability Assessment Tool in congregations facilitated by members of the Task Force and the Canon Missioners.

Rationale:

The Parish Vitality Task Force presented its preliminary report at the Bishop's Regional Workshops in February and March 2018 and has since developed the Assessment Tool, piloted the tool or had helpful conversations about it with several vestries, and received valuable feedback. We are now ready to implement the assessment tool with the help of the Canon Missioners.

The tool will enable congregational leaders to observe and reflect on congregational life to determine what strengths exist and what opportunities are present in order to assist parishes as they develop a clear missional focus so that both members and the larger community will experience the abundant life to which Jesus call us.

It is the understanding of the Task Force that participating parishes and facilitators will provide additional comment, and that the Assessment Tool will undergo continued development and refinement.

Resolution 4 -

Amend Section 28.01 of Title II of the Canons of the Diocese of Western Michigan

Originator: Mr. Dave Croal

Submitting Committee or Group: General Convention Deputation

Resolution:

Be it resolved, that this 144th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan amend section 29.01 Audits of Title II of the Canons of the Diocese of Western Michigan which currently reads:

As soon as may be after the close of each fiscal year, the accounts of all officers handling funds, whether of the Diocese or its auxiliaries, or of congregations and their auxiliaries, shall be audited in accordance with the Episcopal Church Manual of Business Methods in Church Affairs.

Be amended to read:

As soon as may be after the close of each fiscal year, the accounts of all officers handling funds, whether of the Diocese or its auxiliaries, or of congregations and their auxiliaries, shall be audited in accordance with the Episcopal Church Manual of Business Methods in Church Affairs and The Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan Policy “Annual Audit of Congregations”. Copies of audit reports shall be submitted to the Diocesan Treasurer for review by September 1 following the close of the fiscal year.

(a) Congregations who fail to complete and submit the audit proscribed for them, by Diocesan Policy, by September 1, will be seated at diocesan convention without voice.

(b) Any congregation who fails for two consecutive years to complete and submit the audit proscribed for them, by Diocesan Policy, by September 1, will be seated at diocesan convention without voice or vote.

(c) Any congregation who fails for three consecutive years to complete and submit the audit proscribed for them, by Diocesan Policy, by September 1, shall specifically request of Convention, by motion, permission for seat, voice and or vote. Without the granting of such a motion the congregation shall not have seat, voice or vote at Convention.

Rationale:

The Canons of the Episcopal Church and of the Diocese of Western Michigan require that all congregations and their auxiliaries submit an audit of the just finished fiscal year. This process is designed to review on an annual basis the financial records and the operational practices of congregations to insure that we are good stewards. We as a Diocese have not consistently met these requirements. This canon change requires that these audits be accomplished and references

the policies of Episcopal Church Manual of Business Methods in Church Affairs and The Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan Policy “Annual Audit of Congregations” and specifies sanctions for non compliance.

BISHOP WHITTEMORE FOUNDATION

submitted by Robert D. Stanton, President

The Bishop Whittemore Foundation, as an independent non-profit 501(c) 3 corporation, is in its sixty-sixth year of service to the Diocese of Western Michigan. During calendar year 2017, the foundation trustees met quarterly to review loan and grant proposals in support of diocesan and parish objectives. The following grants were funded since the last Annual Report:

St. Mark's, Coldwater (Bell tower repairs)
\$ 7,500.00

St. Paul's, Elk Rapids (re-siding)
\$ 9,000.00

St. Augustine, Benton Harbor (Barrier Free Project)
\$ 9,300.00

DOWM (Episcopal Youth Event)
\$ 3,000.00

Holy Spirit Belmont (Reading program)
\$ 5,000.00

St. Andrew's, Grand Rapids (October celebration)
\$ 9,300.00

Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan (Roof repair)
\$ 9,300.00

DOWM (Youth camp)
\$ 9,300.00

St. Mark's, Coldwater (Building repair)
\$ 9,300.00

Holy Trinity, Wyoming (Rectory repair)
\$ 9,300.00

Holy Spirit, Belmont (Roof repair)
\$ 9,300.00

Total Awarded: \$ 89,600.00

The following grants have been approved, but not yet funded:

Emmanuel, Petoskey (Building improvement)
\$ 7,500.00

St. Timothy, Richmond (Mold abatement)
\$ 8,000.00

St. John's, Grand Haven (Call to Care Uganda)
\$ 8,000.00 (match)

Total to be Funded: \$ 23,500.00

A loan of \$36,400 to St. Augustine, Benton Harbor has also been approved, but not yet dispersed.

Total grants in any calendar year are limited to four (4%) percent of the Foundation's assets, computed annually on a rolling average of the ten previous quarters. The 2018 spending rule computation is attached. Individual grants are generally limited to ten percent (10%) of available grant funds. Loans to any one parish are limited to \$100,000.00 and typically have a five-year maturity with a twenty-year amortization, bearing a competitive interest rate.

The trustees of the Bishop Whittemore Foundation remain committed to the growth of the endowed fund balance, the prudent investment of the trust corpus and the careful consideration of every grant application to insure the best use of available grant funds.

In 2017, the trustees of the Foundation continued an analysis of how the Foundation may grow its endowed funds and better achieve the stated objections of the Foundation. Individual contributions throughout 2017 and particularly following Bishop Whittemore Foundation Sunday exceeded amounts contributed in any year in recent memory.

Anyone making a contribution to the Bishop Whittemore Foundation can be assured that the contribution will be vigilantly guarded, carefully invested and wisely dispensed to fund worthy projects. Sunday, May 6, 2018 is Bishop Whittemore Foundation Sunday when all parishes are requested to remind their members of the good works of the Foundation and encourage gifts to the Foundation.

The Foundation trustees deserve recognition for their devoted service in support of the work of the Diocese of Western Michigan. +

CHAPLAINS TO THE RETIRED CLERGY

submitted by the Revs. Ed and Ann Emenheiser

Mailings:

- We met with our bishop to discern the focus and direction of the chaplain ministry in Western Michigan. The Bishop graciously added the chaplains ministry into the diocesan budget so we have some funds to aid us in this ministry. We also met with The Canon to the Ordinary to coordinate with him.
- We met with several retired clergy who have offered their help in checking with or visiting retired clergy and spouses in their area. They followed through and reported back to keep us up to date. That is very helpful.

Retiree Spouse Gatherings:

We held a number of gatherings. They were:

- Private dinner with the bishop during our Amen Conference at the Grand Hotel.
- A brunch at our home for the retired clergy and spouses in Traverse City.
- As our diocese has recently been divided into three regions (replacing deaneries) we held the following events:
 - A brunch in the Central Region of our diocese. Our Central Region Canon Missioner was our guest speaker. It was well attended and we gathered helpful information and suggestions.
 - A dinner in the Northern Region with our Canon Missioner for this area as our guest speaker. It was a lively, well-attended event.
 - A brunch in our Southern Region with our Canon to the Ordinary (and Southern Region Canon Missioner) as our guest speaker. This was a smaller group but a charming time with several surviving widows along with other clergy and spouses. Those attending each of the events requested that more be held. That is our plan moving forward.

- The invitations also generated phone, text or email conversations with some of those who could not attend.
- The events in each region were held in a centrally located church. The help of a lay person in each parish was key to getting our food preparation accomplished.
- We also held a lunch gathering during diocesan convention for retired clergy from all over the diocese to meet and get acquainted.

Ministries:

- Developed a birthday card that has been sent to all clergy, spouses, surviving spouses, which approximated 185 cards.
- Developed an ordination anniversary card for the bishop to sign and send together with us. We take care to address the cards and get them to the Bishop for him to sign and send back to us so that we can mail them on the appropriate date. Approximately 82 cards.
- Sent sympathy cards following a death, sent get well cards when appropriate.
- Have attended several funerals.
- Made personal visits though out the diocese to see numerous clergy and/or spouses.
- Made phone or email contact with clergy and or spouses on a regular basis.
- Added numerous names to the Diocesan Communicator (at their request) so that retirees are included in diocesan information.
- Asked that retired clergy be added to the diocesan prayer list that is published for all parishes.

It's been a good year of meeting people or reconnecting with old friends. The response has been very positive. Time and distance are our challenge as more could certainly be done. +

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

submitted by the Rev. Michael J. Ryan, Chair

In Western Michigan, the Commission on Ministry oversees the discernment of people to Holy Orders and establishes guidelines and programs for formation for every order (lay, deacon, priest) of the church. It also guides people through the ordination process.

The Commission on Ministry (COM) is established by Title III, Canon 2 of the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church. According to that canon, every diocese must have a committee or commission consisting of priests, deacons, and lay persons whose function is to assist the Bishop in three distinct areas:

1. In the implementation of Title III canons related to ministry.
2. In the determination of present and future opportunities and needs for the ministry of all baptized persons.
3. In the design and oversight of the ongoing process for recruitment, discernment, formation for ministry, and assessment for readiness thereof.

The Diocese of Western Michigan currently has 23 individuals in the ordination process. 16 are discerning or preparing for ordination to the priesthood, 6 are discerning or preparing for ordination to the diaconate, and 1 is a former Roman Catholic Priest discerning for reception as a priest in the Episcopal Church. This is an extraordinary volume of people in the process for any single diocese and it is an indicator of the health and vibrancy of the Episcopal Church in Western Michigan.

God speaks to us from the depth of our existential longings. Discernment is a process of paying attention to our deepest longings and inviting others to listen and reflect with us. At the heart of our understanding and practice of discernment is trustworthy relationship. We open ourselves to hearing what it is that God is speaking to us, and we invite the honest feedback of others trusting that they will be able to hear and discern what is of God and what is less likely so. Given the number of people in our process, challenges the Commission's ability to do the good, patient and slow work of listening to and watching for God's presence and action in the lives of those with whom we are discerning.

In 2018 we, prayerfully and deliberately, met this challenge by introducing back into our Diocesan discernment process the interview day model for discerning with people who are seeking postulancy to Holy Orders. In May, we invited the Rev. Kit Wang,

Chair of the COM of the Diocese of Maine, to do a training with us in a process that we believe is a good fit for our Diocese. On June 25, we hosted our first Interview Day and with the help of two external interviewers, Mr. Charles Thomas and the Rev. Christian Brocato, and Sr. Diane Stier's serving as the nominee's chaplain, we successfully interviewed three people for postulancy to the priesthood. On October 27 we will have interviewed 2 other nominees for postulancy to the priesthood. The feedback we have received from those we have interviewed has been positive. We found people to be especially grateful to have the opportunity at the end of the day to hear our impressions and the general thrust of our recommendations. This gives each nominee a chance to clarify or challenge our perceptions, and it gives the COM the opportunity to speak humbly and clearly in response.

In addition to our interview process, we have also worked closely with the Standing Committee to identify the most effective way for us to collaborate and differentiate our respective roles. Among the most beneficial, has been the Standing Committee's invitation for the Chair of the Commission on Ministry to occasionally attend Standing Committee meetings to report on where various people are in the discernment/ordination process and to also to be present to introduce postulants interviewing with the Standing Committee for Candidacy.

Lastly, we have formed a working group to address the seeming lack of a curriculum or course for candidates to satisfy the canonical requirement that all receive LGBTQ sensitivity training. It appears that we have found a useful curriculum that is being offered to our diaconal postulants/candidates through the Academy for Vocational Leadership.

It has been an exciting and challenging year; a good year in the life and work of the Commission on Ministry. +

Ms. Virginia LeDare Cox - St. John's, Mount Pleasant
 The Rev. Michael C. Fedewa - St. Andrew's, Grand Rapids
 Mr. Michael Hirt - Holy Spirit, Belmont
 The Rev. Darlene M.S. Kuhn - St. James, Albion
 Ms. Joanne Lemieux - St. John's, Grand Haven
 The Rev. Michael J. Ryan - Epiphany, South Haven
 The Rev. Rick Schark - St. Mark's, Coldwater
 Ms. Mary Simpson - St. Andrew's, Grand Rapids
 Ms. Karen Varanauskas - St. John's, Mount Pleasant

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

submitted by Lois Weed, Assembly President

The Order of the Daughters of the King in the Diocese of Western Michigan currently has 9 active senior chapters, 1 inactive senior chapter, and 10 Daughters at Large. The Daughters of the King celebrated the Institution of Senior Chapters and Admission of Members Service in St. Joseph at St. Paul's where the Garden of Saints Chapter was chartered with 8 new members. Total current membership as of September 2018 is 98 active members:

Traverse city, Grace, St. Clare of Assisi Chapter (17)

Ludington, Grace, Julian of Norwich-Ludington Chapter (5)

Grand Rapids, St. Andrew, Ruth Chapter (16)

Benton Harbor, St. Augustine, R Bruce Wheeler Chapter (2)

Harbert, Mediator, Lambs of god Chapter (11)

Three Rivers, Trinity, Eva Chapter (8)

Sturgis, St. John, Light of Christ Chapter (3)

Newaygo, St. Mark, St. Lydia Chapter (7)

Mt. Pleasant, St. John, Julian of Norwich Chapter (11)

St. Joseph, St. Paul's, Garden of Saints Chapter (8)

Daughters at Large (10)

By reaffirmation of the promises made at Baptism and Confirmation, a Daughter pledges herself to a life-long program of prayer, service to the clergy and parish to advance the cause of Christ, evangelism, and to habitually wear the cross of the Order. Our chapters

regularly visit and offer prayers for the sick and shut-ins, participate in quiet days, healing services, support women's issues, as well as hold book and Bible studies.

A Spring assembly was held at Holy Trinity Wyoming with the Rt. Rev. Wayne Hougland as our speaker and the Rev. Paula Durren as our Chaplain and officiant.

New officers for the 2018-2021 triennium were elected: President, Lois Weed from the Eva Chapter; Secretary, Linda Rice from the Ruth Chapter; and Treasurer, Jeannine Totzke from the Lambs of God Chapter.

Outgoing Diocesan Assembly President, Marilee Roth, and Incoming Diocesan Assembly President, Lois Weed attended the Triennial in Austin Texas in June to represent the Diocese and displayed our new Diocesan banner which was made by Fern Creations out of Traverse City.

A Fall assembly was held at St. Gregory's in Muskegon with the Rev. Lily Marx officiating. The Assemblies and Triennial National Convention gather the Daughters in community for a time of reflection, encouragement, inspiration, and information. We spent some time looking at the Strategic Plan for the Order and how we can move the Order forward in our diocese in the upcoming years.

For those who are interested in finding out more about the Order of the Daughters of the King, look around for those of us with our Greek Fleury Cross or log on to our National website at doknational.org or our diocesan assembly website at dwmidoc.weebly.com. +

DISMANTLING RACISM COMMITTEE

submitted by the Rev. Deacon Cynthia Nawrocki, Committee Member

During the 2017 Diocesan Convention, a resolution was passed which would require anyone wishing to be considered for any elected position in the diocese to have completed a workshop on dismantling racism within the prior three years. This resolution passed with the caveat that Diocesan Council institute a policy and procedure for implementing this mandate. The DRC (Dismantling Racism Committee) has done a great deal of work to craft this policy/procedure, which was approved by Council at their September meeting. Copies will be available at this convention.

We recognize that everyone is not at the same point in the journey of dealing with the sin of racism. This acknowledgment led us to create a three phase program we will offer to members of the diocese. These phases are defined as follows:

Phase One (P1) will provide understanding the history of racism, US origins of racism, institutionalization of racism, awareness of personal bias, both implicit and explicit.

Phase Two (P2) will encourage and provide methods to commit to intentional personal and public change through role-play, active engagement and conversation.

Phase Three (P3) Assist in creating a parish plan for dismantling racism and determining outcomes to be

measured; designing follow-up activities to maintain momentum which had begun in P1 and P2.

Any offerings within the diocese will be identified as to which phase each program is intended to provide. Programs planned by groups other than the DRC will need prior approval by the committee to be able to offer acknowledgment of participation and identification of the phase covered.

We are planning to provide opportunities for all of us to move beyond just acknowledging the problem, to a personal transformation and, through that, a transformation of the church in our diocese.

The diocesan website will provide links to activities being offered, both by our diocese and other approved groups. The website will also provide links to differing resources that can be used by groups or individuals to further their own knowledge and experience.

Our hope is that every member of our diocese, whether an elected person or not, will find a way to change the way they see and interact with people who do not look like them.

Any questions can be addressed to the Rev. Sue York, DRC Chair, the Rev. Cindy Nawrocki, Joyce Henry or Carole Redwine. +

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

submitted by Douglas C. Mohrmann, Ph.D.

Many people go on tours, which can be fun, relaxing, or educational, and while this trip included these, as a pilgrimage we looked for more. Thirty-seven souls, most of whom came from the Diocese of Western Michigan, opened their minds and hearts to be transformed. At times it was hard to do so, because the place we often label as the “holy” land appeared anything but holy. How does one peer past the modern buildings, the simmering even boiling political tensions, and the noise of street vendors? How does one step outside of one’s own cultural values to create a space for love of others? These kinds of questions (and others) challenged us daily. There were times of joy and sadness, wonderment and tears, endearment and estrangement—and sometimes the mixture in a single day took us by surprise. As pilgrims we embraced these all. In our quest for encountering God we found

it was uniquely different for each of us, and yet there were times when we were all immediately caught by the Spirit. It was transformative. We will forever read Scripture differently, and I likened it to seeing the biblical stories for the first time in three dimensions.

A few highlights will explain. We began in the north of Israel to visit a few well known Old Testament sites. Mt. Carmel, which rises up towards the Mediterranean coast, was the site where the prophet Elijah challenged Queen Jezebel’s prophets of Baal. Tel Dan is the archaeological site remaining from the tribe of Dan. It is now situated in a scenic nature preserve. We sat at the ancient city gates to consider tribal life and there imagined Boaz’s request for Ruth. An inscription was discovered just in the last few decades that is the earliest known evidence of David’s kingdom. New Testament highlights were many: the coastal resort of Herod (Caesarea Maritima) where Paul was imprisoned,

Capernaum (Peter’s hometown), Mary Magdalene’s hometown’s synagogue, and a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, among others. We also paused by the Syrian border near the U.N.’s compound, only one day after US bombers had struck, to consider the horror of warfare suffered daily by people only a few miles away.

From there we moved south, along the Jordan river. We will never forget visiting Kasr El Yehud, which is a possible location for Jesus’ own baptism. God’s Spirit was palpably present as we observed pilgrims from around the world stop here to be baptized. We visited Jericho

as both an Old and New Testament site. It is famed obviously for the stories of Joshua, but we also marveled that Jesus would walk from here up into Jerusalem to face his crucifixion. An afternoon in Bethlehem likewise helped us note both David’s and Jesus’ timelines. Our pilgrimage took us to Qumran by the Dead Sea to experience

the stark Judean wilderness; there we reflected on the religious context of John the Baptist and Jesus.

Finally, we moved to Jerusalem to behold the great city from the height of the Mount of Olives. From there we descended to the Garden of Gethsemane. This was the highlight of the trip for many of us. The next day we were blessed to celebrate Eucharist in St. George’s Cathedral. A walk along Via Dolorosa towards the Church of the Holy Sepulchre will be remembered too for a long time. In this city, pilgrims of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam throng the streets like nowhere else. If one slows down, ignores the buses or congested traffic, and suspends concerns for machine gun-toting soldiers, the heartbeat of this holy city can be heard. Synagogues, churches and mosques mark every other street corner it seems. The holy does emerge, in other words, for the pilgrim ready to behold it. We thank God for our time to do this. +



THE ORDER OF NAUCRATIUS

submitted by the Revs. Christian and Jodi Baron, Co-Founders

2018 has been the best year yet for The Order of Naucrati- West Michigan. Our Mission is clear: “to help connect local hunters and anglers who have harvested in abundance, with people who are hungry. The primary way we accomplish this goal is through encouraging local anglers and hunters to share portions of their harvests with those who are hungry through local programs and churches who are engaged in feeding people.”

The word continues to spread about the good work that is happening through The Order. In 2018, we have collected thousands of pounds of big lake filets through amateur and professional fishing tournaments, personal donations and other connections within the fishing community.

Most of our fish is collected at big professional tournaments. We have been invited to collect at the Big Red Classic, in Holland and the Benzie Frenzy, in Frankfort. We have plans to expand our work and to collect donated fish at two other tournaments next year. This would double the amount of fish that we are able to donate to vetted feeding organizations.

Conservation is an important value within The Order. This year we plan to get more involved in political

advocacy around conservation and care for the woods and waters.

The Board is planning our first fishing retreat in 2019. This retreat will be a good way for individuals to come and be outdoors, pray, and learn to participate in some theological teachings about fishing.



The Board for the Order met in the spring to discuss the structure and develop by-laws, as requested by Diocesan Council. These by-laws will serve as the foundation for decision-making at the Diocesan level as well as for local outposts to

direct their work. This type of organization is unique in that the food-laws are left up to the local health inspector for interpretation which requires the building of relationships between the organizations doing the distribution, The ONWM, and the local hunters and anglers. Our board is advocating for food laws that usher in justice within the State of Michigan. This will allow for getting more God-grown protein into the homes of families facing food insecurity.

You can learn more about the order by visiting us on our website, www.onwm.org, or by finding us on Facebook.

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

submitted by Kenneth E. Reid, LMSW, Ph.D.

The Pastoral Care and Counseling Program has been an outreach ministry of the Diocese for more than 45 years. Launched in the 1970s by Bishop Bennison, the Program's mission is to foster healing, growth, and wholeness. More specifically to:

- Strengthen and preserve family life.
- Support clergy, congregations, and ministries of the Diocese.

Counseling occurs in a Christian setting where individuals are encouraged to develop to the fullest of their God-given potential.

Located at St. Luke's in Kalamazoo, a wide range of counseling is available including: individual, group,

marital, family, and premarital. During the twelve months between October 1st, 2017 and September 30th, 2018, one-to-one counseling (185 hours) was the primary format followed by group and family.

The Program is self-sustaining and receives no funds from the diocese. The fee for services is similar to that of other agencies in the community and based on the individual's ability to pay.

A unique aspect of the Program is its commitment to the health and well-being of clergy and their families. Phone consultation is available, and we are presently working on ways to enhance the helping relationship via Skype.

Additional information is available by calling the office (269 381-4442) or emailing ekreid@chartermi.net. +

PLAINSONG FARM

submitted by the Rev. Nurya Love Parish, Executive Director

2018 was a banner year for Plainsong Farm. As a new ministry in the diocese, we are still introducing ourselves to the church. We are a living laboratory farm that reconnects Christianity and the care of Creation through experiential education. Or, more simply: we grow food for people and people for God. Here are some highlights of our life together in 2018:

New Ministry Development

Last year, we created a Memorandum of Understanding with the Diocesan Council to formalize our relationship as a start-up ministry. This year, we built on that document by developing bylaws, so that we can incorporate as an entity of the Episcopal Church, in relationship with the Bishop and Diocesan Council. Our bylaws are modeled on the bylaws of multiple Episcopal camps and conference centers. They require the approval of all Board members by the Diocesan Council, as well as mandate our Board includes a representative of the Bishop. Diocesan Council approved our bylaws, which include the requirement that any amendments must also be approved by the Diocesan Council. This year we seated our initial group of Board members, chaired ably by the Rev. Brian Coleman. Our Board is ecumenical, including both Presbyterians and Lutherans, but our bylaws require that it always contain a majority of Episcopalians and clearly state that we are a mission of the Episcopal Church.

Farm-Based Discipleship Programs

Heirloom Wheat Program: Last year, with Honoré Farm and Mill, we planted the first seeds of heirloom wheat for communion bread. The experience of planting wheat

in community opened the eyes of participants to the words of Jesus, “Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit” (John 12:24). The wheat was harvested and threshed by an intergenerational gathering centered on one of Christ’s parables: “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head.

But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come” (Mark 4:26-29). Heirloom wheat preserves biodiversity, conserves natural resources, and mitigates climate change. The flour from the harvest is now available for communion bread shares. Shares have been purchased by Lutheran and

Methodist churches, as well as by Episcopal churches in our diocese and the Diocese of Eastern Michigan.

Youth Programs: We piloted our first short youth program in collaboration with a cohort of ELCA Lutheran churches and the Grand Rapids Episcopal Youth and served as a ministry site for the diocesan Progressive Mission Trip.

Blessing the Fields & Sabbath at the Farm: These seasonal outdoor worship experiences connected participants with one another and with God’s creation. Participants included Episcopal laity and clergy, community members both church and unchurched, and curious people wondering what worship would be like on a farm. Participation was steadily between twelve and twenty people.

Eating Together Faithfully: We pilot-tested an adult



CONVENTION BUSINESS

MINISTRY REPORTS

education Bible study curriculum on which we had collaborated with Life Around the Table, a United Methodist ministry in North Carolina. A group of twelve people, mostly related to the Episcopal Church in some way, gathered for eight sessions. The age range was diverse, ranging from early twenties to seventies.

Environmental Education and Healthy Food Access

Our ministries extend to the wider community through partnerships that brought hundreds of middle schoolers to the farm this fall for experiential environmental education in partnership with the Lower Grand River Organization of Watersheds, the Kent Conservation District, NRCS and Trout Unlimited through a grant from the Wege Foundation. Through our partnership with Access of West Michigan and North Kent Connect, we provided healthy food and farm-based relationships to neighbors experiencing poverty through Kent County's Farm-to-Pantry program.

National Impact and Influence

With a special grant from the Episcopal Church, we co-convened a gathering for land-access professionals and interfaith religious leaders in March of 2018 in California. Partners in this gathering included Greenhorns (a young farmer organization), the Presbyterian Church USA's Hunger Program, the Interfaith Sustainable Food Collaborative and Land for Good. This gathering's topic subsequently received national publicity through Religion News Service, Civil Eats, and the Reuters Foundation's "This is Place" project. A follow-up gathering specifically for Christian leaders was held at Wake Forest Divinity School in October. This gathering was designed by our Executive Director with co-leadership and Scripture reflections from the Rev. Darriel Harris (of the Baltimore Food and Faith Project, now a Ph.D. student at Johns Hopkins and pastor of Newborn Community of Faith which sponsors Strength 2 Love II Farm). It brought together an interracial ecumenical group of leaders working together at the intersection of Christian discipleship and sustainable agriculture to focus on the question of appropriate use of church-owned land and property for the sake of the reign of God. In November our Executive Director will speak at the Duke World Food Policy Center's first-ever invitation-only Food and Faith Gathering.

Fiduciary Status

We continue as a ministry for which the Diocese of Western Michigan is fiduciary. Our funds are held

in a restricted line of the Diocesan funds through the agreement of Diocesan Council in 2015 and the formalization of that relationship in 2017. Because of our fast growth, we have now hired a part-time accountant to ensure our financial records are appropriate and we are making ready for our first audit. We have never been funded through the diocesan budget; we raise funds through private donations, grants, program and service fees, and sales of food shares to community-supported agriculture (CSA) customers. Grateful for the fiduciary status which we were provided to incubate our early years, it is our intent to incorporate as a ministry of the Episcopal Church and continue as a resource and blessing to the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan and beyond for decades to come. +

Co-Founders

Michael Edwardson, Farm Stewardship Director

Bethany Edwardson, Community Engagement Coordinator

The Rev. Nurya Love Parish, Executive Director

2018 Seasonal and/or Part-Time Staff

Holli Powell, Accountant

Chelsea Smith, Administrative Coordinator

Stacey Brander, Farm Assistant

Christian Food Movement Website Editor (Volunteer)

Meghan Murphy-Gill

2018 Board Members

The Rev. Brian Coleman

The Rev. Bryan Schneider-Thomas (ELCA pastor)

Michael McIntosh

Michael VanderBrug

Polly Hewitt

Dana Hougland

Canon Katie Forsyth, Bishop's Representative

UNITED THANK OFFERING

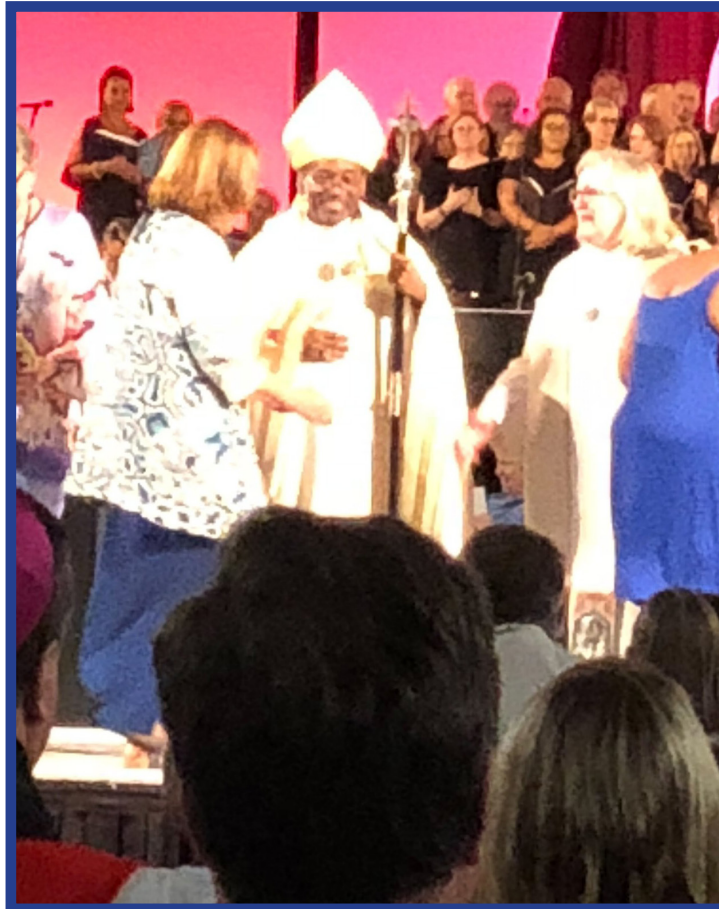
submitted by Gail Donovan, Coordinator for EDWM and Province V

Many of you have heard me speak or read reports about United Thank Offering at one time or another. This year I share with you a scripture reflection on gratitude by a “Millennial” with wisdom beyond her years.

Gratitude for the Greatest Blessing by Caitlyn Darnell

“Our days and years are full of little blessings from God for which we give thanks. Our Blue Boxes jingle with “dime blessings,” “quarter blessings,” and sometimes even rustle with “dollar bill blessings”. The blessings we put in our boxes multiply -- a sunny day becomes a senior community center, getting over a head cold becomes a NICU in a hospital, a birthday card from a friend becomes mental health care for refugees. Underpinning all of our little blessings is the greatest blessing of all time, that Jesus “loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen” (Revelation 1:5-6). What greater gift than our freedom? What better blessing than our lives eternally in and with Jesus Christ our King? My gratitude for that act doesn’t really fit in my Blue Box -- I would need more coins than the Treasury mints. What then can I give him? I think it is a gratitude that only fits in bread and wine, in the Great Thanksgiving, shared with friends. It is my sacrifice of “thanks and praise” (Holy Eucharist Rite II). And how does my gratitude from that blessing

multiply? What can it become? That gratitude, deeply rooted and grafted into my soul by communion, is one that changes the world. It proclaims the Good News to the poor and showers everyone in your path with the fresh reign of Christ’s love.”



Caitlyn serves as the first Young Adult appointed member to the National United Thank Offering Board and oversees the Young Adult and Seminarian grant process. She is a recent graduate of Berkeley Divinity School at Yale and is ministering at St. James’ Episcopal Church in Leesburg, VA.

The historical work of UTO continues to evolve to meet the ever-changing needs of The Church and to grant funds for innovative mission and ministry projects throughout The Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion. Offerings of \$4,374.36 received from our diocese in 2017 were granted out with all other offerings in 2018.

Applications for Young Adult and Seminarian

grants close the first Friday in November. Details for traditional grants will be available online the first Friday in December. Visit unitedthankoffering.com for information about all things UTO, look for me convention at the UTO display, or leave me a message at (517) 321-8810. If you are thinking about applying for a grant, please contact me while you are still in the discussion stage. More information about UTO and granting will be available on the diocesan website. +

Photo: Gail Donovan delivers the Western Michigan’s offering to the UTO ingathering at the 79th General Convention in Austin, Texas.

YOUTH & CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

submitted by Gennie Callard, Assistant to the Bishop for Children and Youth

We have a few events during the school year, with Mr. Jeff Brown (St. Mark's and St. Andrew's, Grand Rapids) and the Rev. Joel Turmo (St. Timothy's, Richland) serving alongside Ms. Genevieve Callard (Diocesan Staff) as the Youth Ministries Advisory Committee.

Our high school Lenten retreat was hosted by Grace Church, Traverse City and served about 30 people. Our focus on Celtic Spirituality led us to learn about various prayer practices, the Iona community in Scotland, and yoga (or body prayer).

We also continue to join with the Diocese of Eastern Michigan to attend the ELCA youth events "The Gathering" for high school students and young adults and "Charge" for middle school students.

A few years ago we decided to purchase a diocesan license for the curriculum "Weaving God's Promises," and two years ago we also purchased children's bulletins and curricula from "Illustrated Children's Ministry." Any parish or ministry within the Diocese can use these programs free of charge. This has been a great support for a number of our parishes. It especially serves those who are struggling with a lack of resources (human and financial). We will continue to have ask for money in the diocesan budget to support purchasing these licenses.

Episcopal Youth Camp

The Episcopal Youth Camp continues to grow in spirit, quality, and even number of campers. Our theme this year was "Building a Christian Community." We spent intentional time reading scripture and having discussion about what it means to live in community. Even with our games and activities (coordinated by Ms. Courtney Littel,

St. Luke's, Kalamazoo) we spent time examining our relationships with each other. Our daily themes were: Created for Community; the Broken Community; the Redeemed Community; the Transformed Community; and our Call to Community.

We decided to take a hiatus with our youth leadership program, as we've been running Counselor in Training (for 16 and 17 year-olds) and Leaders in Training (for 13-16 year-olds) for about 10 years without much change in the program. Taking 2018 off will give us an opportunity to make a break and go in a new direction. A task force

is being put together to research youth leadership programs at other camps and in other Episcopal dioceses.

As many of you know, our staff are made up entirely of volunteers. We spend a weekend in the spring in a training workshop focusing on the needs of children and youth, a few hours with on-line training about our

policies and procedures, and we gather the day before the campers arrive leaving how to live together and how we can support these precious young people that enter our lives.

Please prayerfully consider serving at camp for a week! We need amazing-solid mature Christians to serve as mentors and companions to the young people in our diocese. +

