



### August 14, 2022 following Sunday Service

Pursuant to the by-laws of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, I hereby call a Special Meeting of our congregation following the Sunday service on August 14, 2022.

The only item of business for the morning will be the presentation of two amendments to the by-laws as follows:

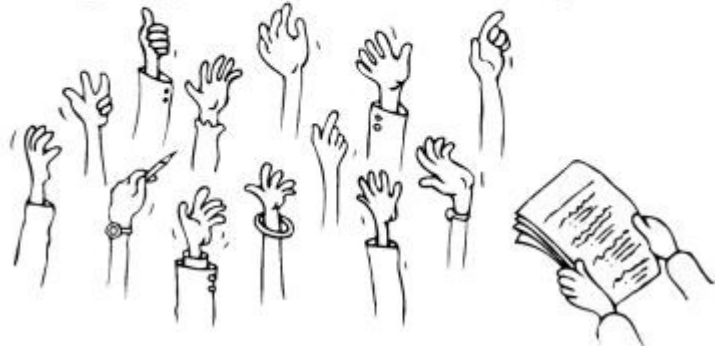
- 1) to remove the requirement of 50 communicants in good standing in order to conduct the Annual Meeting and any special meetings.
- 2) to reduce the total number of elected vestry members from 9 (three elected each Annual Meeting) to 6 (two elected at each Annual Meeting).

No other business will be conducted, no other business will be in order.

Following the dispatch of the by-law amendments, the Priest-in-Charge, Treasurer and Director of Finance will make a mid-year presentation concerning our parish finances as we move into the calling of a new Rector. This presentation will include an opportunity for questions and answers.

Depending on temperature, the meeting will be held in Barth Hall unless it is too hot for comfort in such case the meeting will be held in the nave.

### Special Congregational Meeting



Our parish membership is much lower than a just a few years ago making it almost impossible to find 50 people willing to attend church or a meeting. By one estimate, 50 could be nearly 50% of our total membership. Changing our by-laws is necessary to conduct an annual meeting.

In the last few years it has been difficult to find three people willing to serve as vestry members for three-year terms. Reducing the number may make that easier. The even/odd number makes little difference as the Vestry often meets with an odd or even number present. The Rector (priest-in-charge) is permitted to vote in the event of a tie.

The exact wording of the amendments will be published in the August edition of the "Epistle."



## The Warden's Word

Have you ever wondered what the world was like when the apostles were hearing the parables? Can these ancient stories help us understand not only Jesus but ourselves? Presently the Wednesday Bible study class has been learning about the early history of the church reading Acts. We have learned the early Christians experienced the same conflicts we experience today in the church. Beginning July 13 and for the following two Wednesday's, Betty Anne Taylor will lead us in learning about the parables using the book Short Stories by Jesus written by Dr Amy-Jill Levine. We can look forward to a new perspective of familiar parables like "Lost Sheep, Lost Coin, Lost Son"; "The Good Samaritan" or "The Mustard Seed". As a Jewish scholar Dr Levine will convey how the parables were seen through the eyes of those familiar with the Old Testament. Just as we discovered the similarities of the early church to our church today, we will learn how the parables speak to us in our modern world.

Even if you have never attended Wednesday Bible Study, please try to participate either in person or by Zoom (meeting ID 85188650479 Password 626954). Wednesday Eucharist begins at 12:10 with the Bible study starting at 12:45 - 2 pm.

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them; that, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen  
For His Sake, Barbara Mannor

## A prayer for Transition

Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. Paul's Church. Be with us and lead us as we seek a priest for our church. We ask your direction and guidance for those who shall choose our new spiritual leader that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries. Grant us perception, faithfulness, and joy, so that we may hear your voice in all our deliberations. Grant us also the desire and the ability to truly hear each other and those who have entrusted us with this process. Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## ARTWALK JULY 8 6-8pm

This month for Artwalk, we are featuring Lawrence McDonald. Larry is a long time resident of Flint and a wonderful pianist. He is a retired Professor Emeritus from Mott Community College and has served various Flint churches as their organist, pianist and Director of Music. He also has authored several books and was the "Music from the Movies" for our local radio station, WFBE, as well as the music critic for the Flint Journal. Please come to Art Walk for this wonderful concert by Flint's own, Larry McDonald.

Flint native, Inez Finney Goodman Bey is an award winning artist whose works have been exhibited locally, nationally and internationally. Her art teacher at Parkland Elementary School, Mr. Rawland Lillard encouraged and helped her develop her natural talents. Throughout her schooling her skills were honed through classes at DeWaters Art Center at The Flint Institute of Arts and later at the School of Fine Arts at the University of South Florida in Tampa.

Inez describes her works as eclectic as she enjoys experimenting in a myriad of mediums and styles that express her creativity. She believes that the arts are essential for the development of our youth and enhances the quality of life of all people. She is a commissioned artist with many long time clients and patrons.



ST. PAUL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Government of our Episcopal Church was developed by some of the same people who wrote the Constitution of the United States, so our structure is quite similar. Two legislative houses with three different branches with different roles.

The House of Deputies is composed of eight deputies (four lay and four priests or deacons) from each Diocese. There are currently 109 dioceses with many outside of the US.

The President of the House of Deputies is either a clergyperson or layperson elected

for a nine-year term. With 1100 potential deputies, the House is huge.

The House of Bishops is composed of all Bishops with only Bishops Ordinary or Diocesan permitted to vote in some cases.

In typical General Conventions with deputies, alternate deputies, bishops of all kinds, staff, journalists and people from all over the world, plus guests from all over the Anglican Communion, the General Convention is a big meeting.

Due to Covid, the convention will be much smaller (only voting Bishops, Deputies and alternates) and shorter (reduced from 10 days to 4). There will be no combined worship, no committee meetings (all head on ZOOM before the convention) no banquets and no singing. Legislative days will be 13 hours long each day.

Dr. Elizabeth Jordan is a committee co-chair, and a senior deputy from the Diocese of Eastern Michigan. She has distinguished herself in many areas of ministry and is nationally respected. Fr. Don was asked to be the first Clergy Alternate from Eastern Michigan and will take a floor seat when another clergy deputy needs a break.

The term "deputy" and not "delegate" is used as the deputy votes their own conscience and has no constituency or demand to vote in a particular way.

A new President and Vice-President will be elected; some canonical changes will be brought forth, and by virtue of resolutions, the Episcopal Church will indicate its stand on any number of current issues both sacred and secular.

The convention's last session will be July 11, 2022.





## The Music Note

I sent out the job posting for organist this week, I am so sorry to see Matthew leave us, but so happy for him as he pursues a Doctorate in Organ and Church Music.

There has been some talk about what our Director of Music actually does. I thought I would outline some of the weekly and monthly, yearly items I take care of.

I oversee maintaining and keeping in repair all the instruments. We have the Dalton Memorial Organ, we have the new Concert Grand Yamaha piano, donated by the Colton Family, and I oversaw the delivery of this piano and coordinated with the family. We have two baby grand pianos that will be switched around this summer. We have three octaves of hand bells, a set of hand chimes and a harpsichord.

I have been choosing the music for our services and coordinating our worship services with our Priest, our organist, our secretary and the Gospel, Chancel, & Bell Choir.

I direct and choose the music for the Chancel Choir & the Bell Choir.

I set up our concert series, Music in the Heart of the City, and plan for the annual fund raiser at my home. This means, writing contracts for the musicians who visit us, and hosting them in our city, I have been doing the programs and I direct the press releases for these events. I did the receptions for those concerts this last year as well, with the help of Patrice Shriver.

I practice music weekly, with others, by myself, at home and here at the church. Run rehearsals, provide snacks for choir rehearsal, and try to send cards either

through the mail or electronically for parishioners who are active in our music ministry.

I answer all phone calls and emails for funerals, and weddings who need me to coordinate music for their life events.

You will notice that there were a lot of "I" sentences above, but this position is really about the people in this parish and the importance of corporate worship as a body of Christ, which is a "we", and not an "I".

Yes! I do all of the above and more, but everything is about service. Service to God, service to our Priest, and service to the people of this parish as we worship God together.

May God grant us peace, and may we thoughtfully pray and seek His favor as we search for a new priest as we continue the journey of St. Paul's.

Holly Richardson

## FEARLESS LOVE



The Episcopal Church  
Welcomes You.  
No Exceptions.



ST. PAUL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# Historic St. Paul's Celebrates 150 YEARS AT THE INTERSECTION!

## REUNION & OPEN HOUSE!

AUGUST 13-14, 2022

### CONNECTIONS...

#### WHAT'S YOUR CONNECTION TO HISTORIC ST. PAUL'S?

- Were you Married, Baptized, or Confirmed at St. Paul's?
- Did you sing in a Choir or serve on the Vestry?
- Have you visited for a tour, concert, or Artwalk?
- Have you attended a community event, or public meeting!

#### YOU ARE INVITED...EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

- Renew your marriage vows! (Saturday 8/13<sup>th</sup> @ 4PM)
- Bring your cameras (photographers welcome!)
- Reconnect with your fellow choristers
- Take a walking tour through Historic St. Paul's
- Enjoy a hot dog or an ice cream with old friends

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**SATURDAY - AUGUST 13, 2022**      **SUNDAY - AUGUST 14, 2022**

1PM: Open House / Tours

9AM: Worship Service

2PM: Ice Cream Picnic

10AM: Rector's Tea

3PM: Organ Demo (3PM)

4PM: Evening Prayer/Vow Renewal



**ST. PAUL'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

#### ARTWALK REMINDER!

St. Paul's will be open on Friday evening, August 12 for ARTWALK!

FOR GROUP TOURS OR MORE INFORMATION

Email: [Intersection150@stpaulschurchflint.com](mailto:Intersection150@stpaulschurchflint.com)

Web: [stpaulschurchflint.com](http://stpaulschurchflint.com)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Flint, MI 48502



# Did You Notice that Something Isn't here?

If you have information, or an article that should be in "The Epistle" please send it to

"Rector@stpaulschurchflint.com"

edition and information was needed. of each month. Thank you!

There was a lot of extra room in this Please send information before the first

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