



Tower Talk

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The Church with Heart, in the Heart of the City

July 20, 2022

10:00 AM

Service begins

August 14, 2022

As we slowly disentangle ourselves from the ravages of COVID, we are moving back to 10:00 A.M. service for Sunday morning.

Part of this decision is based on the departure of our organist Matthew Benkert. Matthew is leaving to begin Doctoral studies at the University of Indiana, Bloomington. Matthew's skill, talent and affability have been wonderful during his time here at St. Paul's. We will miss him greatly. A farewell reception will be held on Sunday, July 31, 2022 at 3:00PM. We shared Matthew with Court Street United Methodist Church and thus had a fixed service time.

Matthew recently graduated with his Masters Degree from Central Michigan University this fall.

I should be able to announce our new organist soon. As our attendance is still lagging, we are not in a position to go to two services every Sunday, so the 8:00 A.M. service is not returning at this time. We hope it will come back soon.

Please join us on July 31, 2022 at 3:00 for a time of sharing as we celebrate Matthew's acceptance into a doctoral program and mourn his departure. Thank you Matthew, you are amazing!

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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Flint, Michigan 48502
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www.stpaulschurchflint.com

The Rev. Don Davidson

priest-in-charge

George Gibson,

director of finance

Holly Richardson,

director of music

Megan Faris,

administrative assistant

Rafael McDaniel,

gospel choir director

Matthew Benkert, organist

Terrance Whitehead, sexton

Edythe Peake, web editor

Thanks Ferrell

Ferrell Katzenberger has managed the Tuesday Lunch program for a number of years. The program has been quietly serving the people of our neighborhood a good hot lunch every Tuesday with attendances from 170 to recent lows near 20. Ferrell's article in the August edition of the "Epistle" will discuss the program and what it has meant to those who were serving and those who were served. The last Tuesday lunch will be this coming Tuesday. When you see Ferrell, please express our thanksgiving for her dedicated ministry to God and this program. Well done Good and Faithful servant.



Fr. Don and Deputy Elizabeth are shown wearing bowties in honor of Canon Bill Spaid of Western Michigan who died a few months ago.

The 80th General Convention was like no other ever!

The 80th General Convention of the Episcopal Church was held at the Baltimore Convention Center for four days, rather than the usual 8. The convention was reduced in many ways due to Covid and the conditions in that part of Maryland. The Dioceses of Eastern and Western Michigan who share one Bishop were represented

by a joint-deputation of 8 clergy deputies and 2 alternates, and 8 lay deputies and two alternates. Dr. Elizabeth Jordan served as a lay deputy for Eastern Michigan and Fr. Don served as a clerical alternate deputy. Over 400 pieces of legislation were dealt with over 3 13-hour days and 1 4-four day.

The General Convention is composed of two equal houses: The House of Deputies and the House of Bishops. The House of Deputies has over 800 members, while the House of Bishops is composed of about 150 active Bishops. Both houses must pass most of the legislation.



The House of Deputies from the Alternates section in the far back of the room.

Your Vestry:
Barbara Mannor, Senior Warden
(seniorwarden@stpaulschurchflint.com)
Becky Bennett, Junior Warden
(Building and Grounds)
(juniorwarden@stpaulschurchflint.com)
Maggie Hart, Treasurer (Finance)
(treasurer@stpaulschurchflint.com)
Ferrell Katzenberger (Pastoral Care)
Jan Bugbee, Clerk of the Vestry
Walter Peake (Stewardship)
Parish Archivist
Dr. Elizabeth Jordan (Diversity)
(Member of Diocesan Council)
Joel Arnold (Intersection 150)
Tina Morrison (Worship)
Celeste Lord (Outreach)

Staff:

The Reverend Dr. Don Davidson, Priest-in-charge
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Fr. Don's cell phone: 810 836 8727
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Matthew Benkert, Organist
Terrance Whitehead, Sexton

Edythe Peake, Web Editor
(webeditor@stpaulschurchflint.com)
Jelecia Ford Geraghty
(Member: Diocesan Standing Committee)

St. Paul's Office Hours
Tuesday-Thursday
9 AM—2 PM

Fr. Don: Tuesdays-Thursdays
(by appointment)

Congregational Meeting August 14, 2022 After the service.

A special meeting of the Congregation of St. Paul's Episcopal Church has been called for August 14, 2022 following the 10:00 service.

The Vestry has recommended two amendments to our parish by-laws. These amendments will be the only items of business.

After voting on the amendments, those present will hear a mid-year finance report by the Treasurer and Director of Finance. This will cover the finances as we approach calling the next Rector.

By-laws amendments

Article II, Section 4

At any meeting of the parish, fifty (50) voting members shall constitute a quorum and the...

CHANGE TO

At any meeting of the parish, a quorum shall consist of those voting members present and the...

Article IV, Section 1

The Vestry shall be made up of nine (9) members.

CHANGE TO

The Vestry shall be made up of six (6) members

No Ring-a-Ding

We have a phone system problem. Our phone system at St. Paul's, install a number of years ago, still works...but it does not play nicely with our phone provider. Without a long boring technical explanation, suffice it to say that there is only minimal things the older system can do with the new provider.

Currently, we cannot answer the phone unless Megan (our Administrative Assistant) does it within 3 seconds of an incoming call. If she is not there or doesn't grab the phone in three-seconds it goes to the automated attendant after a slight pause.

In order to talk to anyone, you have to push zero on your phone for Megan, or the extension number of the person to whom you wish to speak.

If Megan is not here, the old system may or may not allow you to record a message, or try to dial

another extension without hanging-up and trying all over again. OyVey!

A new system is expensive, but would eliminate the issues. We would also look into a system that would allow us to speak to folks outside, and unlock doors from certain telephones.

How much you say? We know the system itself would cost around \$7000.00. After that there would be a charge for each phone (our phones might not work with the new system) and installation and programming.

Stay tuned as we work through this issue, but rest assured we are not pleased with the current situation. Everyone should be able to call the church during daylight hours and have someone (a real live person) answer.

You are always welcome to call me on the church or my personal cell. Please call the office for the number. Fr. Don+