

THE EPISTLE



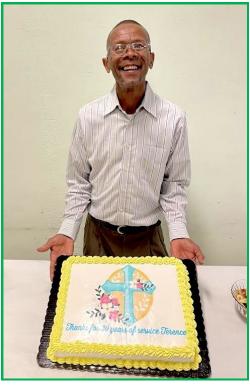
November 2023



WE CELEBRATED 30 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH TERENCE WHITEHEAD!



THANK YOU!!











A Note from Tom

At this year's diocesan convention, we will be hearing a great deal about the proposed merger of our diocese—Eastern Michigan—with the much bigger and older diocese—Western Michigan.* The merger was first proposed in 2018, and both dioceses agreed to a trial period. As a result, some diocesan employees began to be "shared" by both dioceses. So in some ways, we have begun already to act as a single diocese. However, the final merger will not be voted on (by both dioceses, separately) until a special convention is held in March 2024.

When I first heard the idea of the merger, I thought, "how will this benefit our church?" It seemed to me that belonging to a bigger diocese might not be what's best for us.

So, I wrestled with the idea of a larger diocese for a while. And I spoke to some other church leaders about it. I think I have now come up with a list of good reasons why the two dioceses should become one.

- 1. Merging the dioceses will mean merging the resources that the two dioceses have, making for a stronger single diocese.
- 2. A larger diocese (like a larger church) will be able to offer a much greater variety of programs and services.
- 3. A larger diocese will be more efficient (in theory) streamlining the administrative responsibilities of the two dioceses.
- 4. A larger diocese means bringing together Episcopalians from across the state, and this increases the unity of our people.
- 5. A larger diocese means that we can "dream great dreams" with greater possibilities for our mission and ministry

No doubt there are other good reasons for the merger, and some reasons not to merge. As we approach this, our fourth joint convention of the dioceses of Eastern and Western Michigan, please consider the merger *yourself*. Is it in the best interests of our church? Why or why not?

With every blessing...

Tom+

*At the time of this writing, the convention has not yet occurred.



HOLLY'S NOTES



November is a great month, we as a nation celebrate Thanksgiving and we in the Episcopal church celebrate All Saints' Day. I will lay my brother, Guy and his husband, Joe to rest in Pennsylvania, November 1. Their pictures are currently part of St. Paul's *el Día de Muertos* currently in the Sisters Chapel on the altar. As many of you know this has been a rough year for me as I come to terms with the death of my only sibling, and the only person in the world that really understood our childhood. We are doing a song for Evensong November 4 and we will sing it again November 5 called, "When Rooks Fly Homeward" by Campbell/Baynon.

When rooks fly homeward and shadows fall, When roses flood on the hayward wall, when blind moths flutter by door and trees, then comes the quiet of Christ to me. When stars look out on the Children's path, and gray mists gather on carn and rath, when night is one with the brooding sea, then comes the quiet of Christ to me.

Guy and I spent many happy summer days with our grandparents in the Upper Peninsula, and we loved our inland seas, where we spent many happy hours playing in the sand and looking out over the water. The nights were so dark we could see the stars as we played hide and seek in the pitch dark of night, and our childhood paths were wandering through my grandfather's 55 acres of woods and mossy paths around the lake.

May all of us remember the people we have lost as we celebrate their lives during our All Saints' Day celebrations and may we give thanks for our country, neighbors and family as we celebrate Thanksgiving. If you know someone who may be alone this Thanksgiving, please reach out to them and invite them to be with your family, there is always room for one more person around the table.

Here is a rendition of "When Rooks Fly Homeward" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z3EflWjVN6g&pp=ygUXd2hlbiByb29rcyBmbHkgaG9tZXdhcmQ%3D



MUSIC IN THE HEART OF THE CITY

The 2023 - 2024 Music in the Heart of the City Concert Series continues! On November 19, 2023, Matthew Benkert will present an organ recital. We look forward to seeing Matthew again, and look forward to his skillful performance on the Dalton Memorial organ. The concert is at 4:00 pm. Tickets are \$12; U of M -Flint and Mott Community College students are free with a student ID.

The Dalton Memorial Organ at St. Paul's Episcopal Church was named after Florence Whiting Dalton. The instrument contains eight divisions, 71 registers, 88 ranks, and over 5,000 pipes. The pipes are housed in three functional cases plus an echo division in the rear gallery.

THE DALTON MEMORIAL ORGAN

Our current organ is the third organ built for St. Paul's Episcopal Church and was completed in 2018. This organ was built by Jerroll Adams of Milan Michigan, where he expanded and used the best of the pipe work from the second organ completed in 1940. The instrument contains eight divisions, 71 registers, 88 ranks and over 5,000 pipes. The pipes are housed in three functional cases plus an echo division in the rear gallery. The organ has a four manual console and a small two manual mini console in the gallery.



The organ was named after Florence Whiting Dalton, born to James H.

Whiting and Alice M. Northup. Alice died on December 30, 1940 and her family generously gifted the church with funds for the second organ. Today's organ pays tribute to the generous gift of her family, by continuing to be called the Dalton Memorial Organ.



November Artwalk

A PASSIONATE CRAFT OF ARTS

St. Paul's Artwalk is held once a month and displays artwork from many talented artists. Come out and experience it for yourself. Our Artwalk will be held from 6:00-8:30 PM on Friday, November 10, 2023.

ARTWALK ARTIST - Felicia West

I was born a native of Flint, Michigan; my drawing ability was discovered by my dad at the age of 7 years old. I continued my art at Summit Junior High School. I began my Art training at Northwestern High School in 1975 and continued through graduation in 1977. My photography started at the age of 10 years old. My mothers cousin, who was a professional photographer at the time, taught me

how to use and shoot with a professional canon camera. I joined the army in 1978 and became a truck and generator mechanic. I still continued with my art and music.

I attended Floyd J. McCree Theatre and Arts where I took art classes for two years. And then took some classes at Mott Community College where I studied art and photography and music. I still enjoy doing my music, art and photography with my interest in wildlife, Landscape drawing and photography. The type of drawing is pencils, pastels and oil painting. I also did crafts in ceramics and jewelry making. But art, music and photography are always my passion. My vision is to make my crafts known to the world.



Our musical performers for this month's Artwalk will be **Anne-Marie Atanga** accompanied by **Edward Arter**, St. Paul's Episcopal Church Organist.

Anne-Marie Atanga is a soprano studying Voice Performance and Neuroscience at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Her involvement in the arts started at the Flint School of Performing Arts (FSPA) at a young age. She won merit scholarships for piano, voice, and dance through the FSPA and St. Cecilia Music Society, and won the 2020 FSPA Concerto Competition. At the University of Michigan, Anne-Marie performed in the ensemble in "H.M.S. Pinafore" (Gilbert & Sullivan) and "We Rise for Freedom" (Hailstork). Additionally, she performed featured roles in "The Cunning Little Vixen" (Janáček) and returned as a soloist for the Grand Blanc Choral Society's presentation of Handel's "Messiah". You can read about the accomplishments of our young featured singer in the Flint Side article titled: "Genesee Early College valedictorian pursuing singing, neuroscience careers" A link to the article is at: https://www.flintside.com/inthenews/genesee-early-college-anne-marie-atanga.aspx

OUR THANKS TO:

Al Jones of **1175 Carpentry LLC** for our new (& perfectly matched) sacristy cabinets. Al also built our free standing altar in 2015. Thank you Al, your work is superb!



ALL SAINTS' AT GLENWOOD

Join us for an afternoon in Historic Glenwood Cemetery, as local churches and community partners remember the people and families of Flint's past. This is a community event, and everyone is welcome to take part in the tours and/or remembrance service. Docents will be posted throughout the cemetery for the self-guided walking tours. The ecumenical All Saints' service will take place at the Mausoleum on the cemetery's east side.

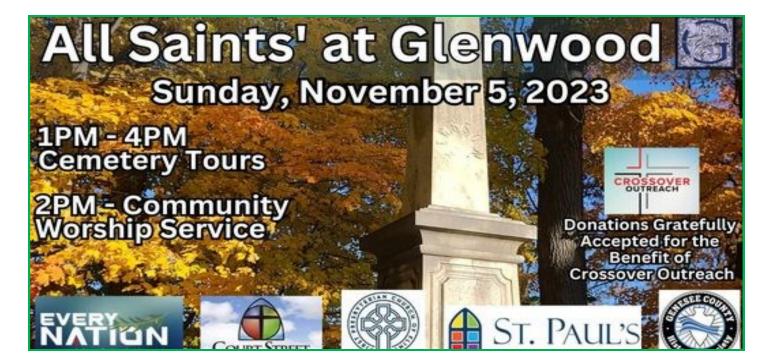
Walking Tours: 10:00PM to 4:00PM

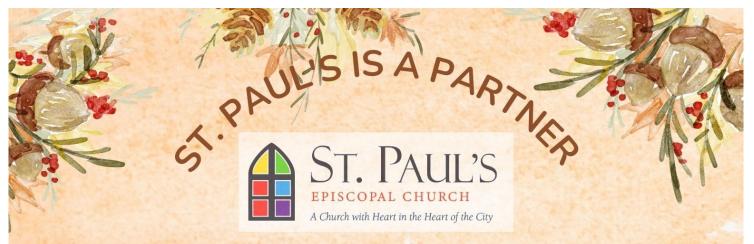
Worship Service: 2:00PM

This is a free event but donations will be gratefully accepted on behalf of Crossover Outreach.

Partners:

Court Street Methodist Church
Crossover Outreach
First Presbyterian Church
Genesee County Historical Society
Glenwood Cemetery
Every Nation Church
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
University of Michigan-Flint Department of History





Help Crossover Outreach This Year

Each Thanksgiving, Crossover Outreach serves 100 families and 20 senior citizens and/or special needs adults with a Thanksgiving dinner box. This provides the food needed to celebrate with family and friends and to give thanks.

Please share the love of the holiday season by donating the extra items that will complete the traditional Thanksgiving boxes provided by the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan. Items needed include: canned cranberries, powdered or canned gravy mix, canned sweet potatoes, canned green beans, canned corn and stuffing mix.

Bring your Thanksgiving food donations to St. Paul's on the next two Sundays

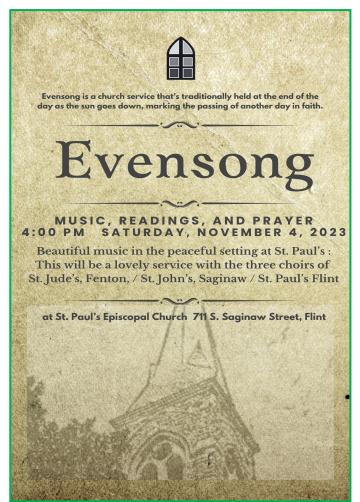
October 29 amd November 5

All food items will be delivered to Crossover by Friday, November 10.

If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and make note that the funds are for Crossover Thanksgiving.

Crossover Outreach is a nonprofit that St. Paul's supports in partnership with First Presbyterian Church of Flint, Riverside Tabernacle, and Court Street United Methodist Church. With this assistance, Crossover is able to purchase holiday food boxes from the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan. Our donations will provide the overal items pressessing to complete the boxes.







DONATE TO HUMANE SOCIETY

Mari Brooks, Marketing & Event Coordinator at the Humane Society of Genesee County, announced that The Dr. John Snell Medical Fund is setup and ready for donations. This is an ongoing fund for animals in the shelter that have an unexpected medical issue. The special fund was established to recognize the work that Dr. John Snell, a veterinarian, did for the Humane Society. Dr. Snell is a retired veterinarian, a former parishioner of St. Paul's, and was an active member of Outreach Ministry with his wife, Mary. (They live **where????)**

You may donate by sending checks, money orders or cash to the Humane Society and request that the donation is for **The Dr. John Snell Medical Fund.**

Donate on the website geneseehumane.org and choose Give/Specify an amount/ Where can we designate your gift?/choose from the dropdown menu - **The Dr. John Snell Medical Fund.**

Mari also said that The Dr. John Snell Medical Fund will be the reverse auction for an upcoming event. I requested clarification on the event and the reverse auction process.

From Diversity....

We acknowledged **Breast Cancer Awareness** and **Domestic Violence Awareness** for the month of October.

St. Paul's had a team of about 12 members to join the Breast Cancer walk on a particular cold, wet, and windy Saturday morning. We wore our special #TeamJelecia shirts and walked the distance everyone felt capable of doing. The support was wonderful to see.

Domestic Violence information was posted in the News & Notes page over the course of the month. Tips and resources were provided, as well as statistics and facts to help oneself or others.

In other Diversity news -

A list of important/notable days in October was posted in the News & Notes page. This will continue each month from now on.

The **Ofrenda** will be up until All Souls' Day November 2nd.

November is **Native American Heritage Month**. Further info will be provided on the News & Notes page.

BREAST CANCER WALK





Here are a few beautiful pictures from the Breast Cancer Awareness Walk event.



Ministry Announcements

Invitation

Some of you may recall pledge seasons of the past, when various parishioners went to the lectern to share their thoughts on stewardship, generosity, and abundance. Somehow, we've gotten away from that practice. This year, the Stewardship Ministry hopes to bring it back for our 2023 Campaign.

Our campaign season begins on September 17th and includes 11 Sundays through the Last Sunday after Pentecost. **Our hope is that each ministry group might take responsibility for sharing a 5-minute announcement on one of those Sundays.** If your group decides not to do an announcement, no worries... no pressure. This is simply an opportunity to take a few minutes (5 tops) for someone in the ministry to help the congregation understand your ministry.

The Episcopal Network for Stewardship offers a new theme and appropriate passage that we use each year to guide and organize our annual pledge campaign. The scripture passage this year is from **Jeremiah 17:7-8**

"Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit."

11/5 - Building and Grounds

11/12 - Finance

11/19 - Order of St. Luke

11/26 - Vestry

November's Liturgy Schedule

Dates		Lector 1	Lector 2	Intercessor (Prayers of People)	Eucharistic Minister	Crucifer	Verger
5-Nov-2023		Lanie Nix	Elizabeth Jordan	Barb Mannor	Jelecia Geraghty	Erynn Ford	Ed Walthers
12-Nov-2023	G	Rebecca Bennett	Mike Farver	Eloise Jordan	TaMara Oertel	Maddie Cherry	Ed Walthers
19-Nov-2023	В	Joel Arnold	Barb Mannor	Lanie Nix	Ed Walthers	Bill Johnson	_
26-Nov-2023		TaMara Oertel	Eloise Jordan	Kim Ramirez	Tim Grant	Maddie Cherry	Ed Walthers

Your Vestry:

(all at stpaulschurchflint.com)
Walt Peake, Senior Warden
seniorwarden@stpaulschurchflint.com

Dr. Elizabeth Jordan, Junior Warden (Building and Grounds)(juniorwarden@) (Diversity) (Member of Diocesan Council) (elizabeth@)

Jan Bugbee, Treasurer (Finance) (treasurer@)

Tina Morrison, Clerk of the Vestry (clerk@) (Worship)

Heather Gagnon (Pastoral Care) (heather@)

Joel Arnold (Intersection 150 & PSP) (joel@)

Celeste Lord Timlin (Outreach)
(celeste@)

Zan Milner (Stewardship) (zan@)

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For our Homebound Parishoners:

Joy Fusi, Judy Stoerman, Doris Carroll, Marion Leman, Richard Wooten, Greg Vanucci, Russ Matar



The story follows two religious sisters whose lives and community are altered forever when their French refugee maid, Babette, wins a lottery and uses her winnings to prepare a sumptuous French feast for her ascetic mistresses and their congregation.

Oh, how you will enchant the angels!

Movies are on the 3rd Wednesdays of the month.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Remember St. Paul's in your will:

Please consider helping the mission and ministry of St. Paul's by remembering the church in your will. You can do so by using the following wording:

"I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, a non-profit church, with the current address of 711 S. Saginaw, Flint, MI 48502, and its successor, the greater of \$______, or _____percentage of my gross estate, to be used in such manner as determined by its vestry."



St. Paul's Episcopal Church 711 South Saginaw St. Flint, MI 48502

