



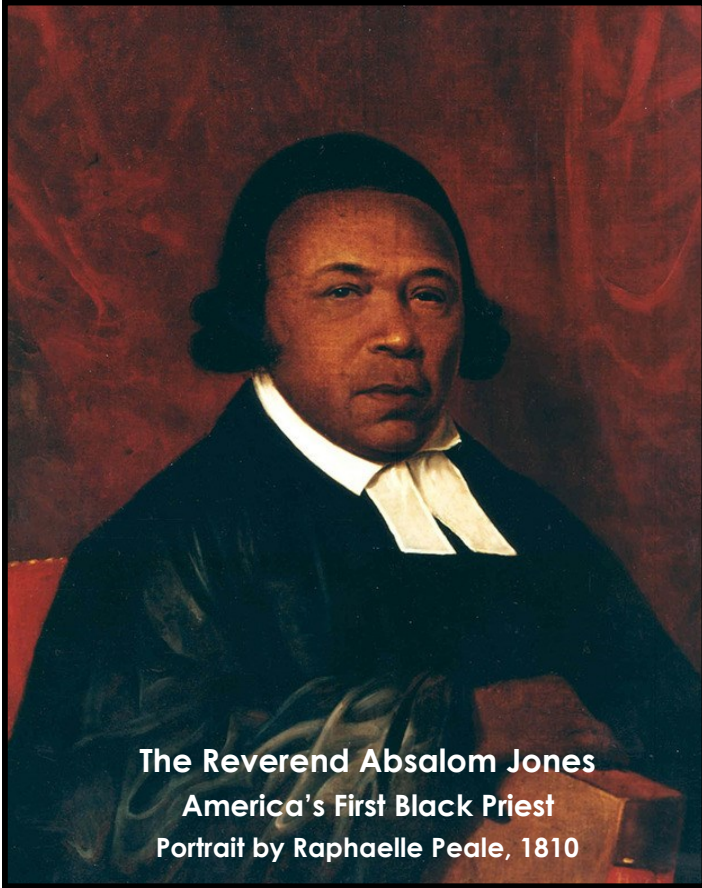
**THE
EPISTLE**



**February
2024**



Black History



The Reverend Absalom Jones
America's First Black Priest
Portrait by Raphaele Peale, 1810



Month



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

711 South Saginaw St., Flint, Michigan 48502
810.234.8637 www.stpaulschurchflint.com



A Note from Tom

"We must live together as brothers or perish together as fools."

— Martin Luther King Jr.

Last night a group of us saw the new documentary film, *A Case for Love*. The film asked a number of very hard questions about the status of love in the world. Questions like, is love dead? Does the hate in the world overpower love? And perhaps most importantly, what does love look like?

Part of the film was devoted to creating a definition of love. The producers interviewed random people and asked them to share their own definitions of love. And as I watched I kept thinking of my own, one-word definition. And for me, that word is *inconvenient*.

Yes, I believe that love is inconvenient. By that I mean that a real expression of love requires that we put ourselves out in such a way that we *sacrifice* something. We might have to sacrifice time, money, or effort. And if that sacrifice is such that it is not *convenient*, then it is—by my definition—an act of love.

For example, anyone can casually hand a homeless person a few bucks and move on. But to take some time from our busy lives, to carefully listen to or talk with such a person, to take a genuine interest in his or her life, *that* is an act of love. It may be inconvenient, certainly, but in my mind it is a real expression of love.

And as our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry pointed out in *A Case for Love*, many small acts of love done by lots of people can collectively change the world. If everyone intentionally performed small acts of love (he challenged us to do it for 30 days) then we could stop the flow of hate in the world and replace it with a river of love.

And, to be frank, this is our mission as Christians. Jesus charged us to *love* our neighbor. And as Bishop Curry has said many, many times in his life....

"If it's not about love, it's not about God."

With every blessing...

Tom+



HOLLY'S NOTES



Last summer as I was wandering around a friend introduced me to a new publication called Oxford Press book of African American Composers. So I purchased the book and began reading the music the editor had included and came upon a piece by Adolphus Hailstork, titled "God Be Merciful". Our choir will sing this piece for Ash Wednesday and the following Sunday, February 21. Not only is it a beautiful piece of music, we get to highlight a gift to American Music written by a man who is of African American descent, and taught here in our own state of Michigan at MSU from 1969-1971. Dr. Hailstork is an American gem having studied in France with Nadia Boulanger, completing his Phd in composition from Michigan State in 1971. He has won many prestigious awards for composition and is currently 82 yrs old.

The text is as follows and is from Psalm 67:1-4

*God, God, God be merciful unto us,
And bless us; and cause thy face to shine upon us.
May thy way be known upon the earth, and thy saving health among all nations.
Let the people praise thee, O God, let the people praise thee, O god;
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, let the nations be glad and sing for joy.
God, God, God be merciful unto us, Amen.*

<https://youtu.be/TS5tSUjVkJT4?t=151>

I hope you enjoy this beautiful piece of music as we begin the season of Lent together.

Holly Richardson, Director of Music

*Holly Richardson
Director of Music, St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Artistic Director, St. Paul's Music in the Heart of the City
Flint, Michigan
810.234.8637 ext. 100~ office*



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



VESTRY 2024

TaMara Oertel - Senior Warden

Joel Arnold - Junior Warden

Tina Morrison - Clerk/Secretary

Zan Milner

Heather Gagnon

Celeste Lord-Timlin

Karen Schaefer

Jan Bugbee - Treasurer (Non-voting)

Tim Grant - Chaplain (Non-voting)



ANNUAL MEETING

From the Diversity Corner....

February is Black History Month, and there will be much to learn and experience. Our culture and history are rich and varied and will be celebrated daily in many ways. The annual Feast of Absalom Jones will take place on Sunday, February 11th during and after the 10:00 am service. This year, we are blessed to have The Honorable Judge Tabitha Marsh as our keynote speaker. 'One Night in Miami' is our February Movie Night choice and should be a good time. The artist for 2nd Friday Art Walk is **Errin Whitaker**, and we look forward to enjoying his art. Daily Black History facts will be posted on the News & Notes Facebook page.

March is Women's History Month. Women's History Month is a time for reflection, appreciation, and celebration. It is an important time to recognize contributions both large and small that have changed our lives for the better. Information and facts will be shared daily on the News & Notes page.

We look forward to finding new ways to incorporate diversity into the daily life of St. Paul's Episcopal Church and expect good things for 2024.

St. Paul's Movie Night One Night In Miami

Come out and enjoy a
movie with us!

Wednesday, February 21,
2024 Meet at 5:30 pm,
Movie at 6:00 pm.



RECOGNIZING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

ONE NIGHT IN MIAMI

What IF there was one incredible night where icons Muhammad Ali, Malcolm X, Sam Cooke, and Jim Brown gathered in Miami to discuss their roles in the Civil Rights Movement and cultural upheaval of the 60s.

MOVIE NIGHT

This is fictional, but what if?

Meet at 5:30 pm
Movie at 6:00 pm
February 21, 2024

A movie poster for 'One Night in Miami' showing four men in suits standing in front of a building. The text 'AMPTON HOUSE HOTEL & VILLAS' is visible on the building. The men are Muhammad Ali, Malcolm X, Sam Cooke, and Jim Brown.

 ST. PAUL'S
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Movies are on the 3rd Wednesdays of the month. St. Paul's Episcopal Church

EPISCOPAL KALEIDOSCOPE AT ST. PAUL'S

What is the Nave?

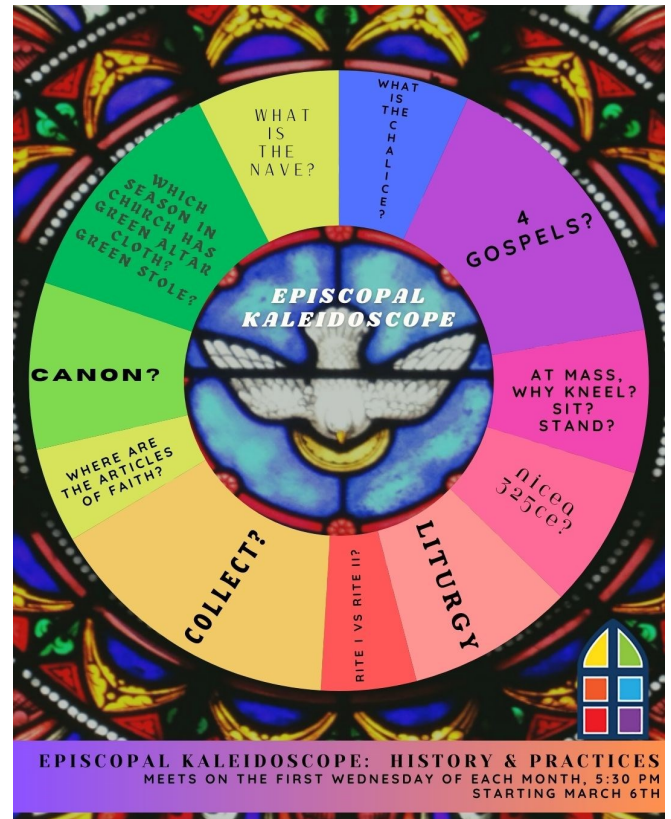
What are the Articles of Faith?

4 Gospels?

Want to know more about the history and practices of the Episcopal Church?

Participate in Episcopal 101 - The College for Congregational Development at St. Paul's Episcopal Church!

The College for Congregational Development is a comprehensive training program within the Episcopal Church that seeks to nurture and develop practitioners from within existing parish lay and clergy. In the summer of 2023, four of our parishioners participated in a week-long training session in order to bring this training to St. Paul's. Rebecca Bennett, Tom Shriver, Lanie Nix, and Mike Farver have developed a program called 'Episcopal Kaleidoscope: History and Practices'. Sessions will start at St. Paul's on March 6th, at 5:30 PM, and will continue on the first Wednesday of every month. Plan to participate in this Episcopal 101 training. Materials will be provided - just bring a pen and your desire to learn about all things Episcopal.



Jimmy Leach



Trumpeter and singer Jimmy Leach plays and sings the great jazz standards of the 20th century. With a lyrical tenor voice and flawless trumpet technique.

Jimmy's concerts have something for everyone including songs performed in Spanish, Italian, German, Portuguese, Japanese, Hebrew, and French.

Jimmy leads his band in clubs and concerts as well as classical wedding music for ceremonies and wedding band for receptions. Dr. Leach will be in concert Feb. 25th at 4:00pm.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Flint MI



LECTOR TRAINING SESSION First Session of 2024

**Saturday, February 10, 2024
10:00 am - 11:30 am**

**This session is for new readers, and for
experienced ones - Study together:**

What do you hear in the reading?

How do you proclaim it?

What is the role of the lector?

The role of the vergers

Practical aspects of being a lector

Please join other members of the parish for an opportunity to read for supportive feedback. Not everyone who comes to these meetings goes on to become a lector; but there is value in simply coming together to share the Word.

After our meetings open with prayer, we may begin with a discussion about why we read and how we got started, what makes for effective reading, or who and what has influenced us. Then we study a reading for proclamation.

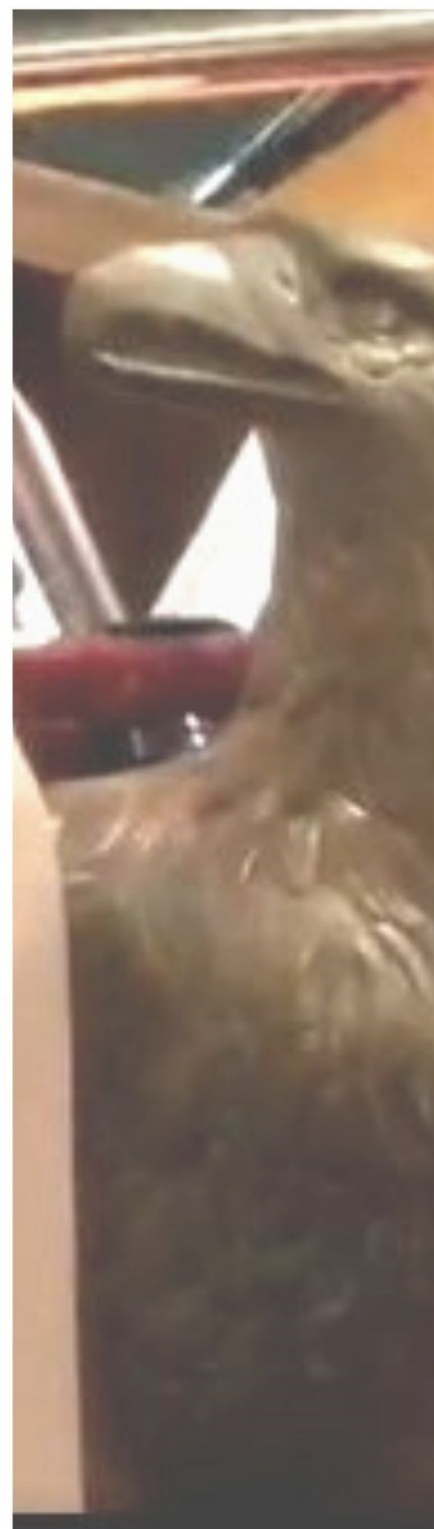
St Paul's is blessed with a rich diversity of voices. Once when we were studying the story of the Ethiopian eunuch from Acts 8, someone noticed a line that sounded like the eunuch had a bit of an attitude, but someone else heard and read the line differently. Soon everyone around the table had a different shade of insight to offer. Each had heard the Word and spoke the Word that they heard.

The purpose of these sessions is to consider together how we hear the scriptures speaking to us and to encourage each other in the effective ministration of the Word.

It'll be a richer experience if you're there.

In the upstairs conference room

There will be a sign up sheet in the Welcome Center



◆ stations of the CROSS

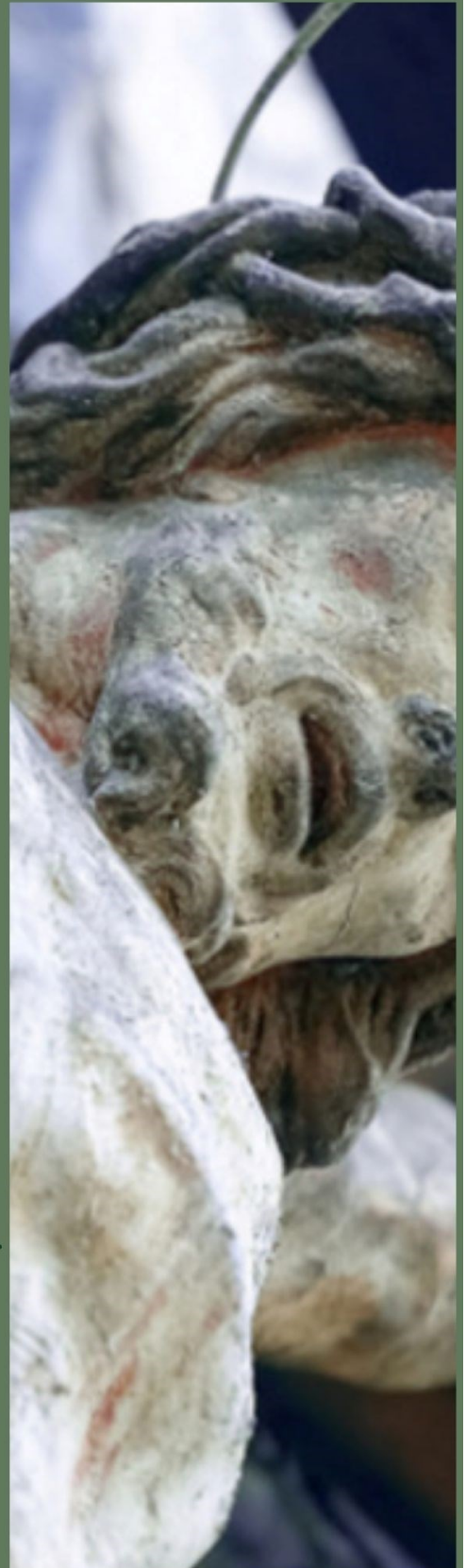
Pray the Stations of the Cross with St. Paul's Episcopal Church every Friday during Lent. Each Friday we will utilize a different version of the service from various traditions within the wider church.

Fridays during Lent 6:30 PM
Sanctuary

"Stations is a service of remembrance as we walk with Jesus in His procession to the cross. All are welcome to join us on this journey.

Learn more about the observance of the holy season of Lent, and the celebration of Easter -

@STPAULSCHURCHFLINT.COM



Save the Date

PANCAKE SUPPER

Make plans to join us on Shrove Tuesday for a parish pancake supper. This is a St. Paul's tradition to celebrate a day of pre-fasting indulgence.

**TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 13, 2024**

5:00 pm - 7:30 pm in Barth Hall

Photos
from
2023



SHROVE TUESDAY:

PANCAKES & SAUSAGE : MAKE FOR PARISH TRADITIONS

Celebrated the day before Ash Wednesday, Shrove Tuesday (also called "Pancake Tuesday") is the final day before the 40-day period of Lent begins. Its name comes from the Germanic-Old English word "shrive," meaning absolve, and it is the last day of the liturgical season historically known as Shrovetide.



ST. PAUL'S
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Ministry Matters

A big thank you and congratulations to the new **Outreach** chairperson Edythe Peake and co-chair Norine Leatzow.



STAFF PARKING

PLEASE be courteous and mindful when parking in the church's lot. Staff parking spots are for paid employees of the church. Some staff members come at different times on different days and it should not be difficult for them to find a place to park to unload things if necessary due to others parking in the designated spots. If you are not a staff member please be courteous and park elsewhere. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Thank you all!



February's Liturgy Schedule

Dates		Lector 1	Lector 2	Intercessor (Prayers of People)	Eucharistic Minister	Crucifer	Verger
4-Feb-2024		Lanie Nix	Edythe Peake	Mike Farver	Erynn Ford	Jelesia Geraghty	Mike Farver
11-Feb-2024	G	Kim Ramirez	Ed Walthers	Barb Mannor	TaMara Oertel	Bill Johnson	Ed Walthers
18-Feb-2024	B	Joel Arnold	Mike Farver	Eloise Jordan	Jelesia Geraghty	Maddie Cherry	Mike Farver
25-Feb-2024		Pat Emenyonu	Barb Mannor	Lanie Nix	Ed Walthers	Bill Johnson	Ed Walthers

Your Vestry:

(all at stpaulschurchflint.com)

TaMara Oertel, Senior Warden
(Education) (Finance)
(seniorwarden@)

Jan Bugbee, Treasurer (Finance)
(treasurer@)

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

Heather Gagnon (Pastoral Care)
(heather@)

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

Celeste Lord Timlin (Outreach)
(celeste@)

Zan Milner (Stewardship)
(zan@)

Karen Schaefer (Outreach)
(karen@)

Staff:

The Rev. Thomas Manney

Priest-in-Charge

rector@stpaulschurchflint.com

Karein Russell

Administrative Assistant

Editor; The Epistle

stpoffice@stpaulschurchflint.com

George Gibson,

Director of Finance (directoroffinance@)

Holly Richardson,

Director of Music (directorofmusic@)

Rafael McDaniel, Gospel Choir Director

(gospel@)

Ed Arter, Organist (organist@)

Terence Whitehead, Sexton

Edythe Peake, Web Editor

(webeditor@stpaulschurchflint.com)



For our Homebound Parishoners:

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



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."



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