



THE
EPISTLE



NOVEMBER
2025



Give Thanks
Unto the Lord,
For He
Is Good!

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A Note from Tom

I read with some excitement recently, of the election of the Right Reverend Cherry Vann as Archbishop of Wales. Bishop Vann was among the first women to be ordained a priest in the Church of England, in 1994 (which was the first year that the Church of England allowed the ordination of women to the priesthood). She became a bishop in 2020.



Her election as Archbishop of Wales is not surprising considering her leadership. She served as a diocesan archdeacon before becoming a bishop, and she has a reputation as a 'healer' in the church, having taken over for other, troubled clergy. She is clearly an excellent candidate for the job.

At issue is Bishop Vann's sexuality, being in a committed relationship with her partner, Wendy. Should this matter? Well not to us of course, but the Church of England still does not allow same-sex marriages (although Anglican clergy may offer blessings to same-sex couples). And her election has met with great criticism from some church leaders in Africa.

Archbishop Henry Ndukuba is the leader of the church Nigeria, and this is what he said: "We have come to the point where a clarion call must be sounded: 'Who is on the Lord's side?'"

I must confess, this made me laugh. Who is on the Lord's side?!? This comment would suggest that a person's sexuality somehow cancels their faith in God. That those people who do not care about other people's sexual identities cannot be 'on the Lord's side'. So I ask you, does this make sense?

What *does* make sense is to instead follow Christ's commandments to love God and to love others. Because it is through the sharing of love that we truly join God at his side. A God who loves all of us, by the way, regardless of sexuality.

Congratulations Archbishop Vann!

With every blessing...

Tom+



Holly's Notes

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

2 Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress.
Praise him, still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness!

3 Fatherlike he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows.
In his hand he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows!

4 Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face.
Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

I really love this hymn. It makes me smile just to read the words. There are so many truths to cling to as you read through it. As chaotic as our world has become recently, it is soothing to realize God loves us and he is faithful and protects us. To me this is a proclamation about the wonder and power of a loving God, and everyone at some point will bow down before him.

The words were written by Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847) born in Scotland and became a cleric in 1815. He attended Trinity College in Dublin, where he won prizes for his poetry.

The bulletin blurb suggested the following: "Lyte's text speaks to the love of God and our dependence on Him in a clear and imaginative way. Think of what might happen if we woke up every day with these words on our lips: "Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore His praises sing." How would our lives change if we walked through our days singing "Alleluia!" or through our times of sorrow declaring that we rest in the gentle hand of God? This is a text with beautiful imagery and thoughtful prose that, like Psalm 103, gives us words to praise our God with heart, mind, and soul."

[Hymnary.org](https://www.hymnary.org)

Peace to all of you as we celebrate our national holiday of Thanksgiving and begin our Advent season. I know that many of your dinner tables will be missing loved and dear ones. May God hold you in his hand as you soldier on through this season.

[Praise my Soul the King of Heaven Lyrics https://youtu.be/RqbhPGFiIxc](https://youtu.be/RqbhPGFiIxc)

Holly Richardson, Director of Music

St. Paul's Artwalk

St. Paul's Artwalk is on Friday, November 14, 2025 at 6pm and it's open to everyone!

Featured Artist: Ann Chan, Abstract Acrylic

Ann Chan is a local artist. She has studied primarily with Donovan Entrekin at the FIA and has taken many workshops with the artist Ken Kewley.

She is an abstract artist focused on color and movement. She uses color and movement as a means to portray various feelings and issues.

Featured Musician: Dr. Quincy Dobbs, Organ

Dr. Quincy Dobbs was on the road September 11, 2001 to take a position at Woodside Church, Flint, Michigan as Music Director/Organist. He began teaching at the Flint School of Performing Arts in 2022 where he continues to teach and administer as Piano Department Chair. His studio is filled with students from all the keyboard instruments, piano, organ, harpsichord and accordion. Active in the community providing music for all occasions. Currently, he is Music Director/Organist at All Saint Episcopal Church, East Lansing. His love of Flint and its many amazing musicians and artists provides his inspiration to be as involved as he can. Thanks for the opportunity to provide music with Kim Streby for St. Paul's Artwalk experience.

Dr. Quincy Dobbs

ATTENTION

FROM THE
COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY

**It's THAT time:
The Angel Tree is Going Up!**

The Angel Tree will be up, **starting November 16th**, and through the next several Sundays. We have the names of 20 children to help have a happy Christmas. Please consider selecting a Christmas Ornament from our Angel Tree. Members of the Outreach Ministry will have guidelines about presents, dates, gift selections, and wrapping. PLEASE return all Angel Tree gifts by December 8th so Santa can deliver them on time.

Questions? Contact Carole Davis or any other member of the Community Outreach Ministry.



Communities of Faith

November 2025



Hello everyone!

Another very busy month behind us. As I write this, diocesan convention is still on the horizon, our trip to the Ziibiwing Center, and the Halloween Party are still all yet to come! Hopefully by the time you read this, all of these events will have gone off without a hitch. This month's article will be a little bit longer than normal as I try to fit in a few updates about ongoing projects and highlight a couple of things occurring in the coming month.

What you see below is a very typical month, but also at first glance after a fundraiser we didn't distribute as much money as one would expect. The thing is, that even with a fundraiser, a lot of these situations are solvable with putting people into contact with resources that already exist, or doing that and then telling them to let me know when they've done that because we can't help with over a thousand dollars, but, we can help with \$300-400, and if those other resources can help with the rest then we can all come together and help. One of my big focuses is on doing that - building a network of resources and relationships that allow us to uplift people.

To that end we continue to work towards getting our campus ministry off the ground. I've reworked the vision for that as focusing on U of M - Flint, and building a relationship with student organizations and exploring how we can support them and their needs rather than assuming their needs. With that in mind, the Center for Gender and Sexuality is hosting a Trans Day of Remembrance on Tuesday, November 18th. I will have more details to share as soon as I have them. They moved their service to this day in order to make way for our own Trans Day of Remembrance Service on Thursday, November 20th. This year, that service will be hosted at People's Church of Flint on Garland St. at 6PM.

Velesia asked me to thank everyone that came out to support the breast cancer walk on October 11th, we had about ten people to walk in remembrance of Jelesia and in support of her family. The bulletin board that Lysa Fischer has up can still be seen in Barth Hall with some pictures from previous years' walks. This month is Homelessness Awareness Month, and our own Tiffani Wharry will be speaking about this at the end of the month on November 30th. This month is also Indigenous Heritage Month, which is why we try to have our field trip to the Ziibiwing Center in Mt. Pleasant near the end of October the last couple of years. One of the things we are doing as a diocese is exploring our relationship with the indigenous peoples of Michigan and acknowledging our history and involvement with the residential schools in the state, most prominently with Allegan County in the 1830s.

As always, if you have questions, comments, concerns, or want to just sit down and talk, my email is rayna@stpaulschurchflint.com and you can also find me in the middle office from 10-3 on Tuesday and Wednesday. If you have a picture or event for the website or the bulletin screens, please feel free to email them to me as well.

Rayna

Need	Request	Given	Total Requested	Total Given	Date
Housing	\$350	\$350	31564.22	7606.43	10/7/2025
Housing	\$2,178	Resources*	33742.22	7606.43	10/7/2025
Housing	\$1,378	Resources*	35120.62	7606.43	10/9/2025
Water	\$365	Resources*	35485.8	7606.43	10/10/2025
Rent	\$800	Resources*	36285.8	7606.43	10/14/2025
Housing	\$1,866	Resources*	38151.8	7606.43	10/21/2025
Rent	\$1,650	Resources*	39801.8	7606.43	10/21/2025

The Sound of Silence

... a day of prayer

Centering Prayer seeks God in
silent spaces,
silent places.

Drawing on
the story of Elijah,
who met the Lord in silence:

Where do WE
find God in silence?
Where are we in this story?

What comes next for us?

**Facilitated by
Deacon Anna Leigh Kubbe**

**Saturday, November 8, 2025
10:00 am - 2:00 pm**



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
A Church with Heart in the Heart of the City

HEARTFELT MESSAGE FROM OUR PARTNER

Please respond generously if you can.

Bring your offerings to the church on Sunday November 2nd or 9th.

We are so very blessed by our St. Paul's family and are looking forward to the holiday season! We are currently preparing for Thanksgiving (plus new winter coats and boots for children, and Christmas).

For Thanksgiving this year, we're hoping you can help us with the extra items we need to complete the Thanksgiving Boxes. We will be handing out the Thanksgiving Bags starting November 18th through November 26th. Though we receive our holiday boxes early, there are things that we include that are not available through the food bank usually. We would love to have any items donated here at Crossover by Friday, Nov. 14th to place them in the bags! Following is a blurb about why we need items and what type of items would be most helpful

Thanksgiving carries a deeper meaning this year.

For families facing food insecurity, especially those impacted by government shutdowns or delays in EBT benefits – gathering around a table for a Thanksgiving meal can feel like an impossible dream.

At Crossover, our mission each year is to make that dream a reality for **100 families and 20 senior citizens or adults with special needs**. We provide boxes filled with **traditional Thanksgiving foods**, helping families come together around a shared meal – offering not only nourishment, but also a sense of normalcy, gratitude, and hope.

These Thanksgiving boxes are more than just food – they are a gift of dignity and love in a season that can be especially hard for those with little or nothing left in their budgets.

While we purchase base holiday boxes from the **Food Bank of Eastern Michigan**, they often contain non-holiday staples, which we gratefully use to support families throughout the year. But to make these boxes *truly feel like Thanksgiving*, we need your help.

We're asking for donations of specific items to complete our Thanksgiving boxes:

- Canned cranberry sauce
- Canned Gravy (or packets) – No Glass please!
- Canned sweet potatoes
- Green beans and corn
- Stuffing mix

Any of these items – or others you feel inspired to give – will help us round out the meal and lift the hearts of those we serve.

Join us in sharing the love of Christ, restoring hope, and rebuilding lives – one Thanksgiving table at a time. Thank you for your generosity and your heart for others.

As always, we are truly blessed to have your support!

Thank you so much for all you do!

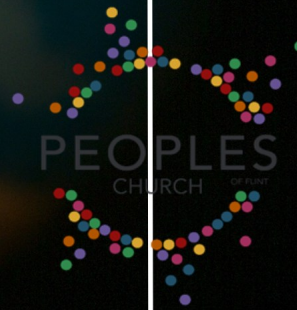
Blessings & Gratitude,

Denise

TRANS DAY OF REMEMBRANCE



PEOPLE'S CHURCH OF FLINT
503 GARLAND ST. FLINT, MI
NOVEMBER 20, 2025
6PM



COURT STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

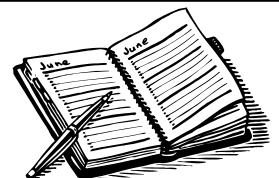


ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CONFIRMATION CLASSES: are available on Thursdays in the Library and if you're interested reach out to Fr. Tom!



The Parish Office will be Closed: November 27th - 28th
in observance of Thanksgiving.
HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY!



What Are You Thankful for?



ACTIVITY: List 10 things you are truly thankful for.

Thankful for:
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

November's Liturgy Schedule

Dates		Lector 1	Lector 2	Intercessor (Prayers of the People)
2-Nov-2025*		Rayna Hauter	Tiffani Wharry	TaMara Oertel
9-Nov-2025	G	Rajaad Cuthbertson- Twine	Dylan Bade	Rebecca Bennett
16-Nov-2025	B	Elizabeth Jordan	Pat Emenyonu	Tim Grant
23-Nov-2025		Dylan Bade	Pam Bailey	Elizabeth Jordan
30-Nov-2025	G	Lysa Fischer	Shane Geraghty	Shay Natchez

Dates		Eucharistic Minister	Crucifer	Verger	8:00 AM
2-Nov-2025*		Ed Walthers	Dylan Baade	R. Cuthbertson-Twine	Ed Walthers
9-Nov-2025	G	Tim Grant	Rayna Hauter	Ed Walthers	Rayna Hauter
16-Nov-2025	B	Rayna Hauter	Ed Walthers	R. Cuthbertson-Twine	Ed Walthers
23-Nov-2025		Rayna Hauter	R. Cuthbertson-Twine	Brandon Adams	Tim Grant
30-Nov-2025	G	TaMara Oertel	Dylan Baade	Ed Walthers	Tamara Oertel

November 2025 Birthdays

11/1	EMENYONU, Ernest
11/1	SPRAGUE, William
11/3	BOMMARITO, Mike
11/4	HART, Maggie
11/4	MANNOR, Theodore
11/13	FISCHER, Lysa
11/14	LEMIEUX, Linda
11/14	PEAKE, Walter
11/20	ROLLINS, Minette
11/25	WHARRY, Jameson
11/30	WALTHERS, Ed



St. Paul's Movie Night



Your Vestry:

(all at stpaulschurchflint.com)

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

Karen Schaefer, Junior Warden
(juniorwarden@)(Outreach)(karen@)

Jan Bugbee, Treasurer/Clerk of the Vestry (Finance) (treasurer@)(clerk@)

Rebecca Bennett (Rebecca@)

Heather Gagnon (Pastoral Care)
(heather@)

Robert Cuthbertson-Twine (Diversity)
(Robert@)

Zan Milner (Stewardship)
(zan@)

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Ed Arter, Organist (organist@)

Terence Whitehead, Sexton

Edythe Peake, Web Editor

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SUBMISSION TO THE EPISTLE

When submitting articles or notices of events to *The Epistle*, please submit via e-mail to:

STPOffice@stpaulschurchflint.com.

When sending in articles please make sure they are in a simple format to copy and paste. Submission reminders go out on the 15th of every month. Submission deadlines are the 25th of every month.

Thanks!



For our Homebound Parishioners:

Joy Fusi, Judy Stoerman,
Doris Carroll, Greg Vanucci,
Russ Matar

Worship at St. Paul's

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:00 am

Wednesday: 12:10 p.m.

The link below will take you to the St. Paul's Parish Calendar.

<https://stpaulschurchflint.com/elementor-638/>

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

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

