



MAY
2026



THE
EPISTLE



 **ST. PAUL'S**
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Flint, Michigan 48502
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	PG.
A Note from Tom	2
Holly's Notes	3
Communities of Faith, Thank You	4
St. Paul's Nursery, Camp Time	5
Stewardship Day	6
Capital Campaign	7
Upcoming Events	8-9
Liturgy Schedule, Birthdays, Anniversaries	10
Vestry, Staff, Reminders	11

A Note from Tom



Throughout my seven years since ordination, I have often been asked when I first knew that I wanted to be a priest. The answer, which is true, is that I have almost always felt called to the ministry. Ever since I became an acolyte (at around ten years old) and since I was the son of a priest, the calling for me was strong and authentic.

As I look back at those years, however, I think my attachment to the church was largely a matter of my own personal identity. My family members were all Episcopalians. It was the only faith I had ever known. I was proud of my church and proud of its history.

But things changed when I started attending a catholic high school. As an Episcopalian, I was a little bit of an outsider. I did not attend one of the numerous catholic parishes on Detroit's east side. I had never had an individual confession. But like every other student at Notre Dame High School, I was required to take four years of Religion classes.

And this, I believe, is where my real formation began to take shape. The priests at Notre Dame never made me feel like an outcast. I was allowed to take communion (this is back in the late 1970's), and I was often instructed in the differences between our two faiths. From the priests who taught religion, I developed an authentic love of God, an informed understanding of Christ, and a love of sacramental liturgy.

But what really motivated me towards ordained ministry was my fondness for those same catholic priests who were my teachers. Not only were they committed in their vocations, but they were kind, loving people. From them I learned what the priesthood is, or at least what it should be. I wanted to be like them because I felt such a strong commitment to what they did.

Life circumstances prevented me from entering the priesthood early in my life, but the call never left me. I remember a frank prayer with God years later: 'I think it might be time, Lord.' Time to finally pursue this calling. Time to pursue this ministry. Time to pursue the priesthood.

With every blessing...

Tom+



Holly's Notes

As all of you know, I have suffered a catastrophic loss - as many of you have. This happens in everyone's life at some point. The songs of our lives certainly make pain and sorrow more potent and help us grieve. As our children have gathered we have all said, love is worth the risk of sorrow. We know that BR loved us, just as much as we loved him.

I have written about Breathe on me, Breath of God before. It is still one of my favorite hymns and sustains at this time of great sorrow and loss.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love,
and do what you would do.



2 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with yours,
to do and to endure.

3 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life
for all eternity.



The word "endure" is essential. I Corinthians 13:7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. I have to trust that the love of God for me and for our family will sustain and help us endure, even this.

Thank-you for all of your prayers, hugs, flowers, cards, the extra smiles, the pain I see in your faces mirrors mine, I am sure.

As our family made the decision to remove life support, we all were in agreement, this is not how BR would want to live. The ICU doctor called me the next day and said, "your family has touched our lives in a way that was unexpected, we are so sorry that we could not save him. Please know that you have impacted my staff in an unusual and wonderful way. The way you worked together and came to decisions about Bruce's care helped us all." The love of Christ lives on, even in death, and the love we show others through our pain will hopefully make all of us more Christ like and show the love of Christ to others.

Holly Richardson

Director of Music



Communities of Faith

May 2026

Hello everyone!

I want to open this month by saying thank you to everyone who has engaged and who does engage with the resources that we have here at St. Paul's. Whether that's donating to the assistance fund or capital campaign, or telling me about some new resource that I didn't know about, or pointing me out to someone who comes into our church seeking the grace that this world so often doesn't hand out. Thank you. I hope to see you at the Ministry Fair on May 24th where I will have a booth for campus ministry and the assistance ministry set up.

This month has also seen us be awarded a grant for campus ministry, which will allow us to more purposefully engage with our campus partners. If you've ever felt called towards Young Adult or Campus Ministry, please reach out to me. I would gladly welcome your assistance with this. I have a vision for how I'd like to see these funds used and this ministry grow.

We have been very blessed this year with the grants that we have received in order to support our ministries, from diocesan grants supporting CrossOver and Family Promise to grants supporting our campus ministry dreams and assistance ministry. These resources would not be possible without y'all reaching out and forwarding things you see to me and informing me that they exist. It also, unfortunately, is often times not enough - look no further than our "Total requested" vs. "Total Given" so far this year and see the over \$11,000 difference between the two. To that end, I am hoping to have an early summer/late spring fundraiser of some sort for the assistance ministry, so as I figure more out about that I will let you know.

I am always happy to talk about ministries, faith, or anything else that you'd like to talk about.

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
Housing	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$14,080.22	\$4,055.36
Property Tax	\$1,700.00	\$300.00	\$15,780.22	\$4,355.36
Rent	\$112.00	\$112.00	\$15,892.22	\$4,467.36

I wish to thank everyone who did so very much for the Funeral for Bruce, April 25. The service and dinner were wonderful, our family appreciates all you did for us that day, and for the days going forward as we grieve the loss of our husband, father, and grandfather. It was a lot of work, I realize, and I just want you all to know how grateful I am to each and everyone of you.

Holly Richardson

Thank You

NEWS ABOUT ST. PAUL'S NURSERY

St Paul's has hired Theresa Roach as our Nursery attendant for Sunday mornings from 9:30 - 11:30 am. The Nursery room (215) is located on the second floor. We welcome all children under 4 years of age to our new room. It is now stocked with toys, books and other play items for our young children to enjoy during the church service.

Theresa Roach is a Flint native. She graduated from Hamady High School and has a degree in Journalism from Central Michigan University and a Masters of Communication & Digital Media Design from Saginaw Valley State University. She is also a Crim Mindfulness Fellow, Certified to teach Search Inside Yourself Leadership Institute. She has worked for the Crim Foundation for 12 years. She has gained experience as an Aunt of several nieces and nephews, caring and loving the opportunity to work with young children. We are excited to have her join St Paul's church family.



Nursery



Theresa Roach



IT IS CAMP TIME!

Yes it will not be long before we will load the bus and our youth ages 3rd to 12th grade will be traveling to Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle, Michigan, for a week of outdoor activities, crafts, games, Christian Formation and the opportunity to form lifelong friendships.

DATES: FOR RISING 3RD THROUGH 12TH GRADERS

Sunday, June 21 - Friday, June 26
at Camp Chickagami, Presque Isle, MI
tiered pricing beginning at \$375



Free Transportation is provided. Scholarships are available. Invite your friends. All are welcome. You do not have to be a member of St Paul's or the Episcopal church to go to camp. Email or call Barb Mannor if interested. We will have a registration day and an opportunity to get to know others who will be going to camp as well as organizing the necessary camping supplies before the actual camping week. We will set that date when we have the number of kids interested in going to camp. Visit the camp website at greatlakesepiscopalcamping.org. For more information or/and to sign up for camp please contact Barb Mannor 810-513-8098 (call or text) or mannortb@aol.com.

Flint River Watershed Coalition & Keep Genesee County Beautiful Presents:

STEWARDSHIP DAY 2026

FLINT & GENESEE COUNTY

SATURDAY, MAY 2
9am - 12pm

City of Flint

- Amos Park
- Flint Park Lake Park
- Genesee Valley Trail
- Glenwood Cemetery
- Iroquois Park
- St. John Street Neighborhood Memorial Park
- Thread Lake
- Vietnam Veterans Park

Genesee County

- For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum



Join FRWC and KGCB for our annual multi-site cleanup focused in parks and around the Flint River and its watershed. Participate as a group, or as an individual, and meet other caretakers who value our green spaces and waterways. You may even find something unique to enter into our Golden Gloves Award!

B.Y.O. WATER BOTTLE

There will be refilling stations at each site.

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER TODAY!

The first 150 people to register by Tuesday, March 31st will receive a free Stewardship Day t-shirt!

Scan the QR code or visit linktr.ee/stewardshipday.



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONORS

Honoring Your Generosity

*We are deeply grateful for your commitment to the future of St. Paul's.
Your generous support ensures our church remains a welcoming, safe,
and sacred space for generations to come.*

SOCIETY OF ST. PAUL \$250,00 and above

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

PILLARS OF FAITH \$100,000 - \$249,000

Bishop Trust

THE SHEPHERDS CIRCLE \$50,000 - \$99,000

Clayton & Joyce Leroue
Whiting Foundation

STEWARDS OF GRACE \$25,000 - \$49,000

Dr. Susumu Inoue & Mary Mitchell-Beren
Basil* & Maggie Hart
Goyette Mechanical
Theodore & Barbara Mannor
Rajaad Cuthbertson-Twine &
Dr. Robert Cuthbertson Twine

CIRCLE OF WARMTH AND LIGHT \$10,000 - \$24,000

Kenneth & Jan Bugbee
Anita C. Lim
Reverend Thomas & Teri Manney (in memory
of Rev. Russell Manney Jr.)
Timothy & Kathie Manney

JOURNEY OF HOPE CIRCLE \$5,000 - \$9,999

Katherine Cox (in memory of Elizabeth Harrison,
sister)
Carole & Alan* Davis
Rebecca Bennett & Family
John Cherry Jr. & Pamela M. Faris
Tim Grant
Linda L. Moxam (in memory of Harriet
Kenworthy)
Tom Ossowski
Holly & Bruce Richardson
Deb Cherry

LOVE AND FISHES SOCIETY Up to \$4,999

Jane Bingham
Marilee Farrow
Joyce Favro
Lysa Fischer
George & Arlene Gibson
Rayna Hauter
Norene Leatzow
Michael & TaMara Oertel
Karen Schaefer (in memory of James T. Schaefer)
Steven & Vicki Streukens
Evelyn & Paul Thomas
Anonymous

*Deceased





St. Paul's Artwalk

Friday, May 8th at 6:00 p.m.



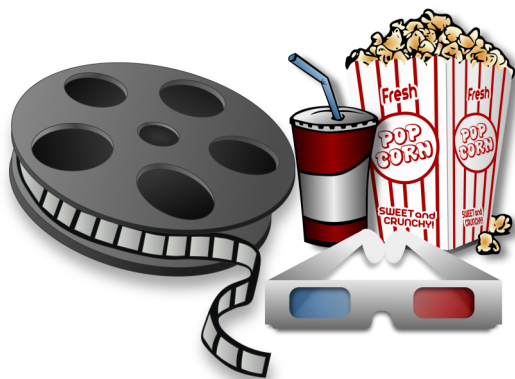
Featured Artist: Lisa Land, Photography and Water Color

Featured Music Artist: Ed Arter

Edward Arter, organist at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. From August 13, 2003 to September 8, 2011 at St. Paul's Ed directed five choirs, taught Sight singing Classes and private lessons. The Music Program included a Summer Concert Series, Kidz Choir Kamp and yearly participation at a Royal School of Church Music Summer Course for Boys and Girls. For 10 years, Ed was responsible for the Chancel and Bell choirs at Linden Presbyterian in Linden Michigan. Also during his tenure a 20 rank pipe organ was built with the help of church members under his direction.

As a chorister, Ed has sung with Richardo Muti, Kurt Mazzur, Raphael Kubelik and Joseph Flummerfelt at Avery Fisher Hall, The Academy in Philadelphia and the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.

As a conductor, Ed has offered Mass in G by Schubert, Requiem by Faure, and Coffee Cantata by Bach to name a few. Ed is the founder and former Chairman of the Board for CITI-ARTS school specializing in music. He has served Grace University of Omaha as Adjunct Professor of Music, specializing in solo hand bell ringing.



St. Paul's Movie Night

Come out and enjoy a movie with us!

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Meet at 5:30 pm,

Movie at 6:00 pm.

**WEDNESDAY
5/20/2026
5:30 PM**

Pentecost Sunday: May 24th
3rd Annual Congregation Photo



May's Liturgy Schedule

Dates		Lector 1	Lector 2	Intercessor (Prayers of the People)
3-May-2026		Robert Cuthbertson-Twine	Sean DeGeorge	TaMara Oertel
10-May-2026	G	Dylan Bade	Shane Geraghty	Rebecca Bennett
17-May-2026	B	Lysa Fischer	Cindy Hall	Tim Grant
5/24/2026 Pent*		Margaret Powell	Sean DeGeorge	Elizabeth Jordan
31-May-2026	G	Mary Hammond	TaMara Oertel	Shay Natchez

Dates		Eucharistic Minister	Crucifer	Verger
3-May-2026		Ed Walthers	Max Karpov	Brandon Adams
10-May-2026	G	Max Karpov		Brandon Adams
17-May-2026	B	Tim Grant	Ed Walthers	Robert Cuthbertson-Twine
5/24/2026 Pent*		Ed Walthers	Rayna Hauter	Robert Cuthbertson-Twine
31-May-2026	G	TaMara Oertel	Dylan Baade	Brandon Adams



Anniversaries

5/4	BAILEY, Pamela & Zack
5/15	OERTEL, Michael & TaMara
5/23	WALTHERS, Ed & Laura



Birthdays

5/1	SYLVESTER, Ken
5/5	CHERRY Jr., John
5/11	OERTEL, Michael
5/17	LEROUE, Joyce
5/27	BUGBEE, Jan

Your Vestry:

(all at stpaulschurchflint.com)

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

Robert Cuthbertson-Twine, Junior
Warden (*juniorwarden@*) (*Diversity*)
(Robert@)

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

Rebecca Bennett, Building & Grounds
(Rebecca@)

Karen Schaefer, (Outreach)(*karen@*)

John Cherry, Chaplain

Rayna Hauter, Recording Secretary
(Rayna@)

Cindy Hall

Shay Natchez

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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)

SUBMISSION TO THE EPISTLE

The Epistle, the newsletter of St. Paul's Episcopal Church is published monthly. When sending in your articles or notices of events to The Epistle please make sure they are in a simple format to copy and paste. Please submit via e-mail to:

STPOffice@stpaulschurchflint.com.

Submission reminders go out on the 15th of every month. Submission deadlines are the 25th of every month.

Worship at St. Paul's

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

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."



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