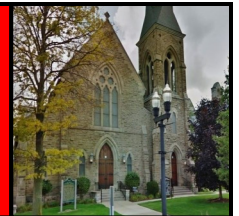




July
2026



THE
EPISTLE



*Celebrate Love,
Unity and
Blessings!*



711 South Saginaw St.
Flint, Michigan 48502
810.234.8637

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	PG.
A Note from Tom	2
Holly's Notes	3
Artwalk	4
Hot Dog and Ice Cream Social	5
Capital Campaign, Ladies Luncheon	6
St. Paul's Movie Night	7
Communities of Faith	8
Pride Service	9
Liturgy Schedule, Birthdays, Anniversaries	10
Vestry, Staff, Reminders	11

A Note from Tom

When I consider the month of July in 2026, two things come to mind. The first is the Semi quincentennial anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. More commonly known as *America 250*, it is amazing to me because I have such vivid memories of our nation's bicentennial anniversary in 1976. I remember that I was in the 6th grade and I remember thinking that I thought it was a pretty cool celebration of our country's founding.

Here in Genesee County, and with the help of the Sloan Museum, an *America 250 Passbook* has been created, listing some 30 locations or events related to our county's contributions to our nation's heritage. St. Paul's is listed on p 21. For each location/event visited, a stamp can be collected with special prizes available to participants. Special thanks to **John Cherry** and **Walt Peake** for their involvement in this way-cool project.

The other thing that comes to mind this month is that we will learn who the final candidates are to become our next diocesan bishop. Here at St. Paul's, we have not had a diocesan bishop since the departure of Todd Ousley in 2017. We've had provisional bishops and assisting bishops (who have come and gone with alarming frequency), but no permanent, just-for-us bishop in nearly ten years. Wow.

And this means that **Elizabeth Jordan** will conclude her work on the *Search Committee*. It's been an exhaustive process for the committee, with lots of time spent reviewing candidates, conducting interviews, and making some very significant decisions. Thank you, Elizabeth, for your very substantial commitment to this very important task.

And then, after the search committee reveals their slate of candidates, the *Transition Committee* will take over. This committee will organize the remainder of the selection process, scheduling interviews and events, making travel arrangements for the candidates, and guiding the process to its conclusion at the diocesan convention in October. Our own **Becky Bennett** is a member of this committee which will likewise be very demanding (already is).

As a church, we are who our people are. How fortunate to have such great leaders in our community and our diocese.

With every blessing...

Tom+



Holly's Notes

I read a very helpful book in the last couple of weeks by C. S. Lewis, "A Grief Observed" - it was very helpful, because while the world has moved on from the loss of BR, I live it everyday. The book is about the loss of his wife, who died from cancer. I recommend it, if you are also suffering.

There is a chorus called, "Thy Word is a Lamp" it is based on Psalm 119:105

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet

And a light unto my path.



Thy word is a lamp unto my feet

And a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,

Still You're there right beside me.

And nothing will I fear as long as You are near;

Please be near me to the end.



Chorus

I will not forget Your love for me, and yet

My heart forever is wandering.

Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side,

And I will love You to the end.



Here is a link with Amy Grant singing the chorus: [Amy Grant - Thy Word \(Lyric Video\)](#)

I have always wanted to be fearless, fearless because no matter what is crashing around us, God is with us, and I trust Him to see me through everything-it is the only way to be fearless. I am not fearless because of my own strength, I am fearless because I trust God, I know he is beside, even until the end. Be fearless my friends, we do not face the world alone.

Holly Richardson, Director of Music



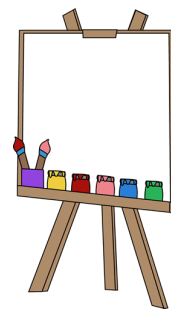
St. Paul's Artwalk

Friday, July 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Featured Artist: Sherrell Chillik

Sherrell Chillik is an African American Painter from Detroit, MI. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting from the College for Creative Studies in 2018. She currently attends the Cranbrook Academy of Art MFA program for Painting. Chillik began showing her work in competitive national and regional fine art exhibitions in 2019. She taught collage and painting classes for students with disabilities through the Michigan Arts Access Teaching Artist Residency in 2023. In 2024, she attended the Anderson Ranch Art Center Residency in Snowmass Village, CO. Her most recent shows include the "96th MI Contemporary Art Exhibition" at Muskegon Museum of Art in Muskegon, MI, and the "43rd Annual Juried competition 'A Sense of Place'", at the Gertrude Herbert Institute of Art in Augusta, Georgia.

<https://www.rellrepublica.com/about>



Featured Music Artist: Gilda Tucker, Violin



Gilda Tucker currently resides in East Lansing, however she was born and raised in Flint. She first learned violin as a fourth grader in the Flint School system. She continued playing in school orchestras all through school and college at U of M-Flint. While in high school she also played in the Flint Youth Symphony and the Flint Community Orchestra. She began playing in church at age ten and continued off and on through the 1990's.

Other interests crowded the violin out of her life for fifteen years or so. Interest in the violin resumed with the opportunity to play again in local community orchestras in Brighton (Livingston Symphony Orchestra), Flint, and the Brighton Community Players.

In the 1990's Gilda began teaching beginning violin at Herter Music Center in Flint. While there she teamed up with Classical Guitar teacher, Paul Allen. They performed as a duo for ten years until 2004 when Gilda married and moved to East Lansing.

Gilda has played at a variety of venues including Whaley House in Flint, Turner Dodge House in Lansing, various private and public open houses, and at weddings and funerals. She is a Civil War re-enactor and has played at several Civil War re-enactments."





ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HOT DOG
AND
ICE CREAM
SOCIAL

JULY 12, 2026 | 11:30AM

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

Capital Campaign Update

We are excited to share an update on our Capital Campaign progress.

The work to replace our 50+ year old heating units has started and should be completed by the end of summer.

While the work has started, there is still more we need to do. We have raised over \$742,000 toward our goal of \$1.2 million which includes the **addition of air conditioning** to the entire church including Barth Hall.

A reliable, efficient HVAC system is essential for everything we do at St. Paul's – worship, fellowship, outreach, education, and hospitality. This project is about protecting our building, strengthening our ministries and ensuring that our sacred space remains welcoming and comfortable for all who enter now and for generations to come.

Our hope is that all members of St. Paul's will participate by making a pledge to support this project. All pledges, large or small, are welcomed, needed and appreciated.

We know these are trying times and to lessen the burden on your budget, we offer a number of ways everyone can join in the campaign. A pledge can be for any amount, a one-time payment or spread over 3 years, by check or credit card. You have another suggestion? Tell us.

Need more information, we have packets available that provide details.

Pledge forms are at the Welcome Center. Please pick one up and return it to me. We do ask that you complete a pledge form.

If you have a question, please call or email me or stop by the church on any Tuesday. Thank you for your consideration and connection to St. Paul's and your prayerful consideration of this goal.

Thanks for your consideration.

George Gibson

Capital Campaign Co-chair

admatstpauls@ameritech.net

989-751-8018



The St. Paul's Ladies Luncheon meets the second Monday of each month at Hill Rd Grill at 1:00pm. The dates for the rest of 2026 are: July 13, August 10, September 14, October 12, November 9 and December 14.



The Parish Office will be Closed: July 3rd in observance of Independence Day.

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY!






MILK

EMILE HIRSCH JOSH BROLIN DIEGO LUNA AND JAMES FRANCO

IN 1972, HARVEY MILK (SEAN PENN) AND HIS THEN-LOVER SCOTT SMITH LEAVE NEW YORK FOR SAN FRANCISCO, WITH MILK DETERMINED TO ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING MEANINGFUL IN HIS LIFE. SETTLING IN THE CASTRO DISTRICT, HE OPENS A CAMERA SHOP AND HELPS TRANSFORM THE AREA INTO A MECCA FOR GAYS AND LESBIANS. IN 1977, HE BECOMES THE NATION'S FIRST OPENLY GAY MAN ELECTED TO A NOTABLE PUBLIC OFFICE WHEN HE WINS A SEAT ON THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. THE FOLLOWING YEAR, DAN WHITE (JOSH BROLIN) KILLS MILK IN COLD BLOOD.



WEDNESDAY
7/15/2026
5:30 PM



Communities of Faith

July 2026

Hello everyone!

June feels like it's gone by far too quickly. But with June ending it does mean we set our eyes towards a relatively busy July with the Hot Dog and Ice Cream Social (July 12) - there's still a couple things to sign up for in the welcome center! - and Pride. Speaking of Pride, we will, for the first time, be hosting the Pride Breakfast at 9am on July 18th. This has traditionally been held elsewhere, but Flint Pride was looking for a place closer to downtown and reached out to me about St. Paul's. Our Pride service will be following at 11am, with our Junior Warden, Bob Cuthbertson-Twine preaching. After a very busy morning we'll finally get to Pride proper from 2-8PM, as of this writing, we still need some folks to sign up for the 6-8/tear down shifts if you're free and available. We'll have some hand outs for folks to take home as well as a few prayer shawls that the ladies of Common Threads graciously put together for us.

In the midst of all of this, would you be surprised to learn that I've got a plan that I'm looking to build a committee around? If you're interested in getting more involved with some migration ministry or awareness stuff, please get a hold of me. Either stop me when you see me at the church or email me below. I've got a few ideas that I'd like to have brought to a committee rather than just myself.

With all of that going on, this is just a very first, early, reminder that we do plan on bringing the yard sale back this year. We are planning for the second weekend in September currently, that would be the weekend of September 11-13. So as you are cleaning things out this summer, keep us in mind as a potential place to donate things! If you're interested in volunteering and helping out and want to get to the top of the list, feel free to shoot me an email - if you tell me I will forget. There'll be a volunteer sign up list coming in August!

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 at various points throughout the week. 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
Rent	\$1,519.00	Resources*	\$26,370.65	\$7,268.85
Utilities	\$897.90	Resources*	\$27,268.55	\$7,268.85
Rent	\$478.00	\$478.00	\$27,746.55	\$7,746.85
Rent	\$270.00	\$270.00	\$28,016.55	\$8,016.85
Rent	\$575.00	Resources*	\$28,591.55	\$8,016.85
Rent	\$270.00	Resources*	\$28,861.55	\$8,016.85





ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



**PRIDE: A SERVICE
OF LOVE**

**18
JULY**

**DR. ROBERT
CUTHBERTSON-
TWINE**

**11
AM**



711 S SAGINAW ST.
FLINT, MI 48502



COURT STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

July's Liturgy Schedule

Dates	Lector 1	Lector 2	Intercessor (Prayers of the People)
5-Jul-2025	Julie Arter	TaMara Oertel	Pat Emenyonu
12-Jul-2025	Earnest Emenyonu	Eloise Jordan	Tom Shriver
19-Jul-2025	TaMara Oertel	Kim Ramirez	Susumu Inoue
26-Jul-2025	Rebecca Bennett	Joel Arnold	Velevia Ford

Dates	Eucharistic Minister	Crucifer	Verger
5-Jul-2025	Tim Grant	Ed Walthers	Brandon Adams
12-Jul-2025	Rayna Hauter	Dylan Baade	Ed Walthers
19-Jul-2025	Rayna Hauter	Max Karpov	Brandon Adams
26-Jul-2025	Tim Grant	Dylan Baade	Ed Walthers

Anniversaries

07/07	ARTER, Edward & Julie
07/12	MANNOR, Theodore & Barbara
07/13	SNELL, John & Mary

Birthdays

07/04	DAVIS, Carole
07/06	KUSKY, William (Bill)
07/06	LORD-TIMLIN, Celeste
07/09	ARNOLD, Joel
07/13	WALTHERS, Laura
07/23	HINKLE, Sue
07/28	HABTE-GABR, Eyassu



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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rector@stpaulschurchflint.com

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STPOffice@stpaulschurchflint.com

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Assistance/Ministry Coordinator

(Rayna@)

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."



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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