



AUGUST
2026



THE
EPISTLE



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PG.

A Note from Tom

2

Holly's Notes

3

Music in the Heart of the City

4

Artwalk

5

St. Paul's Hot Dog & Ice Cream Social, FAIR

6-7

Communities of Faith, Camp Chik

8-9

Upcoming Events

10-14

Liturgy Schedule, Birthdays, Anniversaries

14

Vestry, Staff, Reminders

15



711 South Saginaw St.
Flint, Michigan 48502
810.234.8637

A Note from Tom

I read with astonishment this week, an article about *St. Mark's Church-in-the-Bowery*, a Manhattan Episcopal parish in New York that Alexander Hamilton helped establish.



Last week, St. Mark's was granted approval to sell its "air rights" by New York City's Landmarks Preservation Commission. In New York, property ownership is not limited to the property's lateral space, but its vertical space as well.

This is where it gets tricky. Officially known as "transferable development rights (TDRs)", the parish will sell its 27,000 square feet of "owned airspace". By purchasing TDR's from other properties, a development can exceed the existing limitations, and build what amounts to a much taller building.

The exact monetary value of the sale has not been publicly disclosed, but estimating based on Manhattan real estate standards places the potential revenue for St. Mark's between \$5 million and \$15 million.

That's a lot of dough for giving up the air above the church. St. Mark's is the first faith-based organization to be so approved in NYC. The deal will aid in the creation of new housing in the neighborhood, where the rent for a one-bedroom apartment is around \$4000/month.

So my plan is to pursue a similar deal here in Flint. All we need is a Flint developer willing to give us a few million bucks for our airspace.

And that should pay for our air-conditioning!

With every blessing...

Tom+



Holly's Notes

We sang several of my favorite songs Sunday. Paul & I sang, "Be Thou My Vision" and we also sang as a congregation, "Children of the heavenly Father". I find both of these songs so very comforting and the Old Testament reading is one I always love to read, when Solomon asks God for wisdom. I have spent a life long quest searching and seeking out wisdom. I think it is a lifelong learning goal. I will always have to search and seek wisdom, it is worth seeking in my mind. I am currently searching for shelter for my soul. These two songs definitely have those lyrics written in them.

Thursday, August 6 is our fund raiser for Music in the Heart of the City. I dedicated this year's concerts to Bruce, because he loved hosting the different artists at our house when they came into town. He was fascinated by the whole idea of rehearsal and practice and playing something better and better. As an athlete he understood this concept very well. He has been the only person I have ever lived with who did not complain about my practicing, ever. He attended many of these concerts and helped whenever I needed him to. He loved having the party at our house in August, and always helped set up tables, and chairs, always helped Terence bring them over and never complained about all of the work it took to host this event. We have always paid for the food and drink so that money raised from the event went directly to the artists we hosted.

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me save that thou art. Thou my best thought by day and by night; Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord. Thou my great Father, I thy dear child; Thou in me dwelling, with thee reconciled.

3. Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight; Be thou my dignity, thou my delight. Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r; Raise thou me Heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

4. Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; Thou mine inheritance, now and always.

Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

5. High King of Heaven, my victory won, May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'ns Sun! Heart of my heart, whatever befall, Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

May God grant us the vision to further His kingdom, may we find the wisdom we seek to help others as we journey onward.

Holly Richardson, Director of Music



Music in the Heart of the City

Cocktails on the Patio!

*Donations accepted for:
St. Paul's Music in the Heart of the City
Concert Series*

August 6, 2026 6:00 to 9:00 pm

*Home of Holly Richardson
1615 Durand Street - Flint, MI 48503*

Featuring: The Joe Wright Combo

MIHC Schedule for 2026-2027

September 27, 2026 - 4:00 p.m. — In Memory of Jeffery Walker & Father Andrew

Quincy Dobbs, Organ
A Tale of Two Organist

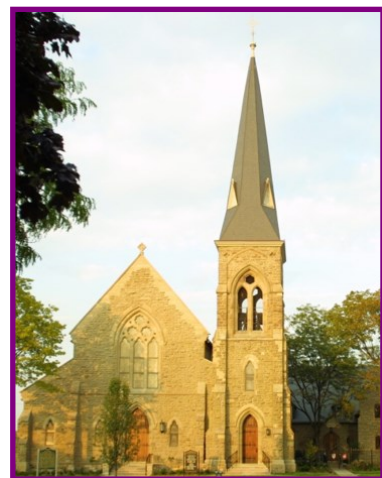
November 22, 2026 - 4:00 p.m.

Kenneth & Casey Tse



January 31, 2027 - 4:00 p.m.

Mary Procopio & Andrew Cramer



February 27, 2027 - Saturday 2:00 p.m.

Organ Duo — Abraham Wallace/Sarah Simcoe

April 18, 2027 - 4:00 p.m.

Highly Ornamented will present Arias: Sacred & Profane

Quincy Dobbs, Piano & Voice
Richard Kerry Thompson, Tenor



St. Paul's Artwalk

Friday, August 14th at 6:00 p.m.

Featured Artist: Dr. Sharon Simeon

Dr. Sharon A. Simeon is from Chicago, Illinois. She moved to Flint, Michigan with her three daughters after many years of searching for and finding her birth mother who lives in Flint. Sharon has an Associates in General Studies from Mott Community College; Bachelor of Science from the University of Michigan-Flint; Master in the Art of Teaching from Marygrove College; Master of Arts in Teaching from Saginaw Valley State University; and a Doctor of Education from Wayne State University. Sharon is a retired general and special education teacher, and Teacher Consultant from Flint Community Schools and Powers Catholic High School. Sharon has been a student at the Flint Institute of Arts Museum + Art School (FIA) since the 1990's. Sharon and her husband consider the FIA their second home because they love taking art classes at the school and attending the many events. Sharon is a Trustee of the museum and serves on several committees. Sharon is the proud mother of three daughters, two grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Featured Music Artists: Gray Family Band

The Gray Family Band consist of two daughters, a son, and two best friends. The best friends are Terry Gray who had his start at the age of 12 with drums. Then bass guitar in 1977, piano in 1978, and saxophone in 2023. After a dream at 21, he realized he was supposed to be a bass player so the next day he bought a bass guitar. Self taught Leonard Thompson had his start with lead guitar in 1970. He also has a music degree from Alcorn University, and has been a professional musician for over 5 decades. Drummer, Shawn Gray, has been a musician since a young age having a love for drums before he could even talk. Shawn learned to play drums with older siblings that were also drummers. He started lessons at the age of 9, and took lessons until he started playing professionally. Youngest daughter, Tarie Gray, sang background for a gospel group directed by her father during her teen years. She returned to sing with the band again in 2023. Middle daughter, Nia was always into music, but didn't start to awaken the musician in herself until mid teen years. Nia started off learning piano, and then bass drums. She loss function of her left hand due to an accident, and decided to use music as a way to heal. Nia refused to let her father retire without first playing with her as an adult, and that's how the Gray Family Band started.



St. Paul's Hot Dog and Ice Cream Social





FALL TEACH-IN SCHEDULE

SAVE THE DATES FOR OUR UPCOMING FAIR TEACH-INS



SATURDAY, JULY 25	6:30 PM - 8:30PM
SATURDAY, AUG 22	6:30 PM - 8:30PM
SATURDAY, SEP 26	6:30 PM - 8:30PM
SATURDAY, OCT 24	6:30 PM - 8:30PM



UPCOMING TEACH-IN SCHEDULE

08/16/2026 Community Picnic SEVEN LAKES STATE PARK, HOLLY, MI 48442 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM	08/22/2026 FAIR Teach-IN UAW 659 4549 VAN SLYKE RD, FLINT 48507 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
09/26/2026 FAIR Teach-IN UAW 659 4549 VAN SLYKE RD, FLINT 48507 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	10/24/2026 FAIR Teach-IN UAW 659 4549 VAN SLYKE RD, FLINT 48507 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

QUESTIONS:
CONTACT.FAIRFLINT@GMAIL.COM

Communities of Faith

August 2026

Hello everyone!

I had planned for Flint Pride to be the bulk of my article this month, thanking everyone for their time and contributions. Alas, it works out as we have a very busy month ahead of us once again.

This month will see us once again hosting the blessing of the runners during CRIM on August 22. We will also be doing something new and different for Back to the Bricks on August 15 - Shay and Max have taken the lead on this after years of faithful and committed service from Velecia. They have stripped it back to just being a raffle where the funds beyond the initial cost will be donated to an organization that's doing work in our community.

Coinciding with Back to the Bricks - so again August 15 - the diocese will be hosting an LGBTQ+ retreat at St. John's Mt. Pleasant. If you are interested in attending that, please let me know between now and then so I can share the registration link with you. Relatedly, Flint Pride has been rescheduled for September 19, I am grateful for all of your commitments, if you're interested and available to help out on that later date, please sign up on the sign up sheet.

Continuing to looking at September, we will also be hosting our second annual yard sale on the weekend of Art Walk (September 11-13) times are yet to be determined, if you're interested in helping me out with this event, I would greatly appreciate any assistance that you provide. The proceeds will be going to the St. Paul's Assistance Fund. I will have a sign up sheet for this along with Back to the Bricks and Pride set up in the Welcome Center.

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. I've also got a new meeting link, if you're reading this digitally you can just [click on this link](#) and be brought to my calendar to request some time with me. If you are not reading this digitally and would like a copy of the link, please let me know and I can get it to you.

Rayna

Need	Request	Given	Total Requested	Total Given
Rent	\$270.00	\$270.00	\$28,861.55	\$8,286.85
Resources	Resources	\$50.00	\$28,861.55	\$8,386.85
Resources	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$29,361.55	\$8,886.85
Assistance	\$80.00	\$80.00	\$29,441.55	\$8,966.85
Rent	\$2,972.84	Resources	\$32,414.39	\$8,966.85

CAMP CHIKAGAMI WAS GREAT FUN THIS YEAR!

A summer of camping started out when the first group of campers left for Camp Chickagami at 9:00 on the morning of Sunday, June 21. They returned the following Friday evening, frayed and happy. It was a great week of fun and personal development for young people.

Groups II and III departed later in the months of June and July, completing a full summer of camping and Christian growth.

Through the generosity of the members of St. Paul's, the hard work of the Community Outreach Ministry, and the organizational efforts of Barbara Mannor and Rayna Hauter, we were able to offer scholarships to five campers affiliated with families from our parish: Sunserria, Amillieya, Ziona, Xavier, and Bella. We put together parting gifts to make sure their camping experience was fully outfitted for their needs for the week.

St. Paul's has supported Camp Chick for several years, and we were glad to continue this year.





AS DEATH ROW INMATE MATTHEW PONCELET (SEAN PENN) NEARS HIS EXECUTION DATE, HE CALLS UPON SISTER HELEN PREJEAN (SUSAN SARANDON) TO HELP HIM WITH ONE LAST APPEAL, MAINTAINING THAT HE IS INNOCENT OF THE MURDERS OF A YOUNG COUPLE. PONCELET BEGINS TO FORM A BOND WITH PREJEAN, AND SHE VISITS BOTH HIS FAMILY AND THE RELATIVES OF THE VICTIMS, HOPING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CASE. AS THINGS BEGIN TO LOOK BLEAK FOR PONCELET, PREJEAN DOES ALL THAT SHE CAN TO COMFORT AND CONSOLE THE HARDENED CONVICT.

WEDNESDAY
8/19/2026
5:30 PM



SEVEN LAKES STATE PARK FISHERMANS COVE

SUNDAY AUGUST 16TH

2:00 - 7:00PM

COMMUNITY Picnic



FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



LGBTQ+ EPISCOPAL RETREAT DAY



**SATURDAY
AUGUST 15
9 AM TO 6 PM
ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH
MT. PLEASANT**

**FREE TO ATTEND!
LUNCH AND DINNER PROVIDED!**

Sign up by 8/9/2026:
<https://tinyurl.com/EDGL-LGBTQ2026>





ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PRIDE: A SERVICE OF LOVE

19 SEPT | DR. ROBERT
CUTHBERTSON- | 11
TWINE AM



711 S SAGINAW ST.
FLINT, MI 48502



COURT STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

August Liturgy Schedule

Dates	Lector 1	Lector 2	Intercessor (Prayers of the People)
2-Aug-2026	Sean DeGeorge	Pat Emenyonu	Tim Grant
9-Aug-2026	Elizabeth Jordan	Tom Shriver	Rajaad Twine
16-Aug-2026	Shay Natchez	Susumu Inoue	Bob Cuthbertson
23-Aug-2026	Rajaad Twine	Velesia Ford	Brandon Adams
30-Aug-2026	Eloise Jordan	Rayna Hauter	Julie Arter

Dates	Eucharistic Minister	Crucifer	Verger
2-Aug-2026	Maddie Cherry	Rayna Hauter	Ed Walthers
9-Aug-2026	Max Karpov	Maddie Cherry	Brandon Adams
16-Aug-2026	Rayna Hauter	Max Karpov	R. Cuth-Twine
23-Aug-2026	Max Karpov	Ed Walthers	R. Cuth-Twine
30-Aug-2026	TaMara Oertel	Brandon Adams	Ed Walthers

Anniversaries

8/3	Rev. Thomas & Teri Manney
8/22	Sir Ernest & Lady Pat Emenyonu

Birthdays

8/4	Clay Leroue
8/13	Tina Morrison
8/16	George Icke
8/17	Shane Geraghty
8/21	Michael R. Oertel
8/21	Wanda Bondon
8/24	Meghan Cherry
8/24	Scott Johnosn
8/28	Pamela Bailey



Your Vestry:

(all at stpaulschurchflint.com)

TaMara Oertel, Senior Warden
(Education) (Finance)
([seniorwarden@](mailto:seniorwarden@stpaulschurchflint.com))

Robert Cuthbertson-Twine, Junior Warden
([juniorwarden@](mailto:juniorwarden@stpaulschurchflint.com)) (Diversity)
([Robert@](mailto:Robert@stpaulschurchflint.com))

Jan Bugbee, Treasurer/Clerk of the Vestry (Finance) ([treasurer@](mailto:treasurer@stpaulschurchflint.com)) ([clerk@](mailto:clerk@stpaulschurchflint.com))
Rebecca Bennett, Building & Grounds
([Rebecca@](mailto:Rebecca@stpaulschurchflint.com))

Karen Schaefer, (Outreach)([karen@](mailto:karen@stpaulschurchflint.com))

John Cherry, Chaplain

Rayna Hauter, Recording Secretary
([Rayna@](mailto:Rayna@stpaulschurchflint.com))

Cindy Hall
Shay Natchez

Staff:

The Rev. Thomas Manney
Rector

rector@stpaulschurchflint.com

Karein Russell

Administrative Assistant

Editor; The Epistle

STPOffice@stpaulschurchflint.com

Rayna Hauter

Assistance/Ministry Coordinator
([Rayna@](mailto:Rayna@stpaulschurchflint.com))

George Gibson,

Director of Finance ([directoroffinance@](mailto:directoroffinance@stpaulschurchflint.com))

Holly Richardson,

Director of Music ([directorofmusic@](mailto:directorofmusic@stpaulschurchflint.com))

Rafael McDaniel, Gospel Choir Director
([gospel@](mailto:gospel@stpaulschurchflint.com))

Ed Arter, Organist ([organist@](mailto:organist@stpaulschurchflint.com))

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
711 South Saginaw St.
Flint, MI 48502