



THE EPISTLE



SEPTEMBER 2026



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ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

711 South Saginaw St.
Flint, Michigan 48502
810.234.8637

A Note from Tom

Yesterday, I travelled up to Grace Episcopal Church in Standish with Holly, Rayna, and Father Don Davidson for the official closing of the church. It was a somber, at times tear-jerking service for what was a 100-year-old church in the heart of downtown Standish. The church closed due to a lack of leadership, a terrible flood, and some other circumstances.



In my mind, the church closing echoed the importance of committed leadership at both the church and *diocesan* levels. I couldn't help thinking that perhaps this closing could have been avoided had we had a diocesan bishop in place. But it has been nine years now since Bishop Todd Ousley departed our diocese. For the churches of the former Diocese of Eastern Michigan, the last nine years have been a long journey.

But we now have four candidates for bishop, one of whom will be elected at convention this October. Their names are Terri Bays, Zachary Nyein, Holly Rankin Zaher, and Nurya Love Parish. Please pray for them.

And on **Friday, September 25, at 3:00**, St. Paul's will be hosting a "Meet and Greet" event for the candidates. It will likely be a well-attended event and we will need several volunteers to assist as greeters, and to do light refreshments. It should be an exciting day for St. Paul's, and a great opportunity to meet and get to know our potential future bishops.

We will get a sign-up sheet prepared and placed in the Welcome Center. Please consider attending, meeting our candidates, and lending a hand with the event.

With every blessing...

Tom+



Holly's Notes



Did you know we are supposed to sing and make a joyful noise?

Psalm 100: Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.² Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.³ Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.⁴ Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.⁵ For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

Choir season is upon us! All are welcome to join the choir, if you were in choir in high school and wish to sing again...this is an open invitation to join either the Gospel Choir or the Chancel Choir. Gospel Choir meets on Saturdays, you will need to contact Rafeal McDaniel-Walker. Chancel Choir meets Tuesdays at 7:00-8:15pm and we sing Sundays; 1,3,& 4, we also practice Sunday Mornings at 9:00am. Our first rehearsal is Tuesday, September 8, enter through the alley door.

1. All people that on Earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;

Him serve with fear, his praise forthtell; Come ye before him and rejoice.

2. The Lord, ye know, is God indeed; Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed, And for his sheep he doth us take.

3. O enter then his gates with praise, Approach with joy his courts unto;

Praise, laud, and bless his name always, For it is seemly so to do.

4. For why? The Lord our God is good; His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood, And shall from age to age endure.



Here is a version of the above hymn sung at the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's II Coronation. [Hymn - All people that on earth do dwell](#)

The above is a beautiful example of choir and congregation singing with organ and trumpets. It is uplifting to listen to hymns, I recommend it.

Hope to see you at choir rehearsal!

Holly Richardson, director of music



St. Paul's Artwalk

Friday, September 11th at 6:00 p.m.

Featured Artist: Eric Jones



Featured Music Artists: High Heel Trio

Holly Richardson - Piano: Holly began playing for church at the age of 12 and accompanying Junior Choir. Earning a BME from the University of Michigan – Flint, and an MA from Marygrove College with additional hours from Vandercook College of Music and Western Michigan University, Holly retired from Flint Community Schools in 2016. She has been an adjunct professor at Mott Community College since 1996, where she teaches The History of Rock and Roll and Music Appreciation. She is currently the Music Director and Artistic Director at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Flint, Michigan. She joined New Century Chorale in January 2018 as their collaborative pianist and has also been the collaborative pianist for U of M-Flint, and Mt. Morris Schools and enjoys rug hooking. Holly is married, has two children, five grandchildren and a little dog, Bella.

Kelly Krupp Splear - Violin: Kelly is currently the Orchestra director for Jackson Public Schools. She is an instructor at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp and has a private studio. She earned her BME from the University Of Michigan- Flint and has a MA in curriculum and instruction. She is a former member of the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra, and a substitute violinist for MSO. She has taught for U of M-Flint, FSPA, and the Sphinx programs.

Julia Ford Edwards - Cello: Julia Ford Edwards is a retired music educator, teaching in public schools and private studios. Julia earned a BME from the University of Michigan - Flint and a Masters Degree from Michigan State University in Theory and Education. She is a long time member of the cello sections of both the Flint Symphony Orchestra and the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra. Her family is the joy of her life, and she enjoys playing chamber music with old friends whenever possible!



Communities of Faith

September 2026

Hello everyone!

After a very busy August we are moving into a similarly busy September with our second annual Yard Sale raising funds for the Assistance Ministry, Pride in September, and a Meet and Greet with all FOUR of our Bishop Diocesan candidates.

If you are interested in helping out with the yard sale, please let me know. I'm not going to have a sign up sheet as I don't want folks to feel obligated and overwhelmed because it has been a very busy time for sign ups and volunteering our time here at St. Paul's. But if you want to hang out and help sell things or help move the tables and what not, I will never say no to extra hands making light work. As I said, all the funds this year will be going to the St. Paul's Assistance Ministry which seems to be pretty consistent in our 4:1 asks to assistance, I'm hoping that these fundraisers and raising funds will help us fill that gap between what people need and what we're able to provide.

Pride is September 19th, and I am hoping that next year with the completion of the Riverfront Park we will be back in June - alas, that is a next year discussion. There is a sign up sheet, and the last time I checked it we still needed some folks to volunteer to help us tear down. In our partnership with the Flint Alliance for Immigrant Rights, they will be sharing our table with us and have some of their information and a person from the coalition will be sitting with all of us. If you're interested in getting involved in the immigrant justice work that they do, have a chat with them as the day goes on.

Our slate of bishop candidates is finalized! We have four great candidates who will all be here at St. Paul's on September 25. Please come out and help me and your other delegates to convention discern who the Spirit is calling to be our first Bishop. I will both be mightily interested in what their responses to some of the questions asked will be as well as who you feel is the one being called.

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	\$2,100.00	Resources*	\$32,514.39	\$8,966.85
Water	\$350.56	\$350.56	\$32,864.95	\$9,317.41
Water	\$458.00	Resouces	\$33,322.95	\$9,317.41
Rent	\$4,535.64	Resources*	\$37,858.59	\$9,317.41
Rent	\$1,626.00	Resources*	\$39,484.59	\$9,317.41
Rent	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$40,284.59	\$10,117.41
Phone	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$40,389.59	\$10,222.41



YARD

SALE

Friday September 11: 5-8

Saturday, September 12: 11-3

Sunday, September 13: 12-2

711 South Saginaw St.
Flint, MI 48502

Proceeds will go to support the St. Paul's Assistance Ministry helping our neighbors and community with housing, utilities, and mutual aid.





MEET the CANDIDATES



The Rev. Cn.
TERRI LYNNE BAYS



The Rev.
ZACHARY NYEIN

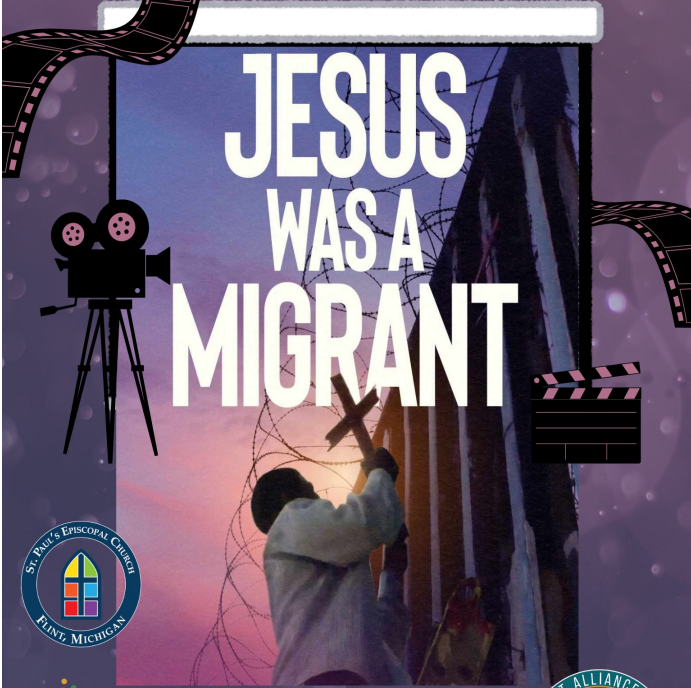


The Rev. Cn.
NURYA LOVE PARISH



The Rev.
HOLLY RANKIN ZAHER

Meet & Greet the Candidates at St. Paul's! Friday, September 25, 3:00 p.m. Volunteers needed.



JESUS WAS A MIGRANT

270,000 ASYLUM SEEKERS.
SHUT OUT IN ONE DAY.
MANY WERE CHRISTIANS.
SO WERE THE PEOPLE CELEBRATING.
WEDNESDAY
9/16/2026
DINNER AT 5:30
MOVIE AT 6
TALK BACK AND Q&A WITH FAIR AFTER

PEOPLES CHURCH

FLINT ALLIANCE FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS FAIR

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
FLINT, MICHIGAN



PRIDE: A SERVICE OF LOVE

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

PEOPLES CHURCH

711 S SAGINAW ST.
FLINT, MI 48502

COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Macaroni & Cheese

A Recipe for Service



A MESSAGE FROM OUR FRIENDS: CROSSOVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES

I'm reaching out to our four supporting churches because we're starting to see a little less availability through the Food Bank, particularly when it comes to some of the pantry staples we rely on regularly. As we head into one of our busiest times of the year, I'm hoping each of our supporting churches might be willing to commit to collecting one specific item for Crossover throughout the month of September. Keeping the request to one item per church would make it simple and manageable, while making a really meaningful difference for us.

THE MESSAGE CONTINUES:

For St. Paul's, I'd love to ask if you would consider collecting boxes of macaroni and cheese throughout September.

THE RECIPE:

Ingredients :

- YOU
- Your Generosity
- Your commitment to our relationship with CROSSOVER

Procedure :

1. Help CROSSOVER overcome the current Food Bank shortage
2. Bring boxes of Mac&Cheese mix to the Parlor
3. Feel happy that we can help our partner and the community

Notes :

Prep Time : DROP OFF ANY DAY IN THE PARLOR

Cook Time : THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2026

Servings : WE'D LIKE TO COLLECT AT LEAST 200 BOXES.

Service is enjoyed best when shared with our partner churches:
1st Pres, CSUMC & Every Nation Church

ATTENTION

FROM THE
COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY



SUMMER IS ALMOST OVER!

*That means Dogs,
Halloween, Thanksgiving, &
Christmas!*

PET BLESSING SUNDAY

October 4, 2026

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Date in October TBA

CROSSOVER THANKSGIVING

Month of November

ANGEL GIVING TREE

Month of December



September Liturgy Schedule

Dates		Lector 1	Lector 2	Intercessor (Prayers of the People)
6-Sep-2025		Rajaad Cuthbertson-Twine	Kim Ramirez	Pam Bailey
13-Sep-2025	G	Joel Arnold	Julie Arter	Justin Wetenhall
20-Sep-2025	B	Pat Emenyonu	Dylan Baade	Brandon Adams
27-Sep-2025		Tom Shriver	Max Karpov	Lysa Fischer

Dates		Eucharistic Minister	Crucifer	Verger
6-Sep-2025		Rayna Hauter	Max Karpov	Ed Walthers
13-Sep-2025	G	Tim Grant	Ed Walthers	Robert Cuthbertson-Twine
20-Sep-2025	B	Rayna Hauter	Max Karpov	Brandon Adams
27-Sep-2025		Rayna Hauter	Brandon Adams	Ed Walthers

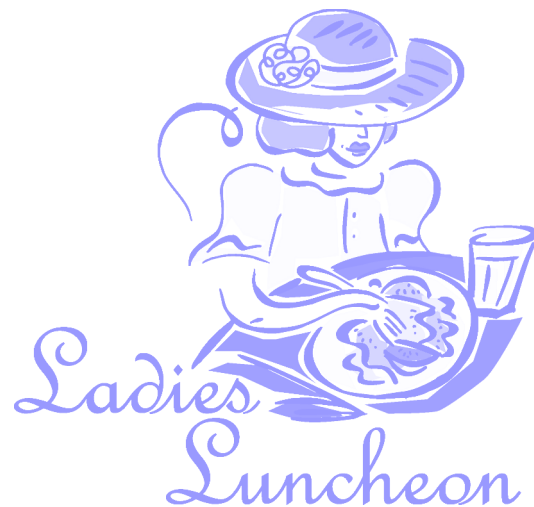
Anniversaries

09/24	Mary Mitchell-Beren & Susumu Inoue
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Birthdays

09/04	Teri Manney
09/05	Margaret Powell
09/13	Heather Gagnon
09/21	Jane M. Bingham
09/30	The Rev. Dcn. Sharon Naughton
09/30	Laura J. Shank

Happy Labor Day
September 7, 2026



The St. Paul's Ladies Luncheon
 this month will be September 14th,
 at 1:00 p.m. at Liberty Diner,
 6277 Pierson Rd.
 Flushing, MI 48433

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))

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(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

