



THE TRUMPETER

JULY 2024

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

8 am - Holy Eucharist Service
9:15 am Sunday School
10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Service

THURSDAYS

1 pm - Prayer and Bible Study (in Person)



THE ALLY CHALLENGE

St. Christopher's will again be a designated parking lot for Caddies, Media and VIPs during the Ally Challenge. Please mark calendars for Thursday, August 22 through Sunday, August 25th.

Friday evening brings the vocal group Smash Mouth to the Concert and Saturday's concert will feature country star, Thomas Rhett. We again have a contract with Ally that allows for public parking for the concerts. The money raised from the concerts is in addition to the guaranteed amount for the tournament.

THE SIGN UP SHEET WILL BE IN THE GATHERING PLACE IN MID JULY.

Please mark your calendar and help with our #1 fundraiser of the year!

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

9020 S. Saginaw Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439
(810) 694-3600
Office@stchrisgrandblanc.org

STAFF

Bishop Provisional
The Dioceses of Eastern & Western Michigan

The Reverend Jerry Lasley
Rector
Rector@stchrisgrandblanc.org

The Reverend Dr. Michael Carr,
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The Reverend Donald F. Davidson
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Jeffrey Walker, *Organist*
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Angela Zinsli, *Administrative Assistant*
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VESTRY 2024

Ellen Safley, *Senior Warden*
SeniorWarden@stchrisgrandblanc.org

Bill Hartley and Rod Bytwerk, *Junior Wardens*
JuniorWarden@stchrisgrandblanc.org

Linda Rathburn, *Clerk*

Jane Brewer, *Co-Treasurer*
Dale Rice, *Co-Treasurer*
Treasurer@stchrisgrandblanc.org

Myrtle Duck (2027) Dave Miller (2027)
Janice Convis (2027) Bill Hartley (2026)
Linda Rathburn (2026) Colleen Shrank (2025)
Jane Brewer (2026) Rod Bytwerk (2025)
Ellen Safley (2025)

UPCOMING LESSONS

July 7 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
Psalm 48
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13

July 14th Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7:7-15
Psalm 85:8-13
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

July 21st Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalm 23
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

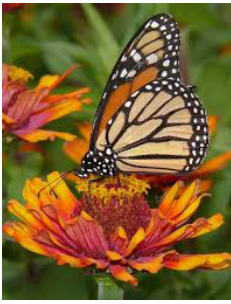
July 28th Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 4:42-44
Psalm 145:10-19
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

August 4th Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
Psalm 78:23-29
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35

Find the readings every week at
lectionarypage.net



THE PRIEST'S DESK

Greetings to all.

I am so excited! Just a few more days until we have our big celebration, the BURNING OF THE MORTGAGE!

I know you all thought I was crazy last Spring when it was suggested that we pay down or try to pay off our mortgage. We knew the loan was up for renewal in January of 2024 and we were well aware that interest rates had gone up. If we had to refinance, we would be back to paying mostly interest on the loan for a number of years.

God's Holy Spirit had other intentions. Through your prayerful offerings, we were able to not just reduce the mortgage, it was paid off completely! Being able to announce on Christmas Eve that we no longer had ANY debt was by far, a huge highlight!

Church is about spreading the Gospel, introducing people to a community of faith that bands together in their understanding of God and how they can best serve God and one another. Over and over again, we do that. We would be hard pressed to find a community of faith that so lovingly welcomes people visiting us. That's not something new at St. Christopher's. It has been going on for decades.

Today, we are beginning to explore projects that have long been overlooked. Projects that will make our facilities a bit more welcoming. We are currently investigating having our parking lot repaired, having the organ façade finally finished, getting a youth program in place, and having the lights in the sanctuary fixed. We have recently received some donations that may help us in accomplishing these items. True, we do not have a strong youth presence. But we must take care of the young people we have!

I write this to say this. St. Christopher's is alive and well. Are we growing by leaps and bounds? No. But we are gaining ground. Slowly, thoughtfully, and most importantly, prayerfully.

So let's get ready to celebrate on July 14th . Bishop Skip Adams will be joining us as well as several others from around the diocese and beyond. We are going to celebrate big! You should have received your invitation by now!

Hope to see you!

*Blessings,
Jerry+*



We have an exciting event at the church coming up on Sunday, July 14, 2024. You should have received an invitation in the mail with details. Please note that there will only be one service on July 14th at 10:15 am.

The Bishop will be here and will be preaching that Sunday.

You won't want to miss this special event!

FROM THE MUSIC ROOM..



Greetings from the Music Room!

Exciting things are afoot this summer! ---- for example, we have had several wonderful soloists offer their gifts for our Sunday Offertory moment. Thank you Ken Duck, thank you Bobbie Goergen, and Cynthia Butcher, Jeff Walker and Audrey Ditri!

Upcoming (in August) our star Lansing Lugnuts pitcher, Bill Hartley, will finally have his moment with Moe Bandy and our congregation. On August 18th, Bill will be singing "Thank You, Lord". Thank you Linda Rathburn for having the records for the music library. This will be a tremendous help as we try to create a new binder with all of our choral music. You rock!

On July 14th, our full choir will be in attendance. We will be singing the rousing Richard Dirksen piece, "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart". I know I am looking forward to this!

Please, if you would like to offer your musical talent in some manner for our Sunday service, just contact me. If you might want to join the choir in the Fall, please let me know, so I can find the perfect robe for you. Otherwise, I wish everyone in our congregation a lovely summer.

In Christ, I am Yours,
Nada





HEALING AND EUCHARIST SERVICE

The next Healing and Eucharist Service will be held Friday, July 12th at Noon. Please note the change in date is due to the office being closed July 4th and July 5th. All are welcome to attend.



COLLECTION

We are collecting toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, individual hand sanitizer and protein bars for those in need. We have a basket in the narthex for items that you bring in. Thank you!



Thank you to everyone who hosted coffee hour in June: Jane Yorks, Bill Anderson, Rene Carpenter, Bill Hartley, Shirley Showler and Flo Gjerstad.

There is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please consider signing up to host! You only have to make coffee/tea and perhaps provide a small snack or treat item if desired.

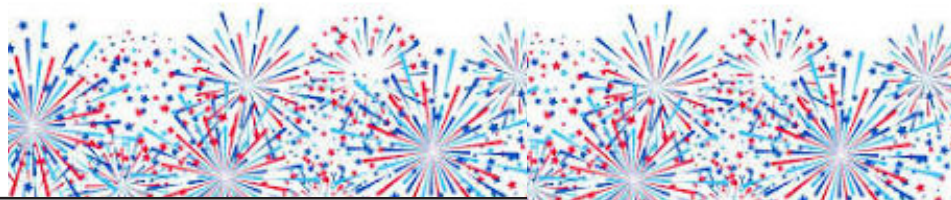


MEN'S GROUP

The next Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, July 13, 2024 at 9 a.m. @ Hill Road Grille, 2160 W. Hill Road, Flint. Please sign up on the Kiosk.



The next Ladies' Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, July 10th at 11:45 a.m. Location to be determined. If you plan on attending, please sign up on the kiosk or contact Louise McAra at (810) 287-4334.



SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

I've been thinking a lot lately about GRATITUDE and BILLS—an odd combination to be sure. But the more I reflect on each, and found myself expanding the word “bills” to include “Bills”, I realize that they are not that dissimilar.

The last few years have given us so much for which to feel GRATITUDE. We have been supported by devoted clergy working diligently to bring us closer together as a family of faith, helping us to claim ownership and responsibility for our church home and grounds, to remain together in faith during the “Covid Years” and to emerge as a family united, finding ways to share worship and music with our internet community. GRATITUDE!

We accomplished the Principal Payoff Challenge (BILL), a heavy burden that had many of us questioning our future as a congregation. Eliminating that BILL has brought a bounty of GRATITUDE for all who generously contributed and prayed for the success that helped us meeting the challenge!

Each month, as we set about the responsibility of our other BILLS, we realize that the load has lightened and we can begin looking ahead to some of the deferred maintenance that our 20+ years old building demands—BILL. And at the same time, there is much GRATITUDE for all whose time, talents and treasures continue to support us and the ability to be able to start saving some money for future needs.

Last evening about 25 folks travelled to East Lansing because of another BILL 21 years ago, BILL Thewalt started a parish tradition with the Lugnuts game. Carpooling, dinner, fellowship, baseball (with BILL Hartley throwing the first pitch!) and Thirsty Thursday combined to fill a community evening with an abundance of GRATITUDE. Thank you, BILL, I believe your spirit was there, smiling with us.

As Senior Warden, I am frequently at church during the week and often see 2 other BILLS at work. BILL Hartley and Rod (BILL, JR.!) Bytwerk spend hours on minor repairs, changing light bulbs, talking to contractors and obtaining estimates for projects to be done. Again, BILLS=GRATITUDE.

Our flower beds have been tended by another BILL. The rosebushes by our front doors were planted by BILL Anderson and, with help from others, are coaxed into blooms to greet us as we enter church feeling GRATITUDE for their beauty.

These are only some of the worker BILLS. But my heart is full of GRATITUDE for each one. I think about the other “BILLS” in my life. We all have them, we know them by many other names. Please take time to reflect with GRATITUDE on what those BILLS provide for us. I know my spirit is lifted when I reflect with GRATITUDE and not with anxiety!

Ellen

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR JULY 2024

	LECTOR / LEM	GREETERS	TECH	ALTAR GUILD	COFFEE HOUR	ALTAR FLOWERS
<u>July 7</u>						
8 am	Jane Brewer/ Dave Butler (LEM)	Neuman & Jan Convis	-----	-----	-----	-----
10:15 am	Ken Duck	Flo Gjerstad & Jan Taylor		Anne Naber	Chapin Cook & Ellen Safley	Jane Brewer
<u>July 14th – One Service at 10:15 a.m.</u>						
8 am	-----	-----		-----	-----	-----
10:15 am	Rod Bytwerk	Paul & Jerri Bassett		Shirley Showl- er	-----	Available
<u>July 21</u>						
8 am	Susan Arm- strong/ Nancy Wells (LEM)	Dave & Melissa Butler	-----	-----	-----	-----
10:15 am	Linda Rathburn Steve Huber (L)	Mary Van Duyne & Bill Anderson		Louise McAra	Available	Shirley Showl- er
<u>July 28</u>						
8 am	Kay VanNatta/ Nancy Wells (LEM)	Jane Brewer & Susan Arm- strong	-----	-----	-----	-----