



ST. JOHN'S JOURNEY

LIVING IN HOPE † UNITED IN FAITH † LED BY LOVE



April, 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Vestry Notes | 1 |
| Seder Dinner | 2 |
| Community Garage Sale | 2 |
| A New Cross | 3 |
| An Easter Baptism | 3 |
| Ringing the bell! | 3 |
| Concert Pix | 4 |
| Taco Night Pix | 4 |
| Recipe | 11 |
| Peeking in the Past | 5 |
| Ministry Schedule | 6 |

Dear Friends,

I wonder how Lazarus felt when he heard that Jesus had been crucified. Maybe incredulous, horrified, grief stricken? How could such a good man, clearly from God, come to such an end? I wonder how Lazarus felt when he heard that Jesus had risen from the dead. Joyful, surely. But I don't think he was completely surprised. He knew such things were possible. He was alive because such things ARE possible. If they had met again, I think Lazarus would have said, "I knew you would come back". Lazarus was one of the first people to practice resurrection. As followers of Jesus, we need to practice resurrection too.

Don't get me wrong – St. John's is a lonnnnggg way from needing CPR. While Rev. Tom's departure is an unpleasant surprise, it is NOT the end of our church. As several members have expressed, ALL of us make up St. John's. Our church is more than one priest, or even one senior warden. The early churches in Paul's epistles did not have clergy. They had strong leadership (sometimes too strong!) and strong bonds

with each other. We have 3 excellent Worship Leaders who have been known to deliver some pretty good sermons. We have a strong Vestry with many years of experience at St. John's. And visitors remember the love they see among us. That's how folks know we are Christians, right?



The Vestry is working on the practical next-steps. I'm in the process of finding Supply Clergy. Some good news – I contacted Rev. Barb (who is enjoying her cruise IMMENSELY) to ask if she would visit us again and she quickly replied that she would be delighted to do so. She doesn't come home until May and she has some plans for the next couple of months – but we may very well see her this summer. Vestry meets with Canon Tracie Little, from the Diocese, on Friday, April 14 to learn more about the search process for new clergy. We continue to plan for community and congregational events for the

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Holy Week at St. John's Episcopal Church

Palm Sunday-April 2nd at 10:00 am "Passion Gospel
Maundy Thursday & Seder Dinner-April 6 at 6:30 pm
Good Friday-April 7th at 4:00 pm
Easter Sunday & Holy Baptism-April 9th at 10:00 am

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Find us on Facebook!



Editor: Becky Foster

St. John's Journey is published monthly. We're looking for your photos and articles. Please email them to "stjohnschurchdryden@gmail.com" with the word "Newsletter" in the subject line. Deadline for May is April 28th



Happy Birthday!

Becky Foster
Connie Ogg
Sarah Underwood

future – details in this issue. Like spring bulbs, the early signs are subtle but promise growth.

Any member of the Vestry is available for questions, comments and ideas. We may not have the answers yet, but you can count on us to communicate what we know. I plan to include regular updates during Announcements on Sundays. There may not be much to share but I think it's important to keep you in the loop.

An **you** have a big part to play in our near future. One thing you can do is reach out to other members and just be there for

each other. And you can encourage Vestry members too. We're working extra hard and could use an occasional hug. And it always helps to see you on Sunday morning and during coffee hour.

Thank you for all that you do to make St. John's a wonderful family of faith. Faith is what helps us get through times of uncertainty. And if I know anything about Jesus, it's that He's still rolling stones.

Peace & Blessings,

Becky

YOU
ARE
INVITED
TO
CELEBRATE
A



**Jesus said
to them,
"I have
eagerly desired
to eat
this Passover
with you....**

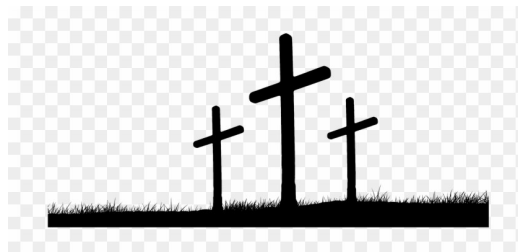
- Luke 22:15

Date: April 6th

Time: 6:30PM

**Location: St. John's
Parish Hall**

**R.S.V.P: Sign up
sheet in Parish Hall
or Kitty Underwood**



On this Good Friday may we never forget the true meaning of Easter –

For when He was on the cross, we were on His mind.

Remember St. John's in your will:

Please consider helping the mission and ministry of St. John'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. John's Episcopal Church, a non-profit church, with the current address of 4074 S. Mill St., Dryden, MI 48428, and its successor, the greater of \$_____, or _____percentage of my gross estate, to be used in such manner as determined by its vestry."



This Easter we'll have a brand new cross for the Flowering of the Cross. Jack Dodd has been busy creating a cross that looks great, will do the job and won't require a fork-truck to move. Watch for it Easter morning. Many thanks to Jack for this and everything else he does for St. John's.

Almost too pretty to cover with flowers....



HE IS NOT HERE
HE HAS RISEN,
JUST AS HE SAID.

MATTHEW 28:6



Please join us on Easter Sunday as we celebrate the Baptism of **Madeline Marie Michaels** with her parents, **Lelia and Eric Michaels**, and her grandparents, **Sherry and Marc Wagner**. The ceremony will be part of our Easter Service which starts at 10AM. May the good Lord bless this child and her family forever.



**Who's Having More Fun?
Ida Lynn or Audrey?**

Aren't we glad we fixed the bell rope
so it's easy to pull?

Remember this Work Day at St. John's?



St. John's Music Concert Series #3 was a Hit!!!

We had a full house for Matt Watroba and his wife Kim on Saturday, March 11. We were singing, clapping and just enjoying every minute. Thanks to some "free" advertising in the Oxford community, there were quite a few the ventured into north country to join us. The free will donations raised over \$700 that will help cover some concert costs and maybe sweeten the-pot for future concerts. The plan is to hold another concert in the fall. If you have any suggestions, please pass them along.

Taste & See Taco Night – Muy Bien!



March 13th's Taste & See class also featured a Taco Night. Participants left feeling well fed both physically and spiritually. Many thanks to Beckett LeClaire for leading us in a wonderful discussion of "The Way of Love". Learning, sharing and growing in faith – it was all there. I hope that Beckett will return for future classes. His insight and caring approach with people he was just getting to know was a lovely gift.



Thursday, May 18th and Friday, May 19th

St. John's will participate in the Village of Dryden's community wide garage sale in mid-May. So start your spring cleaning/culling and donate your used but still usable stuff to our sale. And if you feel like doing your own mini-trunk sale, we'll "rent" a space in our parking lot for a modest fee. Now, if it just doesn't snow.....

A Dozen Deviled Eggs

Another yummy recipe from Connie!

Green Eggs & Ham

- 3/4 c mashed avocado
- 2 T finely chopped red onion
- 1 1/2 T Mayo
- 1 T lemon Juice
- 3/4 t garlic powder
- 1/2 t crushed red pepper
- 1/3 t black pepper
- 1/2 t Salt

Mashed Yokes

Combine all and fill egg halves.

Top with Hormel Bacon Bits

Mexican Eggs

- 1/4 c minced onion
- 3/4 mashed avocado
- 1/4 c minced jalapeno
- 2 T finely chopped cilantro (more to taste.)
- 1/2 t ground cumin
- 1/2 t salt
- 1/2 t pepper
- 1 T Lime Juice
- Mashed yolks

Combine all and fill egg halves. Sprinkle with paprika for color



The date on the pix says 2006. Do you recognize these folks? I think that blur in the last one is Kitty....

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Lector</u> | <u>Eucharistic Minister</u> | <u>Crucifer</u> | <u>Worship Leader</u> | <u>Video</u> | <u>Counting Member 1</u> | <u>Counting Member 2</u> |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| April 2, 2023 | Wes | Kay | John | Rev. Manney | Sherry Wagner | Wes | Russ |
| April 6, 2023 | Neil | Beckett | Jack | Rev. Manney | Becky Foster | Russ | Becky |
| April 7, 2023 | Margaret | Neil | Kay | Rev. Manney | Ina Dockham | Becky | Jack |
| April 9, 2023 | Ina | Tammy | Becket | Rev. Manney | Ida Lynn Dodd | Jack | Neil |
| April 16, 2023 | Wes | | | Becky | Sherry Wagner | Ina | Wes |
| April 23, 2023 | Kay | | | Neil | Wes Wagester | Connie | Ina |
| April 30, 2023 | Tammy | | | Kitty | Becky Foster | Wes | Russ |

Ministry Schedule

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