



# ST. JOHN'S JOURNEY

*LIVING IN HOPE † UNITED IN FAITH † LED BY LOVE*



September 2023

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Dear Friends,

I've seen a few red maple leaves so fall must be around the corner. It's a beautiful season but I still hate to see summer leave. We've had a few fun events this last month. Once again, we gathered school supplies for our local students. This year, we decided to include Dryden Elementary students in addition to Dryden High School and Susan McNary's first grade class. It was an impressive stash. And it was as much fun to shop for the donations as it was when we were kids.

We FINALLY brought our bell back on line. Now we can schedule it to ring at a programmed day and time. And we have a remote control too. The improved bell can still be rung by hand but the action is much easier. Unfortunately, that means little ones won't get that free ride when the rope gets pulled. But it's much easier for those of us who are not so young anymore. Thanks to all who made this possible.

The Vestry has been preparing for the future possibility of interviewing clergy. We have created an interview for-

mat and firmed up the financial offer we feel is within our means. We await news from the Diocese about any interested candidates. Please pray for patience while we wait and for a good match when the time comes.



We have another music concert coming up – Sept. 23rd. Bob Holt is our musician. A former pastor in the Oxford area, he plays guitar and sings popular songs from the 60's, 70's and up. I saw him perform earlier this summer and he had all of us singing, swaying and smiling. This will be a fun evening. Be sure to ask your friends to come.

I am grateful for all of your prayers and support. St. John's is doing just fine and it's all because of you. Have a safe Labor Day holiday.

Peace & Blessings,

**Becky**

Website: [www.stjohnschurchdryden.org](http://www.stjohnschurchdryden.org)  
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**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 October is September 29th



**Happy Birthday!**

Myron Petrie  
Jonathan Steele  
Teri Manny

Deacon Beckett has been busy this summer leading Holy Hikes around the lower peninsula. There are a few still to go. Given how beautiful the fall can be, this might be a great way to enjoy fall colors while letting the Spirit speak to your soul. All hiking sites have been carefully selected to be relatively easy treks to ensure access for all generations and most mobilities. Expect to spend about 90 minutes on the trail, including time both hiking and stopped for prayer and reflection. The hikes will start at 1p.m. In the case of rain, the date will be rescheduled. Give Beckett a shout or email ([bleclair@eastmich.org](mailto:bleclair@eastmich.org)) if you are interested.



**Bible Study Resuming September 13<sup>th</sup>**

After a break for the summer, we’re resuming our weekly Bible study on Zoom with Neil Hargrave as our moderator and teacher. These sessions are relaxed and the discussions are far ranging. We always learn something new about scripture and about each other. If you want to give it a try, contact Neil Hargrave ([charg01@netscape.net](mailto:charg01@netscape.net)) for the Zoom link. Hoping to see you there!

**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.”



St. John's  
Episcopal Church  
Concert Series Presents:

## Bob Holt

**Singer/Guitarist**

Featuring popular music from the  
60's forward.

**Saturday, Sept. 23rd at 7 pm**

St. John's Episcopal Church

4074 S. Mill St

Dryden, MI 48428

*Proceeds go to our Outreach  
Teen Relief Program  
benefitting local youth.*



### Has Your IRA become an IOU to the IRS?

If you have an IRA and are of a certain age when the government is requiring you to make withdrawals from your IRA, you know that means taxes are coming due as well. IF you would like to deny the IRS the joy of collecting those tax dollars, there is a way.....

Any charitable donation from your IRA to a non-profit organization, like St. John's for instance, is tax free!!!! All you need to do is call the folks at your IRA organization and arrange a donation, like to St. John's for instance, and they will cut the check, mail it out and adjust your records to show there's less there for taxes. It has to come from your IRA custodian, not from you after receiving the distribution. Some of us feel good when we donate AND when we legally reduce our taxes. Think about it -you have until December 31<sup>st</sup> but you don't need to wait that long!





**Financial Updates for Financials through July 2023**

July is the most recent month to be reviewed by the Vestry. The basic figures (full numbers only, rounded up) are below:

July 2023	Monthly Budget	Monthly Actual	Better or Worse than Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Better or Worse than Budget
<b>Income</b>	\$4,933	\$5,082	<b>\$149</b>	\$34,533	\$42,625	<b>\$8,092</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	\$5,008	\$3,291	<b>\$1,716</b>	\$34,712	\$32,030	<b>\$2,682</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	-\$74	\$1,791	<b>\$1,865</b>	-\$179	\$10,595	<b>\$10,774</b>

Pledge donations for June were above budgeted amounts for the month. YTD continues to look very good.

Looking at YTD Expenses, most of the accounts that were over budget last month are coming into line with expectations.

The YTD Net Profit number continue to be great.

The Restricted Funds – A few disbursements to note.

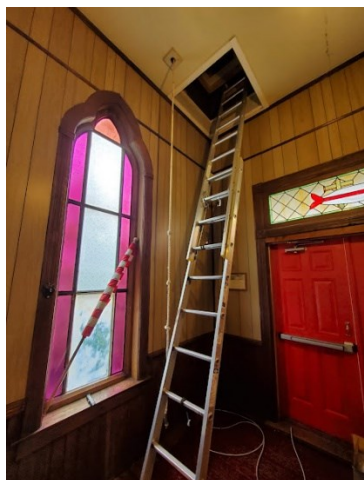
- We donated funds raised during our Garage Sale to Immanuel Church in Oxford to help with their bell refurbishment project
- The last phase of **our** bell project was completed and final payment made.

Deacon Beckett now has a discretionary fund made with donations from his ordination.

**Vanguard Investment Account** – as of July 31, 2023

- Vanguard Total Stock ETF – Current value \$65,408. Finally an increase over the amount originally invested.
- CD - \$21,000. This will remain stable until next year when interest is added to the amount.

## Getting the Bell On-Line



After almost two years of planning, saving and praying, our bell is finally on-line with a scheduler and remote controller. Many thanks to all who contributed to the effort in any way. We took some time on August 6<sup>th</sup> to bless the bell and thank those who were involved in some of the physical prep. As you can see – it’s a LONG way up to the bell tower. Only the brave and limber live to tell the tale!

## *This and That...From Here and There*

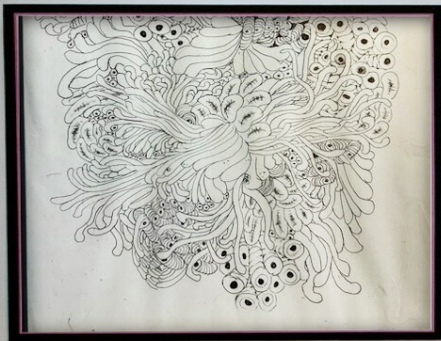


### **These Folks Know How to Roll!**

And they make great egg-rolls too! Our friends spent some time helping Grace Lapeer make up to 4,000 egg-rolls for their annual fund raiser during Lapeer Days. Don’t you just love the fancy hats? And they helped out with the sales booth too! Helping others and having fun – that’s a perfect combination. I’m betting there will be even more volunteers next year!

## Ministry Schedule

<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>
Sep 10				Beckett	Becky	Russ	Becky
Sep 17	Mary	Beckett	John	Rev Schuetz	Ina	Neil	Jack
Sep 24				Becky	Ida Lynn	Jack	Connie
Oct 1	Margaret	Mary	Jack	Rev Schuetz	Sherry	Ina	Wes
Oct 8				Neil	Wes	Connie	Ina



### Winner at the Armada Fair

Some of us already know that Mary Cameron is quite the artist. Every year she enters several items for judging at the Armada Fair. This year, she had some art work, some sewing and some photography to share. The drawing and the table runner got first prize! Other items also received recognition. The photo of the iris is stunning. Great job, Mary!



“By all these lovely tokens September days are here, with summer’s best of weather and autumn’s best of cheer.”

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## Italian Crescent Zucchini Pie submitted by Kathy Wagester.

This recipe has some history – it comes from Kathy’s mom and is a favorite with her family. With Zucchini so bountiful right now, it sounds wonderful.

### Ingredients:

- 1 package of refrigerated crescent roll dough
- 4 cups Zucchini, sliced
- 1 cup Onion, chopped
- ¼ cup Margerine
- ½ cup parsley, chopped
- 2 eggs, well beaten
- 8 oz. Mozzarella or cheddar cheese
- ½ tsp. Salt & Petter
- ¼ tsp. Garlic Powder
- ¼ tsp. sweet Basil
- ½ tsp. oregano
- Dash of Dijon mustard

### Directions:

Spread one can of crescent roll dough in a pie pan including up the sides

Spread Dijon mustard all over the dough.



Cook Zucchini and onion in margarine until tender (about 10 minutes) then drain.

Stir in parsley and the rest of the seasonings.

In a large bowl, blend in eggs, cheese, and veggie mixture. Mix well.

Pour veggie mixture evenly over dough.

Bake at 375° for 18 to 20 minutes.

NOTE. Before you begin, it’s best to place the zucchini slices in a colander over the sink or a large bowl. Shake a little salt over the zucchini, then toss a few times in the colander to coat. Allow the zucchini to drain for an hour before proceeding. This will remove excess moisture from the zucchini and give you a better result in the final dish.

## School Supplies for another year

We gathered quite a stash of school supplies this year. They were going to both Dryden High School and Dryden Elementary as well as to Susan McNary’s 1<sup>st</sup> grade class. Buying the supplies is so much fun. We hope our students have a wonderful and fun year.



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