



THE RED DOOR NEWSLETTER
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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August 2026

***"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit?
You are not your own; so glorify God in your body." 1 Corinthians 6:19***

Several years ago, my cousin and I were having lunch together and she was telling me about the new priest that had just started at her church. She said that the priest said something before communion that bothered her. The priest said, "This is holy food for holy people," a phrase I frequently use as the invitation to communion.

I asked her why that bothered her and she said she felt like she was being excluded because she wasn't holy. I said, "Of course you are holy!" We are all created by God and that being part of God's creation makes us Holy. She said she had never thought of herself in that way.

This scripture passage from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians addresses this exact issue. Paul poses the question, "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit?" And then he answers his own question by saying, "You are not your own; so glorify God in your body."

What exactly is a temple? It is a structure that exists for God, and really for no other purpose. It is a place of silent waiting. A place where truth is spoken and songs are sung. It is a place to be deadly serious and giddily silly. It is a place where offerings are made to God and forgiveness is given. It is a place to be sad and a place to celebrate. It is a place where all are welcome and the doors are always open, and if God seems to be nowhere else, God is there.

So you ask yourself, "Am I such a place?" The answer is yes, both in the singular and in the plural sense of the word. Not only is our physical body a temple of the Holy Spirit, but so are we a temple for God as the collective body of Christ and we need each other to be his temple!

There is a song we sing at Camp Chickagami that addresses this very thing. It goes like this: "Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary; pure and holy, tried and true. With thanksgiving, to be a living sanctuary for you."

So the next time you hear the invitation to communion "This is holy food for holy people," remember that you are indeed a holy temple where God dwells.

God's love and mine,
Rev. Pam

August 2026 Lectionary and Ministry Schedule

Lectionary

August 2 – Proper 13

Isaiah 55:1-5
Psalm 145: 8-9, 15-22
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

August 6 – The Transfiguration

Exodus 34:29-35
2 Peter 1:13-21
Luke 9:28-36
Psalm 99 or 99:5-9

August 9 – Proper 14

1 Kings 19:9-18
Psalm 85:8-13
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

August 15 – Saint Mary, the Virgin

Isaiah 61:10-11
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 1:46-55
Psalm 34 or 34:1-9

August 16 – Proper 15

Isaiah 56:1,6-8
Psalm 67
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

August 23 – Proper 16

Isaiah 51:1-6
Psalm 138
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

August 24 – Saint Bartholomew

Deuteronomy 18:15-18
1 Corinthians 4:9-15
Luke 22:24-30
Psalm 91 or 91:1-4

August 30 – Proper 17

Jeremiah 15:15-21
Psalm 26:1-8
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28



Worship Schedule

August 2 – Morning Prayer

August 2 – Worship at the Congregational Church at 10:30

August 9– Holy Eucharist

Presider: Rev. Pam

August 16 – Morning Prayer

August 23 – Holy Eucharist

Presider: Rev. Pam

August 30 – Morning Prayer

August 2026 Parish and Diocesan Events

THIS YEAR ST. MARK'S CELEBRATES 70 YEARS OF MINISTRY!



To commemorate this occasion, St. Mark's is holding a 70th Anniversary Party here at the church on **Saturday, August 30th beginning at 2:00 pm.**

Please invite your friends, families, and anyone who has been a part of St. Mark's. Details are still in the making, but please save the date!

OUR FIRST BISHOP NOMINEES



The Nominees for the first Bishop Diocesan of the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes have been announced. They are:

- **The Rev. Terri L. Bays**
- **The Rev. Zachary C. Nyein**
- **The Rev. Holly R. Zaher.**

More information about the candidates can be found on the diocesan website at:

Greatlakesepiscopal.org/bishop-search.

Our first bishop diocesan will be elected at the Diocesan Convention in October.

WORSHIP LEADER TRAINING

For those already licensed who would like additional training, the diocese is offering a class on **Funeral Preparation on Saturday, September 26 via Zoom**. Please speak with Rev. Pam if you are interested in taking the class.

UPCOMING VESTRY MEETING



The next Vestry Meeting is on **Friday, September 11 at 10:00 am**. As always, everyone is invited to attend the meeting with voice and input.

THE HYGIENE CLOSET



With the closing of the AuSable Inclusion Center, the Hygiene closet is being assumed by the Jack Pine Regional Mission Council (RMC). The Hygiene Closet steering committee has met one time and is planning to create a schedule for the "Pop-Up" closets. They are also still working on a name.

JACK PINE REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

The next Council meeting is on **Saturday, September 26 at 10:00 am** at the AuSable Inclusion Center in Mio and on Zoom. Naomi Deo and Debbie Bowers are our representatives. There will be many opportunities for collaboration as the Hygiene Closet transitions to the Jack Pine RMC.

FINANCE REPORTS

Income and Expense as of July 29, 2026

Operating Income	\$10,905.66
Operating Expenses	\$ 8,973.91
Non-Operating Income	\$ 1,668.47
Non-Operating Expense	\$ 2,418.50

Bank Balances as of July 29, 2026

General Checking Account	\$ 2,773.97
Outreach Account	\$ 80.00
Money Market	\$ 683.46
Restricted Building and Grounds	\$ 1,062.70
Roof and Tractor Fund	\$ 28.47
Savings Account	\$ 5.20
CD #301	\$ 3,211.17
CD #303	\$ 2,292.80
CD #304	\$ 3,186.20
CD #305	\$ 3,186.20
Total all Accounts	\$ 16,510.17

If you have any questions regarding our finances, please speak with our treasurer Tarry Deo.

August 2026 Prayers of The People



Let us pray for you

Pray for those who are ill or otherwise in need

Ron Ray, Jane Vincek, Joanne Rowe, Dan Marquardt, Savannah Laporte, Allison Laporte, Judi Schnell, Tom Healey, and all those whom we pray for silently.

***All who are grieving the loss of a loved one
An end to gun violence
An end to all wars and conflicts***

Pray for our Church

The Most Rev Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop
Julia Ayala Harris, President of the HOD
The Rev. Anne Hodges-Copple, Assisting Bishop
Candidates for our first Bishop Diocesan
The Standing Committee of the Diocese
Diocesan Council of our Diocese
The Rev. Pamela Lenartowicz, Priest-in-charge
The Vestry Members and Lay Leaders of our parish
Our Parish family

Pray for our Country

President Donald Trump
Vice President JD Vance
Governor Gretchen Whitmer
Lieutenant Governor Garlin Gilchrist
The congresses of our country and state
Our service men and women

Pray for our Community

The people of our community
Our Military Men and Women
Our Police, Sheriff, State Troopers, and first responders
The hungry and homeless, that they may find food and shelter



August Birthdays

Marian Weber – August 8
Rev. Jim Barr – August 10
Marsha Marquardt – August 17



August Anniversaries

No August Anniversaries to celebrate

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

August 2

St. Paul's, Gladwin - Gary Grinn, SW
Holy Trinity, Manistee - Susan Lund-Coyle, SW

August 9

St. Elizabeth's, Higgins Lake - Yvonne Dustan, SW
Grace Church, Luddington - Mick Shriver, Rector

August 16

St. Luke's, Roger's City - Jeri Eldridge, SW
St. Mark's, Newaygo - B.J. Heyboer, Rector
William Fleener, Chancellor of The Diocese

August 23

St. Paul's, Saginaw - Judy Boli, Rector
Holy Trinity, Wyoming - Jonathan Carle, Rector

August 30

St. John's, Alma - Doug Ballard, SW
St. John's-by-the-Lake, Onkema - Dave Emenheiser, Chapel Committee chair