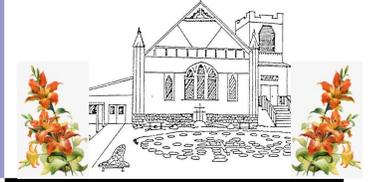


ST. JOHN'S JOURNEY



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St. John's Episcopal Church

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Priest
Tom Manney



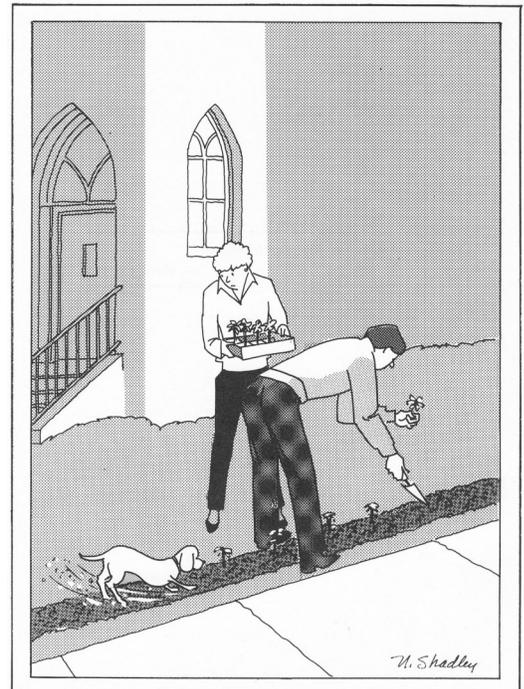
A Note from Tom

Yesterday's announcement by the Standing Committees of the dioceses of Eastern and Western Michigan regarding the resignation of Bishop Houghland was certainly a sad moment in the history of our diocese (Eastern Michigan). As if our Standing Committee did not already have its hands full dealing with COVID, the suspension of the bishop in 2020 meant that our Standing Committee would have to govern in his place *and* lead the discernment process regarding his potential return. This is a tall order of business. And I believe that these individuals deserve *great recognition* on our behalf for their commitment and willingness to do a *lot* of hard work.

In the end, it was decided that it was in the best interests of the two dioceses that Bishop Houghland resign. In the letter published by the two standing committees, it was written, "...we know and understand that our continued mission and ministry, including our growing relationship between our two dioceses, would be impeded by reinstatement to office."

This of course, means prolonged challenges for our diocese. We have been without a diocesan bishop since the departure of Bishop Ousley in 2017. This news means that we will be continuing that pattern for the foreseeable future. I pray that our Standing Committee, together with Assisting Bishop Skip Adams, can continue to lead us through what will likely be another period of discernment, prayer, and difficult decisions. May God bless them.

Tom



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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 July is July 30th.



Happy Birthday...

Jim Fry

John Malinich

Kitty Underwood

Wes Wagester

Nikolai Wagner

John Dodd

Vestry

Dear Friends,

Halleluia! The wait is over and we can safely gather for worship and for fellowship. We had our first coffee hour in over a year on June 6th, in front of the church right after we dedicated our new roof. It was so great to see everyone's faces – all of their faces. I love seeing everyone's smiles. We've continued to space out seating for inside services but will probably drop that in July. And we are awaiting word from the Diocese about when to resume adding wine back into our Eucharist distribution. We're a bit out of practice with some things – our 2nd coffee hour didn't have coffee! I had forgotten to make it! But we'll get back in the swing. We thank God for bringing us through this. I pray that vaccinations continue to increase to help ensure ongoing health for all.

As I mentioned above, we dedicated our new roof at the beginning of the month. THEN we discovered that the tower roof (which was not part of the original project) is also pretty bad. Thanks to all the donations last year, we have funds to cover this added item. At that point, I think all the roof surfaces have been updated within the last few years. Hoping that takes care of that for quite a while to come.

Did you attend Tim Wright's memorial on June 5th? It was a lovely celebration of life. We have another memorial coming up in July. We will remember Harold Prowse on Saturday, July 24th at 11AM. I hope you can join us then.

And thank-you to Jim and Corinne Fry for getting the gift basket raffle back on track. Jim and Corinne sold tickets for about a month for a lovely wine basket of really GOOD stuff. And the winner is.....

Sherry Petrie! She even has some new wine glasses for the occasion!

Kathy Wagester volunteered to make up the next basket. She's going to use a different theme. Hmm....wonder what that might be?

The Vestry will start a mid-year review this month. We need to recalibrate to a post-Covid church.

We'll be asking ourselves about what is going well, what could

be better, what we should do going forward. If you have any suggestions, feel free to pass them on. We have an exciting new world to explore!



Peace,

Becky



Dear Friends in Christ,

We write today with news about our life together at the conclusion of the suspension of our bishop, the Rt. Rev. Wayne M. Hougland, Jr.

After a series of lengthy, honest, and occasionally painful conversations, the Standing Committees, Diocesan Councils, and Bishop Hougland have reached a separation agreement that will result in his resignation as Bishop Diocesan of Western Michigan and as Bishop Provisional of Eastern Michigan, effective July 1, 2021.

Yours in Christ,

The Rt. Rev. Wayne M. Hougland, Jr.

Bishop Diocesan, Western Michigan

Bishop Provisional, Eastern Michigan



My Sisters, Brothers, Siblings,

The Episcopal Church proclaims that “[b]y virtue of Baptism, all members of the Church . . . shall . . . seek to resolve conflicts by promoting healing, repentance, forgiveness, restitution, justice, amendment of life and reconciliation.” The Rt. Rev. Wayne M. Hougland Jr., along with the people and leadership of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan and the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan, have spent the last year working both individually and corporately toward this high calling. While I have held out hope that this difficult and holy work would result in Bishop Hougland’s return to service with your two dioceses, mutual discernment has revealed a need to end your relationship as bishop and dioceses. I affirm both the integrity of your discernment and your decision growing out of it.

As we turn toward the future, I offer my blessing upon your two great dioceses as you continue your commitment to creatively explore collaborative ministries across diocesan lines. This bold experiment in mission is surely born of the Spirit and offers a hope-filled model for the rest of the church. Keep up the good work; continue striving toward healing and reconciliation; hold one another in prayer. And remember that God is with you always.

Keep the faith,

The Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry

Presiding Bishop and Primate

The Episcopal Church



Interbeing

From Richard Rohr's Weekly Reflections

Buddhist monk and peace activist Thich Nhat Hanh (b. 1926) has offered the world much wisdom through his personal example and teaching. Here he offers a meditation about a piece of paper to illustrate the mysterious interconnection of all things which he calls "interbeing":

If you are a poet, you will see clearly that there is a cloud floating in this sheet of paper. Without a cloud, there will be no rain; without rain, the trees cannot grow; and without trees, we cannot make paper. The cloud is essential for the paper to exist. If the cloud is not here, the sheet of paper cannot be here either. So, we can say that the cloud and the paper *inter-are*. "Interbeing" is a word that is not in the dictionary yet, but if we combine the prefix "inter-" with the verb "to be," we have a new verb, inter-be.

If we look into this sheet of paper even more deeply, we can see the sunshine in it. Without sunshine, the forest cannot grow. In fact, nothing can grow without sunshine. And so, we know that the sunshine is also in this sheet of paper. The paper and the sunshine *inter-are*. And if we continue to look, we can see the logger who cut the tree and brought it to the mill to be transformed into paper. And we see wheat. We know that the logger cannot exist without his daily bread, and therefore the wheat that became his bread is also in this sheet of paper. The logger's father and mother are in it too. When we look in this way, we see that without all of these things, this sheet of paper cannot exist.

Looking even more deeply, we can see ourselves in this sheet of paper too. This is not difficult to see, because when we look at a sheet of paper, it is part of our perception. Your mind is in here and mine is also. So we can say that everything is in here with this sheet of paper. We cannot point out one thing that is not here—time, space, the earth, the rain, the minerals in the soil, the sunshine, the cloud, the river, the heat. Everything co-exists with this sheet of paper. That is why I think the word inter-be should be in the dictionary. "To be" is to inter-be. We cannot just *be* by ourselves alone. We have to inter-be with every other thing. This sheet of paper is, because everything else is.

Suppose we try to return one of the elements to its source. . . . Without non-paper elements, like mind, logger, sunshine and so on, there will be no paper. As thin as this sheet of paper is, it contains everything in the universe in it.

Dedicating the New Roof: On the hottest Sunday of the year, we gathered to give thanks for and to bless our new roof. It was also our first coffee hour in over a year and we had a lovely time catching up with each other. Even Eleana and Harvey and Margaret were there. This was a major milestone. Many thanks to all who contributed to make this possible. And a GREAT BIG THANK-YOU to Jack Dodd who managed this project beautifully.



Remembering Tim

Tim's family held a Celebration of Life on June 5th. Many of our St. John's family were there as were many of Tim's equestrian friends. So loved. So missed. He's with us still.

Tomato-Melon Chicken Salad

(6 servings)

Salads always sound good in summer and this one has a slightly unusual mix. Enjoy!

Ingredients:

- 4 medium tomatoes, cut into wedges
- 2 cups cubed seedless watermelon
- 1 cup fresh raspberries
- 1/4 cup minced fresh basil
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 9 cups torn mixed salad greens
- 4 grilled chicken breasts (4 ounces each), sliced

Directions

In a large bowl, combine the tomatoes, watermelon and raspberries. In a small bowl, whisk the basil, oil, vinegar, salt and pepper. Drizzle over tomato mixture; toss to coat. Divide salad greens among 6 serving plates; top with tomato mixture and chicken.



Help him
that's what faith is
he can't bring it about
his kingdom
couldn't then couldn't later can't
now
not at any rate without you
and that is his irresistible appeal

Dorothee Soelle



Ministry & Counting Schedule

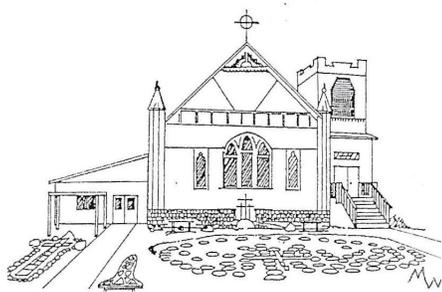
Date	Lector	Minister	Worship Leader	Counter 1	Counter 1
Jul 4, 2021	Neil Hargrave	Mary Cameron	Rev Tom Manney	Becky Foster	Wes Wagester
Jul 11, 2021	Tammy Tur-nipseed		Neil Hargrave	Neil Hargrave	Jack Dodd
Jul 18, 2021	Ina Dockham	Tammy Tur-nipseed	Rev Tom Manney	Wes Wagester	Lelia Wagner
Jul 25, 2021	Lelia Wagner		Kitty Underwood	Jack Dodd	Becky Foster
Aug 1, 2021	Margaret Smith	Corinne Fry	Rev Tom Manney	Lelia Wagner	Neil Hargrave
Aug 8, 2021	Darlene Hernden	Neil Hargrave	Rev Barb Cavin	Becky Foster	Wes Wagester
Aug 15, 2021	Kathy Wagester	Mary Cameron	Rev Tom Manney	Neil Hargrave	Jack Dodd
Aug 22, 2021	Wes Wagester		Becky Foster	Wes Wagester	Lelia Wagner
Aug 29, 2021	Tammy Tur-nipseed		Neil Hargrave	Jack Dodd	Becky Foster

Livestream Schedule for the Summer

July 4	Wes Wagester	Independence Day
July 11	Sherry Wagner	
July 18	Lelia Wagner	
July 25	Ina Dockham	
August 1	Becky Foster	
August 8	Mary Cameron	
August 15	Ida Lynn Dodd	
August 22	Wes Wagester	
August 29	Sherry Wagner	



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 10am - Morning	28	29 10am - Office Hours	30 4pm - Bible Study	1	2 10am - Office Hours	3
4 Independence Day 10am - Worship-Rev	5 Independence Day	6 10am - Office Hours	7 4pm - Bible Study	8	9 10am - Office Hours	10
11 10am - Morning 4pm - Vestry	12	13 10am - Office Hours	14 4pm - Bible Study	15	16 10am - Office Hours	17
18 10am - Eucharist	19	20 10am - Office Hours	21 4pm - Bible Study	22	23 10am - Office Hours	24 11am - Harold
25 10am - Morning	26	27 10am - Office Hours	28 4pm - Bible Study	29	30 Newspaper Readings 10am - Office Hours	31



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