



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCHES OF NEWAYGO COUNTY

ST. JOHN'S FREMONT & ST. MARK'S NEWAYGO

NEWSLETTER FOR DECEMBER 2018

PARISH CALENDAR:

The Episcopal Church Women (ECW) regularly meet the first Thursday of the month at St. Mark's at 6:00 p.m. **(no meeting this month; Christmas party Dec. 7)**

The Marksmen meet the first Sunday of the month at St. Mark's at 10:15 a.m. **(December 2, 2018)**

Fall Spiritual Formation Concludes This Month: December 5 and 12. We will gather at St. John's to explore of "The Way of Love: Practices for a Jesus-Centered Life." Taizé worship will be in the sanctuary at 6:30; our conversation will be in the conference room 7 p.m. Come for either or both!

ECW Christmas Party for all women of St. Mark's, St. John's, and Vera's House: Friday, **December 7** at Camp Newaygo from 7-9:30 p.m.

Joint Liturgy December 9 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mark's followed by a hayride at the Fettig farm at 12:30 p.m.

St. Mark's Vestry meets the second Tuesday of the month in the SM parish hall at 6:30 p.m. **(December 11, 2018)**

St. John's Vestry regularly meets the second Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. in the SJ conference room. **(December 13, 2018)**

Greening of the Churches: anytime after worship on **December 16.**

Winter Wisdom: Aging with Intention: This group regularly meets at Vera's House on the third Thursday of the month (**December 20**) from 10:00 a.m.-noon. Join other women in exploring the later seasons of life. We will be discussing writings about aging and doing some of our own writing and sharing our experiences as well. Contact Nancy Kennedy for more information.

Advent 4 Sunday Liturgies on **December 23** as regularly scheduled (8:45 a.m. SJ; 11 a.m. SM)

Christmas Eve Liturgies December 24 at St. Mark's: 5:30 p.m. (pageant) and 11:00 p.m. (candlelight)

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH: 124 S. SULLIVAN, FREMONT, MI 49412; (231) 924-3280
SUNDAY LITURGY: 8:45 A.M.

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH: 30 JUSTICE ST., NEWAYGO, MI 49337; (231) 652-7284
SUNDAY LITURGY: 11:00 A.M.



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PARISH CALENDAR (CONTINUED):

Christmas Day Liturgy **December 25** at St. John's: 10:00 a.m.

Course in Miracles: Sundays from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Vera's House

Women in Transition: Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m.-noon at Vera's House; lunch follows in St. Mark's parish hall. **(No meeting on Tuesday, December 25.)**

Morning Prayer: Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. at St. Mark's; Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. at St. John's.

Game Night is the fourth Monday of the month in the St. John's parish hall at 7:00 p.m. **(Since the fourth Monday is Christmas Eve, no game night this month.)**

*Please prayerfully consider your financial pledge
for the coming year and turn it in as soon as you are able.*

Thank you.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Andre Cantu—Dec. 2; Gaynell Ramsey—Dec. 2; Malachi Cubitt—December 9; Elaine Hansen—Dec. 9; Kristalyn Cubitt—Dec. 10; Kathy Castilio—Dec. 11; Jenna Rodrigues—Dec. 12; Michele Mines—Dec. 14; Vicki Moulton—Dec. 16; Russ Price—Dec. 18; Mark Cubitt—Dec. 19; Sue Engweiler—Dec. 23; Kayla Cubitt—Dec. 24

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

Jim and Janet Pinnell—Dec. 22

DIOCESAN CALENDAR:

The Ordination of Peter C. Homeyer to the Sacred Order of Priests: 11:00 a.m. on **December 15** at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 5333 Clyde Park Ave SW, Wyoming, MI 49509.

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DECEMBER SUNDAY SERVING SCHEDULE (CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY BELOW)

	DEC. 2	DEC. 9 JOINT LITURGY AT SM	DEC. 16	DEC. 23	DEC. 30
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	SJ: Phillie SM: Scott	SM: Mary	SJ: Mike W. SM: Kate	SJ: Mike W. SM: Bill	SJ: Phillie SM: Drew
LAY READERS	SJ: Dawn SM: Scott and Sharon	SM: Mary and Jim	SJ: Phillie SM: Grant and Mary Ellen	SJ: Dave SM: Bill and Brian	SJ: Kris SM: Drew and Jim
ALTAR GUILD	SM: Mary Ellen	SM: Donna	SM: Mary and Sibyl	SM: Mary	SM: Donna
GREETERS/ USHERS	SJ: Debbie SM: Grant and Mary Ellen	SM: Bill and Nancy	SJ: Dave SM: Larry and Nick	SJ: Torri SM: Bob and Pam	SJ: Mike C. SM: Grant and Mary Ellen
HOSPITALITY/ COFFEE HOUR HOST	SJ: Debbie SM: Gina and Barb E.	SM: Mary Ellen and Kathy	SJ: Kris SM: Elaine and Kate	SJ: Phillie SM: Sibyl and Christi D.	SJ: Potluck SM: Pam and Barb E.
OFFERING COUNTERS	SJ: Dawn and Dave SM: tbd	SM: tbd	SJ: Mike C. and Debbie SM: Pam and Jim	SJ: Mike and Torri SM: Mary H. and Brian	SJ: Mike C. and Denise SM: Nancy and Gina
WIT LUNCH	SM: Mary Ellen	SM: Kate	SM: Elaine	SM: n/a	SM: n/a
CHURCH CLEANERS	SM: Mary and Christi D.	SM: Sibyl and Gina	SM: Elaine and Jan	SM: Barb E. and Mary Ellen	SM: Bob and Pam

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SERVING SCHEDULE FOR LITURGIES ON CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY

	DEC. 24 ST. MARK'S 5:30/11 P.M.	DEC. 25 ST. JOHN'S 10:00 A.M.
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	5:30 pm: Steve 11 pm: Scott	10 am: Phillie
LAY READERS	5:30 pm: children 11 pm: Scott and Sharon	10 am: Torri
ALTAR GUILD	5:30 pm: Donna 11 pm: Mary Ellen	
GREETERS/USHERS	5:30 pm: Donna and Todd 11 pm: Grant and Mary Ellen	10 am: Phillie
HOSPITALITY/ COFFEE HOUR HOST	5:30 pm: n/a 11 pm: Grant and Mary Ellen	10 am: n/a
OFFERING COUNTERS	5:30 pm: tbd 11 pm: tbd	10 am: Dave and Torri

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

An Idea for Advent: Advent calendars are used to countdown the days of the season in anticipation of Christmas. This year, our churches are invited to mark our Advent days in a unique way. Set aside a box or container in your home, and each day of Advent, add something to the box that would be of help/assistance to someone in need: maybe it's a canned good from your pantry, or perhaps a new pair of socks or mittens for a child. Just add one small, simple (non-perishable) item to the box each day. I encourage you also to say a prayer of thanksgiving for the person who will receive it. Then bring your box or container to either church for one of our liturgies on **Christmas Eve or Christmas Day**, and place it in front of the altar. Together, this will be an offering we share with our brothers and sisters in our local community. Please join me in extending God's love to others in a very tangible way this holy season.

Together we wait in hope and anticipation,
Mother BJ+

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ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED):

Your Receipts from Bill's Shop-N-Save Support Our Parishes. There is a container in the back of church at St. Mark's and one in the parish office at St. John's for your grocery receipts; our churches will get 1% back on most purchases.

Episcopal Churches of Newaygo County Coffee Mugs are on sale for \$10.

St. Mark's Famous Cheese Tubs are on sale for \$5.

Looking for a Good Book? Browse books in our library in the St. Mark's Parish Hall or visit www.librarything.com/catalog/stmarkschurch. For more information, please see Sibyl. At St. John's, please browse our books in the conference room adjacent to the parish office.

Lectionary Texts: If you are interested in looking up the Scripture texts for Sundays, visit <http://www.lectionarypage.net/>.

VERA'S HOUSE:

For more information on our program offerings at Vera's House, please refer to the brochures available at either of our churches.

Ideas to Help Support Vera's House Please bring donations of shampoo, deodorant, soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper, toothpaste, and toothbrushes to Vera's House.

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