

St. Clare's
Episcopal Church

Saint Clarian

Worship with Joy, Grow in Faith, Act for Justice

monthly newsletter

A New Apostolic Era: Reflections on Chapter Two of *People of the Way*, by Dwight Zscheile

Dear Ones,

Many who examine the relationship of churches to our cultural context note that there are more “nones” today in surveys of religious identity. Part of this is that in the past, people would answer “Catholic” or “Baptist,” etc. as an offered identity even if they did not actively participate in a church, but now feel more comfortable saying “none” if they are not presently participating. The nones are a fairly fluid group, about 1/3 change in or out on any given survey among younger adults. However, this is still a doubling in very short time, demographically speaking, and does show that more young adults do not identify as religious.

Among those who believe and participate, faith is often understood in a very individualistic way. It operates comfortably in the background of life, helps one feel good about oneself, and resolves personal problems. God is disengaged from everyday life unless there is a problem. Dwight Zscheile makes the observation that God could be compared to a divine butler or a cosmic therapist. The individual is at the center of the universe, and faith is a matter of personal preference. Spiritual tinkering happens when there is a motivation for it. Knowledge of the historic faiths tends to be superficial. In the words of Dwight Zscheile, **“Many church members struggle to name God’s presence or activity in their daily lives or the world, particularly in concepts, images, metaphors, or narratives from the Christian tradition.”**

Fluidity about geography, work, and relationships create insecurity and the need for negotiation and choice with few givens, and endless revision. At the same time, new media encourages a fragmented “new tribalism” of like seeking like. The old cultural assumption of the mid-twentieth century, including baby-boomers, was that to be culturally credible, churches must downplay God and “beliefs.” This is no longer true.

The church’s relationship to culture is more like that of the first three centuries now than all the ones between the fourth and the mid-twentieth. In those days, there was spiritual interest and new fluidity and displacement and more diversity than previously. Today, people seek meaning, purpose, community, and sustainable ways to live in a world of global change. Many spiritual seekers today want something with ancient roots that offers the promise of reconciliation over division. As Zscheile sums it up, they want “healing, hope, liberation, and promise, a trustworthy world in which they can abide and find life.” They want to help build such a world.

Many who study vital churches today note that many people will not just “find the church.” We must find them, and notice what God is up to in their lives before we got there, and perhaps before they have noticed grace at work themselves. To do this, we must become those whom God sends. The root of the word apostle is the one who is sent. To be sent, we must be prepared, grounded in an experience of God and our theological tradition. We must engage our core stories and experience of faith to discover how we might participate in what God is up to in the world that is restorative, so that we do so “in Christ, through the power of the Spirit” in a way that is resonant of what is best about Anglican Christianity: its celebration of beauty, diversity, learning, love, and generosity.

I am confident that, in seeking God together, we will find blessing and the wind of the Holy Spirit lifting our hearts and minds to better service and life as Christ's people today. And I am grateful to seek our calling with people I love and enjoy greatly.

In Christ's love,



NEWS & EVENTS

Women's Dinner

Saturday, March 2, 6:00 p.m.

A Night Out? Yes, please! Women of St. Clare's: Beth and Xan invite you to a night out! Mark your calendar for dinner and time to connect at Wendy Hatem's house on Saturday, March 2, at 6:00 pm. We look forward to a lovely dinner and time to be together. RSVP at <http://www.saintclareschurch.org/events/womens-night-out/>.

Breakfast at St. Clare's Café

St. Clare's Café will serve breakfast again on March 3. Make a donation, enjoy a filling, buffet breakfast with fellow St. Clarians between 8:30 and 10:30, and proceeds will benefit the youth program. Mark your calendars for all of the cafés: March 3, April 7, and May 5.



During March's café, John Little and Karen Slagell will be on hand to answer questions about and sign kids up for this summer's mission trip to Grand Rapids, MI (more details on the mission trip can be found on page 9).

The May 5 café will be a brunch. Fuel up after church service before your afternoon of serving the community as part of our 2nd Annual SOS (St. Clare's Outreach Sunday)!

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Chili Cook-Off

Sunday, March 10, 6:00 p.m.

Join us for the annual Chili Cook-off on Sunday, March 10, at 6 pm. The Chili Cook-off and youth service auction is held each year to support various youth programs, including this year's Pilgrimage to Colorado. Chili categories this year will be for vegetarian, mild, medium, and hot chili, along with new categories for non-traditional (white, venison, chicken, etc) chili and cornbread. Our youth will be auctioning numerous services to the highest bidder. And a great time will be had by all! Tickets are \$10 per person, or \$25 per family, and will be on sale soon.

—Larry Vandenberg

Theological Education Sunday in March

In 1979, the 67th General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the U.S. passed Resolution A125, Support for Theological Education, with the intent that every parish earmark 1% of its income to support the training of new clergy and lay leaders. St. Clare's currently budgets half of the expected 1%, and we appeal to you to make a special gift to provide the other 0.5% on this year's Theological Education Sunday.

We are still working out dates with our current seminarian, Nikki Seger, as to when she might be available to preach at St. Clare's, but we're hoping to schedule this in March!

Benefit Concert

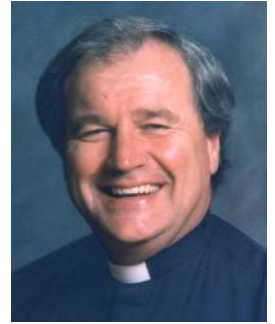
Sunday, March 24, 7:15 p.m.

St. Clare's will host a concert by The People's Orchestra of Ann Arbor, a new chamber music project from St. Clarian Phoebe Gelzer-Govatos and friends. The program will include works for strings by Boyce, Corelli, Handel, and Spohr. Admission is free, but donations are encouraged, with half of all proceeds benefitting the Back Door Food Pantry. Please come, and invite your friends! Families are welcome.

—Phoebe Gelzer-Govatos

Rob Voyle Presents A Brief Introduction to Appreciative Inquiry and Discernment

9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, April 20, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Ann Arbor



A workshop for lay leaders and clergy, sponsored by Huron Valley Episcopal churches and organized by James Rhodenhiser, will be held on April 20. Rob Voyle, an Episcopal priest, psychologist, and executive coach, will present a brief introduction to appreciative inquiry and discernment. This positive way of being in the world and engaging in organizational and individual development is in dramatic contrast to many of the current problem-solving approaches to change management, that, despite their best intentions, often lead to increasing levels of negativity, blame, frustration, and poor performance.

On Saturday, we will begin to:

- Learn the appreciative way of thinking and being in the world.
- Learn appreciative ways of creating change and transformation.
- Learn the core elements of appreciative thinking.
- Discover positive alternatives to viewing the church as dysfunctional.
- Learn appreciative strategies to plan and create sustainable change.
- Learn how to appreciatively seek solutions in the midst of problems.
- Learn how to ensure change is a sustainable blessing and not a curse.

While focused on congregational life and development, the strategies taught in this class will be equally applicable and beneficial in business and other organizational settings.

This program is designed for church leaders of these types of churches:

- Churches wanting to discover their purpose and grow their sense of mission

- Churches that need to embrace the future rather than run from the past
- Churches that want to grow in the love and joy of being Children of God

A 90-minute audio introduction by Rob Voyle can be accessed here:

<http://www.clergyleader.com/teleseminars/tele-recordings.cfm?recording=ai-way>

Richard W. Bailey Speaker: Anne Curzan

5 p.m., Saturday, April 27

In 2011, we lost a beloved parishioner, Richard Bailey. To us he was "Richard." To the academic world, he was "Dr. Bailey," of The University of Michigan Department of English and the Washtenaw Community College Board of Trustees: a professor, linguistic authority, and author of many books. Richard was faithful and smart and witty. He loved nothing better than intelligent conversations about ideas. In his honor, we have established a speaker's fund, to sponsor recognized authorities about faith who would help us grow as persons of faith and service in all potential varieties.

Anne Curzan, who was Richard's protégé, will be our first Richard W. Bailey Fund speaker. Professor Curzan's research interests include the history of English, language and gender, corpus linguistics, historical sociolinguistics, pedagogy, and lexicography. The title of her presentation will be *Local Language Choices, Broader Social Change*. A reception will follow.

SAVE THE DATE

- Saturday-Sunday, April 27-28
Genesis Work Days
- Sunday, May 5
St. Clare's Second Annual Outreach Sunday
- Saturday, May 11 & 18
7pm: *Narnia: The Musical*

PALM SUNDAY & HOLY WEEK

Rite of Reconciliation

It is traditional during Holy Week to offer the Rite of Reconciliation of a Penitent, found in the Book of Common Prayer, p. 447 (Private Confession). If you would like to do this, please call James or Beth (662-2449) for an appointment.

Baptism at Easter Vigil

The next opportunity for baptism will be at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 30. Speak with James or Beth if you are interested in baptism for yourself or your child.

Palm Sunday

March 24, Palm Sunday

Services at 7:45 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 10:30 a.m.

At the 9:00 and 10:30 services, the procession will begin 10 minutes earlier in the circle drive. (Alternative location if it is raining is the Social Hall). Or, if you wish, you can join us at the opening collect at the regular service time in the Sanctuary. Palm Sunday services begin on a note of triumph, but the mood quickly changes as we read together the Passion Gospel.

Intergenerational Palm Sunday Party

Sunday, March 24, 5-7 p.m.

Join us for a potluck dinner as we begin our celebration of Holy Week. We will eat dinner at 5:00 and then we will create images for our Good Friday service and a children's skit for our Easter Vigil service. You don't want to miss it!

For more information, contact Xan Morgan (xan@saintclareschurch.org).



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Tuesday, March 26

7:30 pm Tenebrae service (see page 5)

Maundy Thursday, March 28

9:30 am Holy Eucharist

10:30 am Bible Study

6:00 pm Agape Feast (see page 5)

Good Friday, March 29

11:15 am Stations of the Cross for Families with Young Children (up to 5 years old; see page 8)

12:00 pm The Way of the Cross (see page 6)

1:00 pm Good Friday Sermon

1:15 pm Good Friday Liturgy

2:30 pm Meditation and Silence

Holy Saturday, March 30

6:30 pm Easter Vigil (see page 6)

Easter Sunday, March 31

6:00 am Dawn Easter Vigil (see page 7)

7:45 am Holy Eucharist (see page 7)

9:00 am Holy Eucharist (see page 7)

10:30 am Festival Holy Eucharist (see page 7)

In addition to the chant of the Lamentations, the most visually distinctive feature of the service is the gradual extinguishing of candles and other lights in the church until only a single candle, considered a symbol of our Lord, remains. Toward the end of the service this candle is hidden, typifying the apparent victory of the forces of evil. At the very end, a loud noise is made, symbolizing the earthquake at the time of the resurrection (Matthew 28:2), the hidden candle is restored. A period of silence will follow, and then dim light will be restored for silent departure.

This service provides an extended meditation upon, and a prelude to, the events in our Lord's life between the Last Supper and the Resurrection.

The Ancient Liturgy of Maundy Thursday

On the Thursday evening before Easter, we will engage in an ancient liturgy recalling Jesus' last meal with his disciples. Two wonderful liturgical innovations came out of that meal. One of them, the Eucharist, or communion, is familiar to us all. We share this symbolic meal every Sunday. But the other liturgy only takes place once a year - on Maundy Thursday.

The term Maundy Thursday traces its origin through old English and French to the Latin phrase *Mandatum novum do vobis* (a new commandment I give to you) which were the words spoken by Jesus after he washed his disciples' feet. You can read about it in the thirteenth chapter of the Gospel according to John. Jesus goes on to say "For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.... I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The foot washing we do on Maundy Thursday is an ancient practice in the church, and it was more widespread than people think, as witnessed by the early church writers. It occurred in North Africa (Tertullian), Egypt/Palestine (Origen), Asia

Tenebrae

Tuesday, March 26, 7:30 p.m.

The name *Tenebrae* (the Latin word for "darkness" or "shadows") has for centuries been applied to the ancient monastic night and early morning services (Matins and Lauds) of the last three days of Holy Week, which in medieval times came to be celebrated on the preceding evenings.

Minor (Timothy, John Chrysostom and Polycarp), Italy (Ambrose, Augustine) and Gaul (Caesarius). It seems to have been performed as a gesture of hospitality, as a gesture of humility, and in conjunction with the Lord's Supper and with Baptism. A description of the Maundy Thursday service in the fifth century in Jerusalem is contained in Baldovin's *The Liturgy of Ancient Jerusalem*. In the West, the spread of the Roman Liturgy gradually caused it to disappear, but it continued in monasteries as a service to the brethren and to the poor. It was ordered by the council of Toledo in 694 for the Churches of Spain and Gaul to be done on Holy Thursday.

The act of foot washing eventually became part of the Eucharistic celebrations of various Protestant groups such as the Church of the Brethren, some Pentecostals, some Baptists, and Seventh Day Adventists. Since 1955, it has re-emerged in the Maundy Thursday services of many churches. The liturgy has variations in different places. Sometimes, the priest washes the feet of the people and sometimes people wash one another's feet. This year at St. Clare's, we will offer both options, when we gather on Maundy Thursday in the social hall for a dinner, Holy Eucharist, and foot washing.

We invite you to have your feet washed, even if you have never done it before. Sometimes people feel uncomfortable about this. The disciples, especially Peter, did not want Jesus to wash their feet; it was too demeaning a task, a task reserved for slaves. When Peter protests, Jesus tells him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with me" so Peter relents. I urge you to relent and engage in the whole liturgical experience of this ancient liturgy. Think of Jesus kneeling at the feet of his disciples, and what it must have felt like for the disciples to look down at him. Put yourself in their place.

If having your feet washed is nothing new to you, I invite you to consider going to the One Another Station where people will wash each other's feet. After you have your feet washed, you will kneel and take the place of the one

who washed your feet, and wash the feet of the next person in line. Thus, each person will experience liturgically what Jesus experienced, as well as what his disciples experienced. You can see what it is like to serve and be served.

Following the Eucharist and foot washing, we will engage in another ancient and solemn ritual: the stripping of the altar in preparation for Good Friday.

– reprinted from an article by the Rev. Martha Wallace, originally printed in the April 2006 St. Clarian

Good Friday

Good Friday recollects the death of Christ. In many churches, the three hours Jesus is on the cross are observed as a time of worship and meditation.

We begin with a creative Stations of the Cross liturgy, a remembering of Jesus' journey to the tomb. Small groups, families, and individuals are encouraged to "take a station" and present it creatively, visually, poetically, musically, etc. Contact Xan for details.

The Good Friday sermon is regarded as one of the major sermon events in most Episcopal Churches. The liturgy for Good Friday in the Book of Common Prayer is a quiet service of prayers and readings, including the Gospel story of the Passion.

Nursery care will be provided for children up to 5 years old from 11:15 am to 3 pm on Good Friday.

The Great Vigil of Easter

This is the principal and ancient worship service of the Christian year, an experience of illumination by the light and love of God. The service begins outside as we light a fire and from it the Paschal Candle. We follow the Candle into the church, hear the Exsultet chanted, light our own candles from the Paschal Candle and hear the stories of God working with God's people in the world. We celebrate Baptism and renew our own Baptismal Covenant. Full lights come on and it's Easter! We

celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter. Then we do what makes sense: we have a party. Please bring party food to share in the social hall following the vigil. And bring bells to ring in Easter!

Nursery care will be provided for children up to 5 years old, although children of all ages and abilities are welcome in the service.

Dawn Easter Vigil

Looking for an early morning Easter Vigil Experience? A small group of St. Clarians are coordinating the second annual DAWN EASTER VIGIL for this year! We plan to start in the dark (at 6 am Sunday morning) with candles, read the full range of Bible passages recommended for the Easter Vigil in the Book of Common Prayer, and finish the pre-Eucharist portion of the service shortly after dawn (between 7:15-7:30 am), in time for attendees to either join the 7:45 am service or to enjoy a pre-9:00/10:30 service breakfast. As with last year, those who wish to read — singly or in groups — need to contact the planners (sevett@internet2.edu and ccook19b@comcast.net) by MARCH 20 so we can schedule readers for the event. Participants who wish to join in the post-service breakfast should let Sue or Christine a) what they can bring and b) how many people are in their group so we can be sure to have sufficient food.

Easter Sunday

This is it. The heart of our faith. We celebrate resurrection and new life with wonderful celebrations of the Holy Eucharist, and music at all services. Alleluia. Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Please bring flowers: The children will adorn a cross during the opening procession at 9:00 and 10:30.

Nursery care will be provided for children up to 5 years old during the 9:00 and 10:30 services for those families who wish to use it; please note that children of all ages and abilities are welcome in all services at St. Clare's!

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Family Faith Formation Gathering

For 5th and 6th Graders and Their Parents

This Sunday, March 3 from 3:45-5:45 pm we will gather to talk about types of prayer and new ways to pray. We'll also explore the various prayers during worship and will conclude with writing a set of Prayers of the People to be used in worship at the 9:00 service during the Easter season. Hope to see you there!

An Evening Out for Parents and Kids

Friday, March 15, 6 to 8 p.m.

If you are the parent of a child in 6th grader or younger, this night is for you. And your kids too! On Friday, March 15, parents are invited to gather together for dinner at Susan Schilperoort and Christopher Kendall's home (3435 Cottontail Lane). It will be a time to eat, connect, and grow together. Meanwhile, the kids will be playing at Jungle Java (3900 Jackson Road). All you have to do is drop off your kids at 6:00 pm with chaperones from St. Clare's and they will be fed dinner there too. Parents will gather from 6:15-7:45 pm and we'll all get back to Jungle Java by 8:00 pm when they close. You should have received an invitation in the mail by now, if you haven't please let me know. Make sure to RSVP at www.saintclareschurch.org/parent-dinner.



Holy Week for Kids

This is an incredibly powerful journey that we invite you take with your children. It is important to us that kids be a part of our worship during the week and that they get to experience the deep love of Jesus expressed during each service. Here is an outline of the services with the highlights for children:

- **Palm Sunday, March 24:** We begin our Holy Week journey with Palm Sunday. Services are scheduled as usual with a symbolic procession 10 minutes before the normal start time. Church School will begin after the opening procession for the 10:30 service. In the evening, we'll have the Palm Sunday Party (see page 4). This is a lovely way to begin the week.
- **Maundy Thursday, March 28, 6:00 pm:** This service is unique. We share in a meal together throughout the worship service. It is a sit down meal so parents get to relax a bit! During this service, we'll have a time of foot washing as well – to remind us of when Jesus washed his disciples' feet. We have highchairs for little ones.
- **Good Friday, March 29 at 11:15 am:** This is a Stations of the Cross service specifically for families with young children. We'll take a journey through the same visual stations as the grownups but with age appropriate ways to visit each station in word and song. From 11:45 until 2:30 (during the Stations of the Cross service and the Good Friday liturgy), we will have nursery care available for children up to 5 years old in the Family Room. Feel free to pack a lunch for your children to eat in the Family Room if you will be attending the Stations of the Cross service for families with young kids and leaving your children in nursery care while you attend the remainder of the Good Friday services.
- **Easter Vigil, March 30, 6:30 pm:** The climax of our week together is the Easter Vigil service. This service is family friendly and yet a little bit longer than our usual services. At the beginning of the service there is a beautiful

chant, the Exsultet. During the Exsultet, Xan will invite the youngest among us (2-5 yrs) to join her in the Family Room for an introduction to what this service is all about. The children will return to their families to hear the story of God's people. One of our readings will be a skit and all children are invited to take part. Often we have baptisms during the Easter Vigil service. We'll also have bells to ring as we bring the "Alleluias" back into worship. Nursery care will be provided throughout the service as well.

- **Easter Morning, April 1:** Our Sunday morning services will happen as usual. Children will be invited to cover a cross with flowers at the beginning of the 9:00 and 10:30 services. We'll have plenty of flowers but you are welcome to bring your own. We will have an Easter Egg hunt after the 9:00 and 10:30 services for children in 4th grade and younger. There will be no church school on Easter morning.

New Beginnings

March 15-17, Christ Church in Dearborn Grades 6-8

The New Beginnings weekend event is designed especially to respond to the unique challenges and concerns of youth in grades 6-8. It was created by adults and young people to help participants grow in their love of themselves, others, and our Lord Jesus Christ. Lots of St. Clarians have attended – ask someone in your youth group or Church School class about it!

The program begins at 7 p.m. on Friday evening, March 15, and continues to 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 17. During the weekend, participants meet peers from across the diocese, enjoy skits, listen to talks, and participate in small group activities and discussions. These activities focus on self, friends, parents, siblings, school, God's love, prayer, and the church. Free time is built in for youth and sponsors to have an opportunity to fellowship with their newfound friends.

Cost: \$45

(scholarships available)



Week of Hope 2013

This year's community service mission trip participants will go to Grand Rapids, MI, leaving June 23 and returning June 28. Our junior and senior high youth will be teamed up with kids from different churches all over the Midwest, engaging in hands-on community service, enjoying fun worship experiences, and returning home having made some wonderful new friends. These trips have shown that our kids really get what St. Clare's mission is all about: "Worship with joy, grow in faith, act for justice."

Cost is \$275 per person, which includes the camp registration fee, transportation, all meals during the week, and a special activity in Grand Rapids on the afternoon/evening of June 25. Want more info? Talk with John Little or Karen Slagell. Ready to sign up? A \$50 deposit will save you a spot! Talk to Karen Slagell.

This year's theme is "What Do You Stand For?" Sports? Family? Fun? World peace? Church? The poor? Grades? Yourself? Nothing? The answers to that question are endless. But a person's ultimate answer says it all. About themselves, their priorities, their possibilities, and even their destiny. Through the morning and evening programs, work crew devotions, and youth group devotional time, each person will be challenged to think about what they stand for, and allow Jesus to speak into their answer. Jesus put the issue of "Who do you stand for?" in front of everyone he encountered, and everyone seemed to have a different response. The crowds abandoned him. The disciples stayed with him. Pontius Pilate sided with the people. The sick and the poor had no one else to turn to. The Pharisees plotted against him. As we look at several unique interactions that Jesus had with people, we will see Jesus meeting the needs of people in many ways, and at the same time asking them profound questions that leave them changed forever. What Do You Stand For?

–Karen Slagell

March Youth Calendar

Date	Time	Event
Friday-Saturday, March 1-2	7 pm Friday to 3 pm Saturday	New Beginnings team prep , Christ Church, Dearborn (for those on team for spring New Beginnings)
Sunday, March 3	8:30-10:30 am 3:45-5:45 pm	St. Clare's Café : Come learn about this summer's mission trip to Grand Rapids! Youth Group
Wednesday, March 6		Deadline to register for New Beginnings
Thursday, March 7	4:45-6:00 pm	Ypsi Salvation Army – meet there
Sunday, March 10	3:45 pm: set up 6:00 pm: Cook Off	6th Annual Chili Cook Off . One of our big fundraisers: all hands on deck! Pilgrims take the lead, but everyone helps to support them.
Friday, March 15		Deadline to apply to be on Happening team (high school only: go to www.edomi.org/yaya for application) Deposit (\$50) due for Grand Rapids mission trip (grades 6-12) Last day for early registration discount for Michi-Lu-Ca (grades 6-12)
Friday-Sunday, March 15-17		New Beginnings , Christ Church, Dearborn (see page 8)
Sunday, March 17	5:30-8:00 pm	Alpha House (high school only)
Sunday, March 24	5-7 pm	Palm Sunday Party : eat, play, and prepare for Holy Week (see page 4)
Sunday, March 31	No youth group	Enjoy Easter with your family

Summer Opportunities for Children and Youth

Mark those brand new calendars for these exciting opportunities (listed in chronological order with target age group noted in the description):

- **Vacation Bible School: June 18-20**
St. Clare's, St. Andrew's, and First Presbyterian join to offer a fabulous VBS. The children "travel" back to Bible times and experience what it was like to be one of first followers of Jesus. *VBS is for kids who have completed grades K-5.*
- **Day Camp, June 24-28**
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Ann Arbor will sponsor a fantastic day camp the week of June 24. The camp is run by staff from Living Waters Ministries, so it feels a lot like Camp MichiLuCa! Cost is \$70 for those who register before June 1. *Day Camp runs 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is for 5- to 12-year-old kids.*
- **Jr./Sr. High Mission Trip, June 23-28**
This year's community service mission trip participants will go to Grand Rapids, MI. A terrific way to help people in real need while having a great time with new friends from across the country. *The trip is open to kids who have completed grades 6-12. Contact Karen Slagell for details.*
- **Camp MichiLuCa: July 14-19 (3rd grade and up) OR July 21-26 (high school special programs)**
Campers will learn about God and themselves by exploring the wonders of nature, trying new activities at camp (such as swimming, arts & crafts, nature walks), and participating in a fun Bible study time. Campers sing around the campfire, learn about themselves, and worship daily. It will truly be an experience they'll never forget! *Camps are available for kids who have finished 3rd through 12th grade; check camp materials for details* [<http://www.elcalivingwater.com/summer/summer-programs/>]. Save \$35/camper by registering and paying in full before March 15.
- **Bass Lake Festival: July 26-29**
Bass Lake is a Christian Music Festival for High School aged youth which provides an "outside the box," grace-filled experience of the Christian faith. Through great music, unique learning opportunities, and a relaxed, community-building atmosphere, this event shares the Gospel with youth from all backgrounds and levels of maturity in a beautiful outdoor setting. *For youth who have completed grades 8-12.*
- **Music Theater Church Camp: August 26-31, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with before/after care)**
Eighth annual Music Theater Church Camp at St. Clare's. A great way to spend the last week of summer for kids and parents alike! Join us for a week of singing, acting, swimming, and growing in our faith. *MTCC is for kids who have completed grades 1-7. Teens who have completed grades 9-11 can apply to be counselors or interns.*

OUTREACH & SERVICE

Alpha House

Saint Clare's and TBE will provide volunteers at Alpha House, the Interfaith Hospitality Network shelter for homeless families with children, March 11-17.

Volunteers are needed for the following opportunities:

Bring a child-friendly dinner for about 25 people by 6 pm on Friday or Sunday. You can bring it earlier if necessary, and keep it warm in the oven.

Serve (and eat!) dinner, clean up and play with kids in the large basement playroom from 5:30 till 8:00 pm Monday, Tuesday, or Friday evening. Extra volunteers are also welcome and needed from 6:45-8:00 p.m. on Tuesday or Friday evening. (Two adults are enough for dinnertime, but at least 3 are needed for playtime; 4 are even better!) Both of these are good opportunities to volunteer as a family.

Spend a night (Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday) from 8:30 p.m. until 7:00 the next morning (you can leave earlier if you have to).

If you are volunteering for the first time, an experienced volunteer will be there to work with you. Sign up at coffee hour on March Sundays or contact Jeanne Hernandez (jeannehernandez@gmail.com; 734-971-5357) to volunteer.



SOS (St. Clare's Outreach Sunday)

Reminding you to save the date for St. Clare's second annual SOS (St. Clare's Outreach Sunday): May 5, 2013! We plan to have church services as usual, followed by a blessing/sending at noon. The work groups will proceed to their service locations, where they will work for 3-4 hours. Then they will clean up and come back to the church for a celebratory feast around 6:00. The SOS team has contacted a number of agencies in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti and things are starting to roll! The next step will be you signing up to serve!

—Christine Cook & Ilene Smith

STEWARDSHIP

The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Us

The Stewardship Commission seized James' challenge to the congregation on Sunday, January 27, and decided to run with it. In his sermon, James challenged us to pick a verse or passage of scripture that would convey how we aspire to follow God's leading in our lives.

We invite everyone in the parish to submit their responses to this challenge! This invitation is for everyone, regardless of age, literacy, or computer proficiency. Respond by selecting a verse and explaining it in your own best language, whether it be written commentary, a meaningful image, a song, a poem, whatever speaks to you and for you.

You can submit it [online](#) or click the dove [here](#).* Technology is no obstacle! Post it (website), send it (wtucker@emich.edu), or deliver it as you can to Bill Tucker, who will serve as editor.

Bill will consider the best forum for publishing our messages, which could include the

Stewardship Blog, another location on St. Clare's website, St. Clare's Facebook page, a future edition of the *St. Clarian*, or wherever it would look best and get noticed. You can also suggest where you would like to see it.

We call this initiative, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon us," and pray that everyone in the parish will receive these words as a promise and submit a personal message as soon as possible. We encourage submissions throughout 2013. Our prayer is that stewardship (finding and acting on our call in the kingdom of God) will become more than a fall campaign, but a way of living.

Take time to find that verse that speaks to your aspiration to serve God, and share it with your fellow St. Clarians!

* If the link doesn't work or you're reading this on paper, use this URL to post your response: <http://www.saintclareschurch.org/stewardship-challenge/>

—Bill Tucker

PARISH COMMUNITY

Did You Know?

- **Beth Jodon** has a new job. She will be working at Daniels and Zermack starting March 4. Congratulations!

March Birthdays

1	Lucy Fuller
2	Mercedes St. John, Terri Eagen-Torkko
5	Annika Kendall
6	Jen Coolidge
8	Iva Wilson
12	Emma Walters
14	Erik Bond, Ann Munster
15	Noah Walters
18	Mike Flynn
19	Alice Brunner, Joanie Carson, Sue Evett
22	Katie Ballard, Rachel Burns, Bonje Obua, Travis Trombley
26	Kathy Daly
27	Zoe Blackburn
29	Bob Creal, Norm McIver
30	Jenson Plum
31	Chris Ballard, Wrena Sproat

March Anniversaries

13	Roxie & Charles Scrase
18	Peg & Pete Ross
19	Jessica & Adam Lowen
24	Mary Lu & Bob Barth
25	Nikki Seger & Jennifer Rangel



Have you remembered
St. Clare's in your will?

Use the St. Clare's Mobile ready response number!

CALL: 734-358-5141

This number will not be published to the public, but will allow any member or visitor to contact any member of the staff or office ministry team Tuesday – Friday 9am to 5pm. It will ring the landlines in the office, and every staff and office servant volunteer mobile phone able to answer. It will also allow you to leave a message if all of us are unavailable to speak.

Visit the Church Calendar online at:

www.saintclareschurch.org/calendar

In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact James Rhodenhiser or Beth Scriven. If you would like us to share personal support requests with the parish, please tell us, and any "where," "when," and "how" information. If you are hospitalized or want prayer, please contact the church office.

St. Clare's Staff

James C. Rhodenhiser, *Rector*

Beth Scriven, *Associate Rector*

John Goodell, *Director of Music*

Xan Morgan, *Director of Children's Ministries*

Karen Slagell, *Parish Administrative Coordinator*

e-mail contact:

firstname@saintclareschurch.org

Church Office:

office@saintclareschurch.org



St. Clare's Vestry

Christine Modey, *Senior Warden*

Mark Davis-Craig, *Junior Warden*

Phoebe Gelzer-Govatos, *Junior Warden*

Adam Lowen

Christian Casper

Christine Cook

Kathy Daly

Ilene Smith

Linda Klimach

Mary Wright

Rob LaMoreaux

Karen Slagell, *Clerk*

The St. Clarian is published monthly. Contributions are welcomed; send by e-mail (to the editor at editor@saintclareschurch.org), U.S. mail, or drop off at the church office. The deadline for the April 2013 issue of the St. Clarian is Friday, March 15.