

St. Clare's
Episcopal Church

Saint Clarian

Worship with Joy, Grow in Faith, Act for Justice

monthly newsletter

Reflections and Summary of a People Reconciled in Difference

Dear Ones,

Dwight Zscheile's chapter on being a community about reconciliation describes our call beautifully. **Christian mission creates and restores community in the image of God.** This is his one-sentence definition of mission. Notice what it is *not* that people fear: it is not imposing, or offering correction to people we are not in relationship with. Nor is it serving others out of a sense of privilege. We serve others because we care for them, and this both creates and restores community between us in the image of God.

Our personhood comes to reflect the personhood of the triune God, relational personhood with and for others. Rather than assuming that unity imposes sameness, our diversity does not divide us but is celebrated in our reconciliation

Churches, like families, can close in on themselves, but in God's household no one can claim the privilege of place. In the later twentieth century, inclusion became a central purpose for the Episcopal Church. Mr. Zscheile remarks that: "Inclusion is a noble ideal that acknowledges the reality that the church has been exclusive, discriminatory, and inhospitable to various populations for much of its life. Such behavior is at odds with the church's God-given identity."

But inclusion has limitations. It tends to assume the primary movement is to attract or welcome. A movement outward creates new community with others on mutual terms of shared interests and values and loves, possibly discovered together only after mutual, respectful relationship comes first.

Existing communities of long-standing habits and norms can be hard for newcomers to renegotiate. Thus inclusion can mask the retention of power and centrality in the life of the church by those long accustomed to it. We don't have to risk entering our neighbor's world. The Episcopal Church has led the way in breaking down walls for women, racial minorities, and LGBT persons, but there has been less emphasis on broadening our appeal.

We easily make space for those with doubts and their own theological ideas but only by being people seeking the Holy Spirit together can we discover "unity, consensus, shared discernment, and ways of 'bearing with one another in love' (Ephesians 4:2)." If we consider important questions and challenges together in light of the biblical story and the Christian theological tradition, and utilize the best thinking from various fields of human inquiry, we become a community of spiritual meaning-making together.

The Holy Spirit creates reconciled community in God. It moves through unlikely sources. It is prophetic. It liberates, restores, and shows mercy. Zschiele calls it a “force field” of love that takes what had been a cause of enmity to be the basis of rich diversity. Our role is that of ambassadors (2 Cor 5:20) caught up in the Spirit's work of reconciling the world.

As ambassadors, we have to be connected to the source of our role, but also, to speak and interpret freely and creatively in terms that will make sense where we are sent. We will fall short, and experience misunderstandings, failures, and conflicts, just as the early communities in the New Testament did, but this doesn't disqualify us from the Spirit working powerfully in and through us.

We can't do it alone, and so we attend to the Spirit's presence and movement preceding and beyond us, which is called discernment. We cultivate our ability to imagine together what God is doing in our midst and the world around us. We invite our attention to be present to the Spirit, and the Spirit to be present to us, then we wait receptively for God to happen in our midst. The Spirit “decenters” and “reshapes” our individual identities in a communal direction, embedding us in a fabric of interdependence. Zschiele sees the answer to our present challenges coming from a renewed emphasis on communal encounters with God. He concludes: “The public work of the Holy Spirit changes our hearts and minds, knits us together, reorders human community for justice and mercy, and invites us to participate in a new future.”

And here are three great questions he gives us to help us to invite one another to participate in that new future. I encourage you to ask one another:

1. *How have relationships with those different from you influenced your identity and way of seeing the world?*
2. *Have you ever been an outsider to a community? What did it take for you to be welcomed without having to give up your uniqueness?*
3. *When have you experienced God's Spirit alive and moving within your congregation's life? What about in the neighborhood or your daily life? Share a story of this.*

I have been very moved by the interview process that a dedicated and talented team of callers has undertaken at St Clare's. This experience, learning, and blessing resonates powerfully for me with the topic of being a reconciled community in God. Thank all who have participated and helped. And if you have not been visited and interviewed, or taken the survey online, email the office (office@saintclareschurch.org), and we will add you to the list of those experiencing this strengthening of our community and our ministries in the name of God's love!.

In Christ's love,



NEWS & EVENTS

Brunch at St. Clare's Café

St. Clare's Café will be serving brunch, 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., on Sunday, May 5, to give you plenty of energy for SOS: St. Clare's Outreach Sunday. Make a donation, enjoy a filling breakfast with fellow St. Clarians, and proceeds will benefit the youth program. The next St. Clare's Café won't be until October—you don't want to miss this one!

S.O.S.: May 5

St. Clare's Second Annual Outreach Sunday will be Sunday, May 5! Be sure to read the details on page 10.

Gun Safety / Gun Violence

On Saturday, May 4, at 1 p.m. (until 2:30 p.m.), TBE presents two workshops related to gun safety. All are welcome.

- **Kid's Program on Safety Strategies Around Guns and Other Dangerous Objects.** For kids 8 to 12 years old (parents are welcome too). Learn how to stay safe around dangerous objects and gain confidence in safety strategies through role-playing discussion, and art activities. RSVP by Wednesday, May 1, to Rabbi Delson (ldelson@templebethemeth.org).
- **Gun Violence in Our Culture.** A panel for adults. Speakers will include Susan Morrel-Samuels, the Director of the Michigan Youth Violence Prevention Center, Dr. Andrew Zweifler, co-founder of Physicians for the Prevention of Gun Violence, and Rabbi Levy. We will also be speaking out with a letter writing campaign and parent advocate tool. Babysitting for children under 8 is available; children 8 to 12 years old can attend the kid's program (above).

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Debra's Diner

**Wednesday, May 8, 6 to 8 p.m. ;
St. Clare's Social Hall & Kitchen**

You're running late, not much time to cook, but you don't want to resort to fast food. To make matters worse, you have to feed both omnivores and vegetarians. For great tips and tricks on how to cook fast and eat elegantly, come to St.

Clare's first-ever cooking class and shared dinner. Learn some fantastic new recipes and get some practical take-home tips from Debra Stevens, our great "in-house" chef.



She's always on a tight time schedule, but still likes to try two or three new dishes each week. After the class, enjoy a shared meal with other St. Clarians. Space is limited, so RSVP soon to Ann Putallaz (annp1025@yahoo.com or 734-769-3708). There's no cost to participants, but a donation to the Back Door Food Pantry is requested.

—Ann Putallaz

A Shower of Blessing for Imogen

Saturday, May 11, noon to 2 p.m.

All women of St. Clare's are invited to a pre-wedding shower for Imogen Howes on Saturday, May 11, noon to 2 p.m., at the home of Gail Jungbluth & Karen Slagell, 2756 Bent Tree Drive, Dexter. Please bring a reading (poem, prayer, prose) that celebrates weddings and marriage. You are welcome to write this yourself or share someone else's words that have meaning for you. If possible, please bring a copy for Imogen to have as a keepsake. There will be time to share some of the readings with the group.

Narnia

Saturdays, May 11 & 18, 7 p.m.

Come enjoy a presentation of the musical *Narnia*! The musical is based on C.S. Lewis' book, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, and written by Jules Tasca, with music by Thomas Tierney and lyrics by Ted Drachman. The first and most famous story of The Chronicles of Narnia has become a musical presentation of this unique, enchanted world filled with creatures and spirits of myth and fable. The principal inhabitants, are the intelligent talking animals ruled by the majestic King Aslan, the great lion of Narnia. Although Aslan is often absent from the land (so that his very existence is doubted by some), he returns when the need for him is greatest. And entering Narnia at a moment of high adventure are some children—plucked from our world in unexpected ways to help Narnia and to learn from their Narnia odyssey lessons of courage, unselfishness, and wisdom that will help them grow. Narnia wants to sing, and from the excitement of the opening song, "Aslan's on the Move," to the joy of "Narnia (You Can't Imagine)," your spirits will soar with all those in Narnia.



A Pentecost Vigil for the 60th Anniversary of St. Clare's

Sunday, May 19, 7 a.m.

On the occasion of our 60th anniversary as a parish, the Worship Commission is working on something new at St. Clare's: an early morning Pentecost Vigil. This vigil will start at 7:00 am on Sunday, May 19, the Day of Pentecost, and continue with the Eucharist of the 7:45 service. Those attending a later service may depart the vigil prior to the beginning of the 7:45 Eucharist.

In the ancient church, there were two historic and important vigils: Easter and Pentecost. As the church became clericalized and institutionalized as part of the Roman Empire, the Pentecost Vigil with its emphasis on the unpredictable empowering freedom of the Holy Spirit fell into disuse.

St Clare's was founded on Pentecost Sunday. Our vigil will move us from Easter and parallel the waiting of the early followers of Jesus who met in prayer and vigil awaiting the further visitation of the Holy Spirit. This service will be a meditative "tuning up" for the main celebrations at our regular Sunday services.

In our first year, this event will be somewhat "experimental" to learn how to do it, and ticket/invitations to the Vigil will be distributed to all who attend performances of *Narnia*. To make it clear: we don't want anyone to be tempted to miss participating in the incredible effort and occasion of blessing that the musical *Narnia* will be for our parish because of the early hour of this first Pentecost Vigil the morning following the second weekend of *Narnia*. *Narnia* runs for two weekends, so you could also attend *Narnia* the first weekend.

The Pentecost Vigil will incorporate seven readings in all, including one non-Biblical reading, to focus us on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. A candle will be lit on a seven-candle candelabra for each reading, in a reverse sort of movement to that of the Tenebrae service.

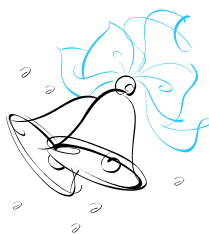
If you would like to compose or submit prayers for use with one of the readings, or to suggest good non-Biblical readings, please contact Worship Commission Coordinator Phoebe Gelzer-Govatos at phoebe.gelzer.govatos@gmail.com. Phoebe and Gabe Villasurda are developing the Pentecost Vigil service.

If there were people interested in working on it, we could conclude the Vigil and Eucharist with a special breakfast together.



Howes/Rhodenhiser Wedding

Saturday, May 25, 4 p.m.



Imogen Howes and Giles Rhodenhiser announce their upcoming wedding on Saturday, May 25, at 4 p.m. They warmly welcome all to attend the ceremony at St. Clare's.

Adopt-a-Plot Garden Available

The raised circle bed garden in front of St Francis Chapel needs someone who would like to plant a few annuals, water twice a week and pluck a few weeds. To inquire, please contact Penny at pgriffith004@comcast.net.

St. Clare's 30 Hour Famine

Feeding thousands seems like a giant task - too big for any of us. But just \$30 can feed and care for a hungry child for one month, through World Vision's efforts all over the world. In fact, since the 30 Hour Famine started in 1992, the number of kids who die each day has dropped by 1/3 - from 34,000 to 22,000. And a lot of that is due to hard work and sacrifice on the part of people just like you and me, including teens fasting year after year to help feed children who go hungry every day. In February, many of St. Clare's youth gathered for an overnight 30 Hour famine. After the fasting and the fundraising were over, **our kids raised \$5,876** (yes, you read that right—five thousand eight hundred seventy-six dollars)! That will feed and care for almost 200 children for one month!



Community Rewards at Kroger

It is time once again to sign up for Kroger Community Rewards, the program that helps support St. Clare's whenever you shop at Kroger, just by registering (and using) your KrogerPlus card. If you have already signed up, you need to log in and "re-enroll" for the coming year (5/1/13 to 4/30/14) at www.krogercommunityrewards.com. Sign in and click on Community Rewards. If you don't see St. Clare listed, choose Edit Community Rewards Program Information, and select St. Clare of Assisi Episcopal Church. If you have not enrolled before, and you shop at Kroger, please take a moment now to register your KrogerPlus card, and select St. Clare's. Then, anytime you shop at Kroger, swipe your KrogerPlus card, and Kroger will donate a percentage of your purchase to St. Clare's. It's that easy! Problems or questions? Contact Karen at karen@saintclareschurch.org.

No St. Clarian in July

The *St. Clarian* staff takes a break in the summer. We will publish a June/July issue to be distributed at the beginning of June. There will be no July issue. An August issue will be distributed at the beginning of August, at which point we will be back on our monthly schedule.

SAVE THE DATE

- Sunday, June 2
Noon: Church School Potluck
- Saturday, June 8
6:30 pm: Prayer Partner Banquet
- Wednesday, June 12
7:30 pm: Medical Ethics, Ray DeVries
- Sunday, October 6
CROP Walk: St. Clare's & TBE are hosting!
- Saturday, October 12
Haiti Gala
- Fall 2013
Joint Concert of St. Clare's & TBE's Adult Choirs
(postponed from Spring 2013)

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Wrapping Up the Children's Program Year

Our Final StorySong for the Year will be Tuesday, May 21. What a delightful year we have had growing in God's love!

5th and 6th Grade FSG Update: Please make note of the following dates on your calendars

- May 5: No regularly scheduled FSG. 5th and 6th graders are encouraged to take part in the St. Clare's Outreach Sunday with the rest of the parish.
- May 19: Regular FSG from 3:45-5:45 pm
- June 2: Church School Picnic (no FSG)
- June 9: Walk to Dairy Queen after the 10:30 service for our final gathering.

Last Day of Church School: Sunday, June 2 is our last day for the program year. We will celebrate the year at our parish picnic (see information below).

HELP WANTED: Vacation Bible School Volunteers

Calling all adults and teenagers who want to have some fun while blessing the kids of St. Clare's! There are many opportunities to help in various ways at VBS each year: helping with crafts or games, leading a small group, providing childcare, etc. We also have a new position as of last year of a junior counselor. All 6th-12th graders are invited to think about joining us as a junior counselor, a great chance to gain and use your leadership skills. VBS is only 3 days, Tuesday through Thursday, June 18 to 20, from 9:30-12:15 pm. Please chat with Xan or Danielle if you are able to serve God and the kids in this way.



Parish Potluck and Church School Celebration

On Sunday, June 2, after the 10:30 church service, we will have our annual celebration of the conclusion of Church School with a potluck lunch and presentations. Each class will prepare a short presentation to share with us what they learned this year. This gathering is for the WHOLE PARISH and will be in the social hall. Please mark your calendars and plan on joining us for this important celebration!



May Youth Calendar

Date	Time	Event
Thursday, May 2	4:30-6:15 pm	<i>Narnia</i> rehearsal
		NO Salvation Army this month
Saturday, May 4	4:30-9:00 pm	<i>Narnia</i> Tech Day
Sunday, May 5	10:00 am to 12:15 pm	St. Clare's Café, brunch edition
	1:00-5:00 pm	SOS Sunday: no regular youth group, sign up for a project instead
Tuesday, May 7	4:30-8:30 pm	<i>Narnia</i> dress rehearsal
Thursday, May 9	4:30-8:30 pm	<i>Narnia</i> dress rehearsal
Saturday, May 11	7:00 pm	<i>Narnia!</i>
Sunday, May 12	Mother's Day!	Youth Group DOES NOT meet
Saturday, May 18	7:00 pm	<i>Narnia!</i>
Sunday, May 19	12:15-2:15 pm	<i>Narnia</i> strike
	3:45-5:45 pm	Youth Group
Sunday, May 26	TBA	Youth Group

Save the Date

- Prayer Partner Banquet, June 8; Youth work either 5:30-8 or 6:30-9



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.*

Jr./Sr. High Mission Trip, June 23-28

Time has almost run out to get in on this year's community service mission trip. And new information: we're going to Pittsburgh rather than Grand Rapids! June 23 through 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 Pittsburgh on the afternoon/evening of June 25. If you haven't already registered and you'd like to go (or send a kid), check with Karen Slagell. *The trip is open to kids who have completed grades 6-12.*

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. Registration form here: www.saintclareschurch.org/daycamp. *Day Camp runs 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is for 5- to 12-year-old kids.*

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/>].*

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 26-30, 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, August 26- 30, with performance at 6 p.m. on Saturday, August 31. A great way to spend the last week of summer! Join us for a week of singing, acting, swimming, and growing in our faith. This year's musical will be *Rescue in the Night* by Tom Long and Allen Pote. For more information and to register, go to www.saintclareschurch.org/mtcc. Register by June 1 for the early bird discount. A family discount and scholarships are also available—see Xan Morgan or John Goodell for more information. *MTCC is for kids who have completed grades 1-7. Teens who have completed grades 9-11 can apply to be counselors or interns.*

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Proverbs Eight

Editor's Note: The following was prepared and delivered by Phil Christman at the March 30 Easter Vigil service. The first portion is the passage from Proverbs 8; the second portion is Phil's interpretation.

Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice?
On the heights, beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand;
beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries out:
"To you, O people, I call, and my cry is to all that live.
O simple ones, learn prudence; acquire intelligence, you who lack it.
Hear, for I will speak noble things, and from my lips will come what is right;
for my mouth will utter truth; wickedness is an abomination to my lips.
All the words of my mouth are righteous; there is nothing twisted or crooked in them.
My fruit is better than gold, even fine gold, and my yield than choice silver.
I walk in the way of righteousness, along the paths of justice, endowing with wealth those who
love me, and filling their treasuries."
To those without sense she says, "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed.
Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight."

Does not wisdom call you on your landline, like a sweet befuddled relative
With whom you have lost touch? Does she not speak in a clear, even voice?
She says:

"To you, O people, I call. To you. To all that live. I am what
You are made of. I am what you strive to be. I am the music
That would result if every creature in the universe could somehow
Sing its DNA aloud, and I am that music's undertone, and I am
The silence that echoes after it's over.

I speak to everyone, in everyone,
But not over anyone's head. I love equally the stupid, the clever, and the proud,
And also the proudly stupid, which pretty much covers everybody.
I teach the witless what things are called. I remind the clever they didn't make
Their own lives, let alone those lives they hope to exploit with their cleverness.
I won't make you rich. You won't find me in the algorithms of day traders
Or the memos of highly respected consultants. I am not a Theory of Everything.
I am not The Secret. I am not common sense. I am not a strategic plan (and, anyway,
Isn't all planning 'strategic'?), and you'd best believe that I am not realpolitik.

I don't
Live at the bottom of footnotes, impotent, mouth pressed to glass.
You won't find me in the polysyllables by which one Marxist corrects
Another Marxist in his understanding of the nature of the dialectic.

I failed all the focus-group tests. Demagogues fear me more than books.
I am an irrational number. You will never fix my place in the line,
And put a flag there, and say, 'Here is Wisdom! She's mine! I've got her!'
But without me nothing adds up. I am near to you as water,
Boring, like water, and essential, like water. I am not facts, but facts'
Conscience. I have mixed the universe together and poured it out for you
Like fine wine. Put aside your immaturity, and drink."

The Good News About God

Editor's Note: Christine Modey gave the following Witness Talk at all three Sunday services on April 21.

This is kind of a weird topic. After all, what *isn't* good about God? And what could possibly be new? So, I thought about this for a while, and decided that whatever is good news about God must be found in the new ways our good God enters each of our lives and meets us in the midst of them, in just the way we need. So, this is a talk about MY good news about God.

As many of you know, our family received a new member two years ago. Ivy was born in February 2011, and it is fair to say that she turned our world upside down. We were facing a bleak ten-year stretch of teenage angst—and we got a baby. God does this sort of thing. Ivy, as you might imagine, is much adored. I sometimes feel like I can watch her forever, that every new word, every new skill, every expression of anger, or concern, or curiosity, joy, or love is the most amazing thing in the world. Except . . . it's not. It is wonderful, it is precious to me, but it is not the most amazing thing in the world. The most amazing thing in the world is that God looks at me—and God looks at you—the way I look at Ivy.

For many of us, looking at a baby or even a toddler with adoration is easy. Indeed, if parents cannot, for a few early years, treat their children as if they were the center of the universe, those kids will have lifelong problems forming healthy, trusting relationships with others. So, adoring our babies is necessary, as well as easy. Once we get past babyhood, however, things get a little trickier. Children turn out to have wills of their own, and those wills sometimes run contrary to ours, contrary to God's, and contrary to common sense. Sometimes, our children are not so easy to love. (Neither are we.) Sometimes we resent them, fear them, even grieve for them. (And they for us.) As we, and they, reach maturity, we cannot adore them absolutely because our limited human love gets all mixed up with a bunch of other human feelings that are much more difficult, and we have to figure out how to continue loving them despite their—and our—limitations.

The good news about God is that this doesn't happen to God. I don't mean to suggest that God is never disappointed in us, or sad for us, or angry, or worried, or grieving. Indeed, I imagine that God is all of these things, every day. But I also know that the love God has for us remains untainted by God's disappointment, sadness, anger, worry, or grief. Looking at each of our hearts, God sees the child we once were and still are, and loves that child absolutely. When we look at a child, or anyone, with this kind of absolute love, even for a moment, we have the opportunity, to enter into the heart of God, and to grow our hearts to be a little more like God's.

The good news about God is that this love—if we allow ourselves to imagine that we still can be the objects of such a love, despite injuries, setbacks, anger, disappointment, viciousness, negligence, and whatever other failures you care to name—can heal us and transform us to be the kind of people who can see and feel the love of God pulsing through the whole universe, who can enter the stream and feel it pounding in our own chests.

This love is kind of like being given a baby at 42. It will turn the world upside down.

OUTREACH & SERVICE

S.O.S. (St. Clare's Outreach Sunday)

On May 5, St. Clarians of all ages will go forth to spend the afternoon giving back – working on community service projects for St. Clare's second annual Outreach Sunday. If you have not yet signed up, please check in with one of the S.O.S. team on the day of the event.

On Sunday morning, May 5, wear your S.O.S. t-shirt to church and be sure to come to the send-off blessing following the 10:30 service – we'll be taking a photo of ALL participants before they head off to their projects. After working for the afternoon, we'll gather back at St. Clare's Social Hall for a celebratory dinner with a Cinco de Mayo theme!

Donations Needed for SOS

Donations are requested to support Bright Futures, an afterschool program in Ypsilanti Public Schools that provides mentoring, homework help, and service-learning opportunities. (St. Clarian Will Spotts is site director.) Please donate new or gently used items by:

- (1) emailing Mary Wright (mcwright@umich.edu) by noon on May 4 with your name, cell phone, address, item(s) donated and where they will be left outside of your home, and
- (2) leaving the items outside of your house by 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 5.

Volunteers will pick up the items and deliver them to Ypsilanti Middle School on the afternoon of May 5, as part of SOS Sunday.

Items needed are:

- Books: appropriate books for 10-14 year old students
- Gift Cards: Target, Meijer, 5 Below, Home Depot , and iTunes cards
- Games (card games and board games but NOT video games)
- "Construction" toys: K'Nex, Legos, erector sets, etc
- Science Equipment: Microscopes, telescopes, cool rocks, chemistry sets, etc.
- Furniture: Loveseat, two armchairs, rug, lamps, coat tree, dorm refrigerator, stereo w/ cd player
- Cooking Equipment: Butane camp stove, microwave, toaster ovens (2), electric wok, blender, griddle, pots/pans, cooking utensils
- Old magazines: National Geographic, Sports Illustrated, "kid-friendly" magazines
- Art and Jewelry-making supplies
- Cleaning Supplies: paper towels, wet wipes, sponges, etc.
- School Supplies: Pencils, pens, notebooks, dry erase markers, large post-it note posters, etc.
- Robot-themed items

Questions? Please contact Mary Wright (mcwright@umich.edu).

Alpha House

Saint Clare's and TBE will provide volunteers at Alpha House, the Interfaith Hospitality Network shelter for homeless families with children, June 10-16. 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 the staff will take care of keeping it warm in the oven.
- Serve (and eat!) dinner, clean up and play with kids (outdoors or in the large basement playroom) from 5:30 till 8:00 pm each evening. Extra volunteers are also welcome and needed from 6:45-8:00 p.m.. (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 from 8:30 p.m. until 7:00 the next morning (you can leave earlier if you have to).
- Prepare, eat, and clean up after breakfast (either bring food or use available food) at 8:30 on Saturday or Sunday morning.

There is at least one staff person on duty at Alpha House 24 hours each day. If you are volunteering for the first time, an experienced volunteer will be there to work with you. Sign up at coffee hour on Sundays or contact Jeanne Hernandez (jeannehernandez@gmail.com; 734-971-5357) to volunteer.

FROM THE VESTRY

The Vestry had a great retreat in February at which we got to know our new members, shared visions and ideas on how the Vestry could more effectively serve the community of St. Clare's, and came up with goals for 2013, which can be summed up in the slogan "Invite, Involve, Improve."

"Invite" refers to inviting newcomers to get acquainted with the people and opportunities at St. Clare's, through personal contact from clergy, Vestry persons, and other parishioners. One idea in this category was to host Moveable Feast gatherings, at which newcomers and existing parishioners could get to know one another over a meal. These are now well underway.

With "Involve," we sought to distinguish between welcoming newcomers and encouraging current St. Clarians to find ways to connect and serve. We are excited about the upcoming second annual S.O.S., which fits this goal to a T! The All-Member Canvass (going on now) is also something that will help us match abilities and interests with church needs and service opportunities.

Finally, part of being on the Vestry always means seeking to "Improve" parish functioning, which includes such things as continuing to improve the website, increasing our interaction with the Temple, improving financial stability, and deepening the Vestry's spiritual leadership roles. We are making progress, slowly but surely, on all of these, and plan to continue as the year goes on.

Recently, we hosted a joint commission meeting, at which we invited the church's various commissions and committees to share with us some of their own goals, how they might fall under the umbrella of the three Vestry goals, and how we might be able to help accomplish them. It was an enlightening and encouraging meeting, at which we heard many great ideas, and were inspired anew to keep working for the

Kingdom here at St. Clare's. We look forward to how God will challenge and strengthen us for ministry in our parish and community in the coming months!

- Phoebe Gelzer-Govatos

PARISH COMMUNITY

Did You Know?

- Congratulations to University of Michigan Assistant Professor **Luke Shaefer**, who was named the Student Union 2013 Professor of the Year.
- On Monday, April 1, **Sara Armstrong** successfully defended her dissertation, *Teaching Rhythm, Learning the Body*. In this project, Sara explored the conceptual and physical frameworks employed in three performance pedagogies, investigating how these frameworks participate in racialized discourses in ways that have a profound effect on how students engage with course content, interact with their peers, and experience their own bodies. Having completed this final hurdle of her graduate education, she will receive her degree this coming June from the Interdisciplinary PhD in Theatre and Drama Program (IPTD) at Northwestern University.
- On April 12, **Gil Leaf** presented the Pioneer and Huron lacrosse teams with a Native American lacrosse stick that will act as a traveling trophy for the two teams. Check out the article on [annarbor.com](http://annarbor.com/sports/high-school/pioneer-and-skyline-lacrosse-teams-honor-game-and-programs-history-with-gil-leaf-trophy/):
<http://annarbor.com/sports/high-school/pioneer-and-skyline-lacrosse-teams-honor-game-and-programs-history-with-gil-leaf-trophy/>.
- Congratulations to **Max Coolidge**, winner of the Cooley Intra-School Moot Court Competition! And best advocate in the preliminary rounds.

Open Hearts

Our condolences to Kathy Hessert-Tucker and Bill Tucker in the death of Bill's mother, Frances Tucker.

May Birthdays

1	Martha Daniels
2	Laney Cooper, Christine Modey
3	Julia Huttar Bailey, Imogen Howes
4	Emily Plum
6	Chris Curtis
7	Olukehi Elena Bailey, Robby Davis-Craig, Nathan Hatt, Joel Ruhter
9	Mia Wotton
10	Delilah Goodell, Libby Ryerson
11	Evelyn Griffith
12	Kyle Mills
14	Kate Curtin, Alex Hatem, Kieron Moller, Shalini Setty
16	Peg Ross, Adrienne Sipkovsky
18	Melissa Krienke, Lydia Krienke, Tracy McKinney
19	Olivia Anderson, John Krienke
20	Julie Timmer
21	Piper Morgan
22	Carol Packard, Caitlin Robinson
24	Bob Hauert
25	Judy Bonnell-Wenzel, Carol Clifford, Wendy Hatem, Chuck Hatt, Martin Heggstad, Seantell Pratt, Elinor Quinn
26	Robert Blackburn, Pete Ross, Rob Stone
28	Micki Collins, Christine Cook
29	Michael Kaspark, Bill Tucker
30	Cathy Stone
31	Robin Krienke



May Anniversaries

4	Tara & Robbin Ward
5	Pam & Mike Curtis
6	Laurie Kantner & David Heritier
7	Robin & John Krienke
8	Katie & Jonathan Wilms
10	Kit & Mike Flynn
15	Erin & Matt Ranville
16	Zerilda & Warren Palmer
21	Danielle & Rob LaMoreaux
26	Christine Modey & Barry Fuller
29	Kris & Frank Anderson, Sue & Matt Evett, Xan & Kevin Morgan

Is your birthday or anniversary missing (or, heaven forbid, wrong)? Contact the church office to update St. Clare's database! (662-2449 or office@saintclareschurch.org)



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*

Christian Casper

Christine Cook

Kathy Daly

Jon Fraser

Linda Klimach

Rob LaMoreaux

Adam Lowen

Ilene Smith

Mary Wright

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 June/July 2013 issue of the St. Clarian is Wednesday, May 15.