

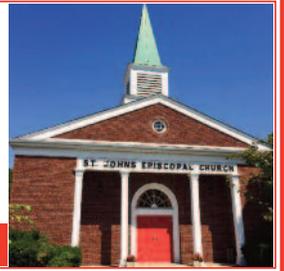


ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

The Red Door

WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME

Monthly newsletter of the people and ministries of
St. John's Episcopal Church



AUGUST 2017 - Volume 3 Issue 8



REMEMBERING THE 1967 DETROIT RIOTS

Sunday, July 23rd was the 50th anniversary of the Detroit riots that went on for 5 days and left 43 people dead and 1,100 injured. In addition, approximately 1,700 stores were looted, 1,400 buildings burned and more than 7,200 people were arrested. The Detroit riots in late July of 1967 were among the bloodiest and costliest civil disturbances in U.S. history.

I was still a child when these events were occurring, but I remember my parents and relatives talking about it. When I asked more about what was happening I was simply told that those bad colored people in the city were doing bad things but that we were safe in our home. I didn't understand why those green, orange, purple and blue people would do such things, but I felt safe in my house with my parents.

The news media covered the riots and those images and words left lasting impressions in our minds. Does that information from 50 years ago still inform how you think about and understand that civil unrest today? Or have you continued to read, talk, listen and reflect more on those situations to gain new perspectives?

I know that my coursework in college, graduate school, and seminary as well as my personal reading and conversations with others have definitely influenced and changed my understanding of those particular riots and the racial unrest that has continued in our country. In the last two decades after white police officers and other civilians have killed numerous unarmed black men, there have been similar riots in various cities. How do you understand these situations and do you see any connection between them and the Detroit riots?

After the 1967 violence had ended Detroit Mayor Jerome Cavanagh and Michigan Governor George Romney stated in separate interviews that the factors underlying the riot went much deeper than just some bystanders being angry with police who raided an unlicensed drinking establishment and arrested all the patrons. Both civic leaders stated that racism was a factor and that the race revolution would continue if steps were not taken to change these issues and include more people into our society while eliminating the welfare state. United States Representative, John Conyers, Jr. a Michigan Democrat at the time, said that when you take 250 years of slavery and add ongoing segregation, inequality and oppression that resentment will surely build and come out in violent ways.

Something else to ponder is the single word that we use to describe this event. We say "riot" which according to Webster's Dictionary means a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd. Riot describes the violence but sells short the built-up anger and long-simmering resentment over police brutality, racial discrimination and social injustice that blacks had endured for years.

There has been ongoing discussion by politicians, scholars, news organizations, religious leaders and others during the past decades calling to replace the word "riot" with "rebellion" which

continued on page 2

Worship Opportunities All are Welcome



Sunday Services

| | |
|-----------|------------------------------------------|
| August 6 | Morning Prayer 8:30 & 10:30 am |
| August 13 | Mass on the Grass/Westland Park 10:30 am |
| August 20 | Morning Prayer 8:30 & 10:30 am |
| August 27 | Holy Eucharist 8:30 & 10:30 am |

Tuesday Worship

| | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------|
| August 8 | Hope Health Care Eucharist cancelled |
| August 22 | 10:30 am Holy Eucharist at Hope Health Care |

Wednesday Worship

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------|
| August 2 | Bible Study 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 11:45 am |
| August 9 | Bible Study 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 11:45 am |
| August 16 | Bible Study 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 11:45 am |
| August 23 | Bible Study 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 11:45 am |
| August 30 | Bible Study 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 11:45 am |

REMEMBERING THE 1967 DETROIT RIOTS *cont'd. from p. 1*

means: opposition to one in authority or dominance, or open, armed defiance or resistance to an established government. By changing this one little word, it is argued that we would shift our individual and corporate understanding of this entire situation that shocked Detroit and several other cities.

So why is all of this important? As Christians, we are called to help tear down obstacles that divide us as humans and to build up the body of Christ throughout the world. By changing the way we think and talk about people and events we will at least acknowledge that different perspectives exist which will hopefully open up avenues for honest conversation to occur. It is in these discussions that new understanding and relationships are built.

We at St. John's have already begun the process of creating space to talk about difficult things. In February our vestry attended a diocesan training on diversity and inclusion and in June we had a presentation by Nick Hamblin about LOVING DAY and the 50th anniversary of a Supreme Court decision. This real life couple experienced the pain of racism that was prevalent in our U.S. rule of law, governmental agencies, police departments and the general public.

The conversation that day opened our hearts and minds to see the issue of racism and marriage from a different perspective. It takes time, energy, education and desire to love our neighbors as ourselves, yet this is the commandment from Jesus that we follow. This is a faith journey that we are all on.

So I would like to invite all of us to do some investigation into the rebellion that occurred fifty years ago in the Motor City. One easy way to do that is to watch the movie DETROIT that will be in theaters on August 4th. You may not like what you see and you may not agree with it and at the same time, I hope it opens up a window for us to see and hear things from a different point of view and motivates us to deepen our walk with God.

Blessings,

Fr. Steve

BACKPACKS UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our backpack and school supplies drive! We filled 27 backpacks and delivered them to our diocesan youth minister on Saturday, July 22nd at the diocesan picnic at Emrich Retreat Center in Brighton.

Our bishop and his wife were very impressed with the number of backpacks that St. John's collected and they wanted to express their gratitude for our commitment to help kids in need!

Special thanks go to Erin Downey-Tarnowski for all of her hard work promoting, collecting, purchasing, stuffing and boxing all the backpacks for transport!



Young Inventors Contest



Our very own Jillian Downey won second place overall in the Young Inventors contest sponsored by the Wayne-Westland school district. The students were encouraged to think about ideas for products that could help and be useful to people. They were told that if you can think of it, you could create it!

The middle school students had to create a concept board that described their invention. There were more than 600 submissions and the top six students were invited to the Young Inventors Banquet Showcase at Schoolcraft College.

Jillian won second place for her concept of developing a hidden needle for children to address their fear when they receive vaccinations or other medical injections.

CONGRATULATIONS JILLIAN!

Engagement Announcement!

Fr. Steve is happy to report that he and Brenda Wood are engaged to be married! Date, time and place are still to be determined. Please keep both of them in your prayers!



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH *invites you to our 2017*

Saturday
September 30
10 am - 11 pm



Craft Show 10am-3pm • Fall Fest Food & Bake Sale
Beer Tent • Silent Auction • Bounce House
Children's Activities • Face Painting & Balloons
Live Entertainment 2pm - 10pm:

2-4pm Del Rays

4-6pm Rob & Max Acoustic

6-8 pm Benny Speer (of Benny & the Jets)

8-10 pm Big City Country with Andy "Barron" Spisak

Please join us for this fun community event!

Get Ready for Flu Season!
CVS Flu Shot Clinic Open 11 am - 3pm

**Silent Auction ends at 9 pm. Need not be present to win.*

We need your help! Please consider a Fall Festival Sponsorship or donation.
Donation forms are enclosed with this newsletter.

Fall Festival Sponsor Levels
Golden Harvest Sponsors \$500
Major Sponsor \$300
Supporting Sponsor \$100
Friends of St. John's \$25+

We are grateful for donation of any amount.
May God bless you for your generosity! Please
give your donations to Charmaine.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

We have two outstanding events coming up that you won't want to miss, our picnic and casino bus trip!

PARISH PICNIC - Sunday, August 13th

Join us at 10:30 am for our morning worship service followed by an amazing picnic lunch! We will provide burgers, hotdogs, condiments, buns and water. If you are able, please bring along a side dish or dessert to share.

This event will take place at the Westland Farmers Market pavilion, 1901 N. Carlson, Westland, MI 48185. We will be inside the shelter with tables and chairs and air conditioning if needed. Rain or shine.

The H2O Splash Park is right next door so bring your suit, children and grandchildren to enjoy a refreshing experience! Please visit the Concession Stand located just south of the H2O Zone to purchase a water park pass. (See photo.) *Remember – this is our only Sunday service that day. There will not be an early service at the church on this morning.*

H2O Zone Splash Park



GREEKTOWN CASINO BUS TRIP SEPT. 16!



We will be meeting in the church parking lot on September 16 and taking a bus to the Greektown Casino in Detroit. The cost is \$40 per person, you receive \$20 back in free slot machine credit. There is a sign up sheet on the Parish Hall table and you may purchase tickets from any vestry member or from Charmaine in the office.

CASINO BUS TRIP ITINERARY:

- 9:45 am** Gather in church parking lot
- 10:15 am** Depart from St. John's
- 4:45 pm** Return to St. John's

St. John's Episcopal Church
 555 S. Wayne Rd., Westland, MI 48186
 Office: (734) 721-5023

Parish office hours: Mon-Fri. 11 am-3pm
www.stjohnswestland.com
stjohnschurchwestland@gmail.com

facebook We're on Facebook:
 St. John's Episcopal Church - Westland MI

FOOD PANTRY OPEN

JULY 13, 10am-Noon

*Please bring donations in by Sunday, JULY 9 or earlier!



AUGUST EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday:

Aug. 13 Parish Picnic 11:30 am Westland Farmers Market Pavilion/Central City Park

Wednesdays:

Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 Sr. Exercise Class at 9:00 am

August 16 Vestry Meeting 7 pm

St. John's Episcopal Church
 STAFF

Rev. Steve Domienik, *Priest-in-Charge*

FrSteve@stjohnswestland.com

Charmaine Wells, *Parish Secretary*

stjohnschurchwestland@gmail.com

Dana Hull, *Music Director*

Bill & Kim Goeman, *Sextons*

OFFICERS

Jim Godbout, *Senior Warden*

Ken Coyne, *Junior Warden*

Sande Godbout, *Clerk*

Erin Downey-Tarnowski, *Treasurer*

2017 VESTRY MEMBERS

Neil Barbu, Joan Cady, Sue Daniel, Cindy Fowler, Nick Hamblin and Julie Jones



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH *invites you to our 2017*

Saturday
September 30
10 am - 11 pm



Food • Beer Tent • Entertainment
Craft Show • Silent Auction
Bounce House & Children's Activities
Please support this fun community event!

Golden Harvest Sponsors \$500
Major Sponsor \$300
Supporting Sponsor \$100
Friends of St. John's \$25+

*We are grateful for donation of any amount.
May God bless you for your generosity!*

*Craft Show 10 am - 3 pm. Silent Auction ends at 9 pm.
Live entertainment 2 pm - 10 pm.*

St. John's Episcopal Church
555 S. Wayne Rd., Westland, MI 48186

For more info call
(734) 721-5023



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Saturday
September 30
10 am - 11 pm**



Sponsorship Commitment Form

Golden Harvest Sponsors \$500

Major Sponsor \$300

Supporting Sponsor \$100

Friends of St. John's \$25+

To show our appreciation, Sponsor names will be listed on a large festival banner, periodically announced at the event, promoted via social media (and listed on printed promotional materials if submitted 9/1/2017). Golden Harvest Sponsors will also get a booth at the Festival and receive prominence in promotions.

Please complete and return the form below ASAP to ensure you are included in all event publicity. Thank you!!

Sponsor Name _____

Contact Person _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ Email _____

I'd like to donate a prize of: _____

Please indicate Sponsorship Level

- Golden Harvest** **\$500**
- Major** **\$300**
- Supporting** **\$100**
- Friends of St. John's** **\$25+**

Please make checks payable to:
St. John's Episcopal Church. Mail to:

St. John's Episcopal Church
555 S. Wayne Rd.,
Westland, MI 48186
For more information,
please call (734) 721-5023

St. John's Episcopal Church is a 501C3 - Tax ID #38-2571942 • www.stjohnswestland.com

Thank You for Your Support!!