



The Newsletter



SAINT AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH

The Mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and with each other in Jesus Christ. We pursue that mission in prayer, worship, and the sacraments, the proclamation of the

Gospel, and in working for justice, peace and love. The Book of Common Prayer, Page 855

Saint Augustine's Church is a parish of the Diocese of Fond du Lac: A community of disciples enthusiastically leading all people to transformation in Jesus.

Volume XLVIII

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From the Rector

Dear members of St. Augustine's,

As we move into the season after Pentecost, as a church we are focused on sharing Jesus' message and acts of love.

Our own Faithful Innovations Committee is already at work on observing the world and looking for ways to help spread that word and work in the greater world.

So based on this knowledge, it is difficult to know that St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, will be closed. The church has declined in members and ministry over the past several years, to the point that the remaining members believe it has lost its efficacy and decided it should close.

Bishop Matt will officiate at a Celebration of Ministry service at 5 p.m. on Saturday, July 13, at St. Barnabas, 201 W. Merrill Ave., Tomahawk. The service will include deconsecrating and secularization of the church building. This is a powerful service that one does not soon forget.

The service is open to the public; and I would like there to be a contingent from St. Augustine's there to show support to the parishioners of St. Barnabas. This is a difficult time for folks who have attended the church over the years, so knowing that they have support from others may be beneficial to them. You are welcome to go on your own, but if you would like to car pool let me know.

After the service, I was thinking it would be a fun activity for own show of unity to go to the Dog and Suds drive-in (a cultural event on its own) for supper after the service.

Throughout the church we see closings, expansions and openings, all reflect the fluctuation of interest and involvement in the greater Church. As committed, devout Christians, let us celebrate the church as we know it, and the church as it needs to be to spread the work of Jesus and word of God.

As you see and hear about our initiatives with Faithful Innovations and the Agile Church (our movie nights and holiday light tour), know that these are the steps we are taking to help strengthen St. Augustine's and the Greater Church.

Faithfully,

Meredyth+

BISHOP'S VISITATION

Bishop Matt will make his annual visitation to St. Augustine on Sunday, July 7. At that time he will confirm Becky Carpenter and receive Stephanie Smith as a member of the Episcopal Church.

Bishop Matt will be present for casual conversation with parishioners during coffee.

SMALL PARKING LOT

A few weeks ago, several people stopped in the office before church service on Sunday morning, with each sharing stories of aches and pain: a tooth, sciatica, bum knee, bum hip, arthritis in a foot, etc. I joked that we should call ourselves the Church of the Lame. Since the word lame has a double meaning, I must clarify that I was only referring to physical lameness.

Acknowledging that many of us suffer from aches and pains, let's remember those who have more physical limitations than we do. Remember them especially when you are tempted to park in the few spaces near the church. There are fewer parking spaces nearer the church than we have people with limitations. We ask if you are physically able to walk from the street parking or city parking lot, that you please do that. We need to leave places for people with difficulty walking, and for those who are dropping off folks with walkers, canes, to do so. If you have things to bring into church, we suggest you drive up to unload, and then move your car.

People who are hesitant to cross the street either because of traffic or slippery conditions, are also welcome to park in the rectory driveway during Sunday services.

OUTSIDE SEATING AREA

We now have a patio table and chairs on the lawn for people to sit at and enjoy the out of doors. A few walkers have already been spotted sitting at the table taking a rest. People are encouraged to sit at the table during coffee hour, or if you come during the week to meet a friend.

The table was resurrected from the rectory garage, and the chairs were purchased by ECW

PRAYER ON THE PORCH

Prayer on the Porch continues each Wednesday through August at 7 p.m. on the back deck of the rectory.

This year we are discussing the Way of Love initiative embraced by Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry.

You are welcome to come anytime. Participation does not need to be each week. The conversations each week will be independent of each other.



A REVIVAL APPROACHES

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, known across the world for his sermon at last year's royal wedding of Prince Harry and Megan Markle, will be visiting the Diocese of Fond du Lac in October.

His visit will take the form of a revival and will be Oct. 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Fox Valley Exposition Center in Appleton. To make it possible for more people to come, we are hoping to fill a bus from the Northwoods.

If you think you might be interested, please sign up in the Guild Hall. We need to determine if we can fill a bus.

You are welcome to bring a friend or two, or three.



RUMMAGE SALE

The ECW is planning a rummage sale on August 23 and 24 in the rectory garage. We will sell excess items from the church that were unearthed in the recent cleaning; and items that you wish to donate. Please no clothing. You may donate all the proceeds from your contribution, or a portion to the church. The proceeds will go toward painting and updating the meeting room in the undercroft (church word for basement).

Items may be dropped off August 12-15 from 9 a.m. to noon. Set up for the sale will be Aug. 19 and Aug. 22 from 9 a.m. to noon.



