



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 XLVII

May 26, 2019

From the Rector

Dear members of the St. Augustine's family;

We are soon to wrap of the 50 days of Easter – the approximately seven weeks that follow Easter.

These are significant days in the church calendar year.

Forty days after Easter is Ascension Day, also known as Ascension Thursday, although some churches have dropped the Thursday and celebrate it on the following Sunday.

We have continued the Ascension Thursday celebration, with our service at 7 p.m. May 30 this year.

The day shows forth the glory of the risen Christ as he takes his place “at the right hand of the Father.” This is symbolic language and the emphasis is on the glorification of Christ in his risen humanity rather than on celestial architecture.

The next big day in the Easter season, marking the end of the season is the Day of Pentecost. On Sunday, June 9, we celebrate the outpouring of the Spirit. The Book of Common Prayer designates this day as a baptismal feast. To demonstrate our renewed life, we will renew our Baptismal Vows, in place of saying the Nicene Creed.

You may remember this day as the one with vestments featuring red flames --- they signify the fire of life. The paschal candle which has burned at every service since Easter will be extinguished at the end of the service, and moved to the space next to the baptismal font. It is placed there so the candle may be lighted for all baptisms as a symbol of the resurrection.

This is also the service when the reading from Acts is done in several languages.

The purpose of this is to demonstrate that the Spirit is among all of us, regardless of what language we speak, or where we are at in our personal faith.

From this time of celebrating the resurrection of Jesus, we move to the Season after Pentecost, which begins with Trinity Sunday.

This is also known as Ordinary Time, meaning it is life – or business—as usual. This is our time to put to use everything we have learned about Jesus and the Holy Trinity since the first Sunday in Advent. This is the time when we take Jesus into the world and see Jesus in the world. The liturgical color is green – representing growth.

Wishing you the peace, comfort and new life of the Easter Season.

Faithfully,

Meredyth+

Companion Diocese Sunday

Sunday, June 2, we will celebrate Companion Diocese Sunday. We will remember folks in our companion diocese of Mashvingo, Zimbabwe. A special Mission of the Month-type collection will be taken that day to help support efforts in Zimbabwe.

Representatives of the Diocese of Masvingo will be the guests of honor at St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in Wausau on Sunday, June 2 from 2 to 4 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Mother Meredyth is planning to attend; if you would like to ride with her, please talk to her.

The mission church will also be supported by the Bishop's Appeal, which is underway. The goal for the appeal is \$19,000, with \$10,000 being designated for Zimbabwe. Vital Congregations and Prayer and Worship will also benefit from this appeal.

The Missionary Church effort focuses on funding development and supporting cyclone recover in our Companion Diocese of Masvingo, Zimbabwe. Bishop Godfrey has specifically requested assistance for the Transfiguration Skills Training Centre.

The Centre imparts skills to young men and women who can then start their own projects improving their livelihoods. Skills taught are chicken rearing, piggery, market gardening and maize production. Embarking on these projects builds a sense of self-reliance and hope for positive change and self-worth. The projects enable participation in both church and society through survival skills provision.

- Initial improvements are to drill or sink a borehole. Cost: \$3,500 (US).
- The second stage is procurement, and installation of the submersible pump, laying of PVC water pipes and mounting of water tanks. Cost: \$7,500.
- Stage 3 will be procurement of a diesel 50kv generator. Cost: \$1,500.
- The fourth and final stage will be fencing the premises so market gardening activities won't be interrupted by stray animals. Cost: \$6,500.

The total of all stages is about \$19,000. The Annual Bishop's Appeal goal for Missionary Church is \$10,000. Bishop Godfrey and the Diocese of Masvingo will determine what funds are needed most between cyclone recovery and for Centre projects. Over \$3,500 has been received for this goal as of May 15, so we trust and hope to meet, if not exceed that \$10,000 goal.

It's time to party with the PB!

Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, will visit the Diocese of Fond du Lac in October. His visit will coincide with the Diocesan convention in Appleton, and will be the highlight of the Way of Love Revival on Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Fox Valley Exposition Center in Appleton.

Presiding Bishop Curry was elected to his position at the general convention in 2015, and earned international attention following preaching at the royal wedding last April. He has a magnetic personality and dynamic preaching style.

As presiding bishop, he must visit each diocese once in his nine years of service. This year, we're one of the lucky ones to experience his preaching, faith and evangelism.

I experienced PB Curry before he was Presiding Bishop, he was just a "regular" bishop when he spoke at a "retirement" mass for the Bishop of Central Pennsylvania, where I was serving as an interim rector.

Let me tell you, I have never been in the presence of anyone or anything quite like that. The energy and enthusiasm was so contagious that I could feel my arms and shoulders tingle.

Everyone (and that means anyone we would like to include) is invited to attend that day.

As we prepare for the Revival the Diocese has asked us all to pray the following prayer.

“Almighty God, Giver of every good gift: Bless the Episcopal Diocese of “Fond du Lac and surrounding communities as we plan for the Oct. 26 Way of Love Revival. Equip and empower the teams preparing for the Revival. Give them strength and clarity to do your will. Give each one of us courage to reach out to our neighbors and friends inviting them to the Revival so that they all may know the power of your love and forgiveness. Bless Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and other leaders with a Spirit-filled message that will be truly heard. May this Revival be the impetus to relight the fire in our churches and in our hearts so that may live even more into our Baptismal Covenant. All this we ask in the name of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Bus ride an option for getting to the Revival

If you think you would be interested in attending the revival on Saturday, Oct. 26, and would like to travel with others on a bus, please sign up in the guild hall. If enough people from the area are interested, we will pursue retaining a bus to transport folks to the revival in Appleton. We are gathering interest from members of St. Matthias in Minocqua and St. Francis in Eagle River.

You are also invited to bring a friend, or two, or three.

Way of Love/Prayer On The Porch

This summer’s Prayer on the Porch will focus on Presiding Bishop Curry’s *Way of Love Practices of a Jesus Centered Life*.

Seven components make up Curry’s focus for the Way of Love. The practices are:

- **Turn:** Pause, listen and choose to follow Jesus.
- **Learn:** Reflect on Scripture each day, especially Jesus’ life and teachings.
- **Pray:** Dwell intentionally with God each day.
- **Worship:** Gather in community weekly to thank, praise, and draw near God.
- **Bless:** Share faith and unselfishly give and serve.
- **Go:** Cross boundaries, listen deeply, and live like Jesus.
- **Rest:** Receive the gift of God’s grace, peace and restoration.

Prayer on the porch will begin on Tuesday, June 26. You do not have to attend each week. Come when you can and join in where we are at that week.

There are limited copies of booklets outlining each of these components in the church library. You are welcome to settle into a comfortable chair in the guild hall and peruse the books. Please do not take them from the church.

Time to Clean Up and Get Organized

The week of June 17 has been designated as clean up week at St. Augustine’s. Each day that week from 9 a.m. to noon, or longer if you would like, you are invited/encouraged to come to St. Augustine’s and help clean up the church – inside and out. Lists have been created for inside and outside spaces to clean up, clean out, and shine up the church.

Coffee, tea and lemonade, as well as treats will be available each day.

Meeting Advent Half Way: Talking about Advent when it’s not the season

During last December’s class on Advent, discussion took place as to why we don’t talk about “these topics” in the middle of summer.

So, for four weeks we will relive the spirit of the feelings and thoughts we experience when we discuss hope, joy, peace and love. There will also be a little CS Lewis thrown in for good measure.

Classes will be 9:30 to 11 a.m. on Tuesdays: June 11, 18, July 9 and July 16.

Movie Night

We will hold a movie night on Thursday, June 13 at 5:30 p.m. The featured film will be the “Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe,” of the CS Lewis classic, “The Narnia Chronicles.” The film will stimulate your creative side and even has some tie-ins to Lent.

Supper will be included in the evening.

Please sign up in the guild hall.

Bishop Matt makes annual visitation July 7

Bishop Matt Gunter will visit St. Augustine’s on Sunday, July 7. At that time, Becky Carpenter will be confirmed in the Episcopal Church and Stephanie Smith will be received into the church.

Executive Council visits St. Augustine’s

The Diocese of Fond du Lac’s Executive Council will meet at St. Augustine’s on Thursday, June 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Executive Council, of which Mother Meredyth is a member, meets about 10 times a year. Some meetings are done electronically, the others are held at churches throughout the diocese.

Episcopal Diocese holding Festival

The Episcopal Diocese of Fond du Lac will hold its annual Eucharistic Festival at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 51 West Division Street in downtown Fond du Lac, Wisconsin on Saturday, June 29, 2019. The Festival will begin with a Celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 11:00 a.m. followed by the Bishop’s Picnic. The day ends with Evening Prayer and the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The preacher will be the Very Rev. C. Patrick Perkins, Dean of the Cathedral.

The Eucharistic Festival was the vision of the Fifth Bishop of Fond du Lac, the Rt. Rev. William H. Brady. It is designed to draw people together each year to display unity in Christ and proclaim the Christian faith through recognition of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. A diocesan choir will lead congregational singing. There is no cost for the Bishop’s picnic which includes hot dogs, brats and ice cream.

“This Festival continues Bishop Brady’s vision of gathering together for worship and fellowship,” according to Bishop Matt Gunter. “It’s a great time to see old friends and make new ones while worshipping God.”

For additional details, visit diofdl.org/ef. All are welcome to join and there is no cost to attend or for the lunch. A free offering will be taken.

