

St. George's Episcopal Church, Milford

January 29, 2026 Eblast

A Gift of Love



I was chatting online with some friends in Minnesota this morning about what we can do as out-of-state pastors to support their ongoing work on the ground. It was hard to come up with an answer. They are tired; they are weary; they are very isolated and it is hard to find places of hope. Then another one of my friends in Texas asked "Can I send you guys Valentines?" She was sitting at her kitchen table helping her 4 year old son laboriously write his name on 2 dozen cards for his preschool class. Little snippets of love, drawn with care.

And so the "Love Casts Out Hate Valentine's Drive" was born. Valentine's Day cards hopefully from churches and individuals all over the country will be shipped to 2 Lutheran Churches who serve immigrant heavy neighborhoods in South Minneapolis. From there they will be handed out to immigrants, protestors, and neighbors in the Minneapolis area as a reminder:

- ♥ Love casts out fear.
- ♥ Love overcomes hate.
- ♥ You are not alone.

So I bought a box of Valentines on my way to the church today. I will have them out on Sunday. I hope you will take a few moments after worship to fill out a few or to buy or make some of your own. Let's show our neighbors in Minneapolis that they are not alone as they struggle to survive in the face of such intense brutality.

See you Sunday,
Rev. Michelle

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sunday Feb 1

- 8:30 am - Holy Eucharist Rite I Celebrant: Rev. Michelle
In the Church & livestreamed
- 10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Rite II Celebrant: Rev. Michelle
In the church
- 11:30am - 'Chosen' Season 4 Episode 1

Wednesday Feb 4

1:00pm - Crochet for a Cause

Thursday Feb 5

11:00am - Outreach

Saturday Feb 7

2:00pm - Painting with Ruth

Tuesday Feb 10

11:00am - ECW

Monday Feb 16

7:00pm - Vestry Meeting (new day for 2026)

Wednesday February 18 - Ash Wednesday

1:00pm - Crochet for a Cause

7:00pm - Worship

Wednesday February 25

6:30pm - Braver Angels

February 7 LOK Event

Have you ever wanted to try and paint a happy little tree? Here's your chance to give it a go... no art background or skills necessary!

You will be guided (by me, Ruth Jeffrey:-) through painting a winter-themed acrylic painting, all supplies provided – 9x12 canvas, paints, brushes, paper plate palettes, etc.

Cost is \$10 per person to cover materials. There is a sign-up sheet at church for those who would like to attend. Deadline for sign up is Sunday February 1. Advance payment appreciated, but you can pay the day of the event.

When: February 7 at 2:00

Here is what we will be painting:

Where: Fellowship Hall



Cost: \$10 per person

Bring: Snacks or beverages (optional)

Wear: Clothes you don't mind getting paint on

The Mitten Tree

The mitten tree has returned to the Fellowship Hall. We are seeking new mittens, gloves, hats and other warm winter wear for the students of Neithercut Elementary School in Flint. Child sizes are preferred but adult items are also useful for older students, siblings and parents. This is a great time of year for good sales at Costco and Target/Walmart, Amazon also sells great bulk packs. We are also seeking new or gently used children's books. Items will be collected until **early January**. See Dave Dickey and Mike Darcy for more info.

Outreach Meeting Thursday Feb 5 at 11:00am

Outreach is holding its first meeting of 2026 to plan activities for the coming months. This committee is open to all and we would love your ideas.

SouperBowl of Caring Feb 8

The Big Game is Sunday Feb 8 and we will be filling our soup pots once again. This year we are asking for you to bring in soup and other non-perishable food items as well as cash donations. All proceeds will go to Community Sharing.

‘The Chosen’ Season 4 begins Sunday Feb 1

The Chosen tv series returns to St George’s Sunday Feb 1 after the 10:15 worship. This week we will watch Season 4 Episode 1: Promises <https://watch.thechosen.tv/watch/184683596182> We will eat lunch and watch the episode, and then have a discussion after. Please sign-up so we know how much food to order. Suggested donation for lunch (Wraps, Chips, sweet Treat, Tea Coffee Juice etc) \$7.

Vestry Day 2026

Saturday, February 14th 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. On Zoom

Vestry Day is a virtual gathering with the Bishop and Diocesan staff for Wardens, Vestry, Bishop Committee Members, and Clergy. If you are new to your vestry/bishop’s committee or if you are a long time member, we invite you to this “Vestry Day” Virtual Gathering. Register here to receive the zoom link: <https://www.edomi.org/vestryday/>

Diocesan Estate Planning Workshops

(ZOOM) Estate Planning 101 – Basics We All Need to Know

Thursday, February 5 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Your legacy is more than the assets you leave behind—it’s the lasting impact you make on the people and causes you cherish. Join estate planning attorney Sonja Markwart for an accessible, informative webinar designed to take the overwhelm out of protecting your family and supporting the organizations that matter most to you. You’ll gain practical guidance on creating a plan that safeguards your children, reflects your deepest values, and directs your generosity with intention. We look forward to helping you find clarity and confidence as you shape your family’s legacy. visit www.edomi.org/plannedgiving register or for more info

(ZOOM) Planned Giving 101 – How anyone can leave a lasting legacy

Thursday, Feb 26 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Planned Giving can feel intimidating, but at its core it’s simply a way to remember the people and ministries you care about in your estate plan. You don’t need to be wealthy to leave a legacy, and you don’t need financial planners or attorneys to take meaningful steps. In this webinar, Tom Post CFP will walk us through a range of strategies—from the most straightforward options, like naming your church as a beneficiary of your IRA, to more advanced tools such as Charitable Gift Annuities and Charitable Remainder Trusts. We’ll also explore how you can “endow” your current annual parish pledge so that your generosity continues to make an impact long after your lifetime.

LOK Stratford Trip

Hello Stratford peeps! Total for both plays is \$125. (\$55 for “Importance” and \$70 for “Guys”).

Please pay by check to Joyce by Valentine’s Day (2/14). ❤️ ❤️ Be sure to make your hotel reservations very soon-Arden Park Best Western (519) 275-2936

Yayyy!!!!

Ongoing Outreach Activities

Below is a list of things we are currently collecting for our ongoing outreach ministries. Check back often to see what we are up to

New Childrens Mittens, Hats & Gloves - Neithercut Elementary - Mitten Tree - **Through early January**

Dress and other nice clothing - Grace Centers of Hope Resale Shop - Middle of Hallway - through Feb

Small Toiletries - FedUp - Hallway Closest to Office - Ongoing

Non-perishable food - Community Sharing - Green bin in Narthex - Ongoing

Used Grocery Bags - Crochet for a Cause - Bins outside by plastic box or in back classroom - Ongoing

Ongoing Ministries in Action:

-Braver Angels

Monthly meetings have now been moved to the last Wednesday of the month working on depolarization. All are welcome. Dinner will be at 6:30 pm, skills practice at 7:00, and planning at 7:30, finishing at 8:00 pm. **The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 25th in the fellowship hall. See you then,**

-Coffee Fellowship

Coffee fellowship is on Pause during the Chosen. However we always need people to set-up & clean-up for lunch. We also welcome a sweet treat to go with the wraps if anyone feels inclined.

-Crochet for a Cause

Making mats for those in need out of plastic grocery bags. 1st 3rd & 5th Wednesdays from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. We have a great time! **Next Meetings are Feb 4 & 18.**

- Cookie Ministry - Supporting the AA groups that meet at our church

Who can help on the **third Friday of each month**? About 50 cookies are needed in total. Please reach out to Dot if you would like to cover **Feb 20** (third Friday.) or once in a while to give the Darcys and the Vangels a break on the other Fridays. You can drop off your cookies the Sunday before or during office hours during the week.

-ECW (Episcopal Church Women)

ECW will continue to meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday. The **next Meeting is Tuesday February 10 at 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall.**

St. George's ECW is a small group of women committed to supporting the many activities of this church. All women members of the church are members of ECW and are encouraged to attend the meetings. Do come along and join us.

- Healing Prayer

Provides laying on of hands and anointing for healing after worship at 8:30 & during communion at 10:15 service. The next Healing Prayers will be on **Feb 1 & 22**. Healing Prayer can be offered at all other services by request.

- LOK - Ladies of the Knight

2026 Tentative Schedule. Keeping check throughout the year for updates and more info.

February 7 - Ruth Jeffrey - Painting with Ruth (see info above)

March - Janine Cole - Henry Ford Museum Da Vinci Exhibit

April - Judith Jambor - Tour of DIA

May - Joyce Spletzer - Farmington Players "Hello Dolly"

June - Laura Frost & Deb Shomoch - Detroit River Cruise
Deb Lesnew & Beck Sheridan - Recycled Rockettes
July 18 - Ann Gatland - Summer Party
Sandy Scott - St Sabba's Orthodox Monastery
August 25-26 - Joyce Spletzer - Stratford Trip - see info above
September - Caroline Liebau - Mariners Church
October 4 - Deb Lesnew - Dio Dinner Theatre
November - Dot Vangel - Ford Rouge Tour
December 5 - Joyce Spletzer - Annual Christmas Party

- Mens' Group

The Men' s Group normally meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. All Men are invited to attend.

There is no Men's group meeting in February due to Ash Wednesday. The next meeting is on Wednesday March 18 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Please see Mike F. Sr's upcoming email for more information.

Keeping Your Faith Strong

-Those in Our Prayers

It is time for our periodic review of our prayer list, those who have been on the list for a long time will automatically come off, if you would like someone added back on, please let Rev. Michelle know or add it to the prayer request sheet in the Narthex.

Please pray for our members, community members and friends in search of health, healing, wholeness and solace: *Annie F., Barry, Brett & Megan, Carol R., Caroline, Cheryl, Denise, Eric, Fred K., Helen, Joan B., John E., Joshua, Judi V., Katie M., Karen S., Kim, Leon, Lisa D., Lisa S., Liz, Matt W., Michelle M., Nancy B., Randy H., Rebecca, Rick & Debbie, Rick, Sue H., Theresa A.*

Loving God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: accept our prayers, and to those who seek healing, grant the power of your grace, that the weak may be strengthened, sickness turned to health, the dying made whole, and sorrow turned into joy; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.** (Book of Occasional Services pg217)

- Online Daily Office Schedule

Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. Morning Prayer

Fridays, 4 p.m. Evening Prayer

Sundays, 7 p.m. Compline

Do you join our Sunday worship online? A reliable and quick way to find our YouTube services (live or recorded) is from our website's "Watch" page, accessed from the top of the home page by clicking the word "Watch." [Here's a direct link.](#) Want to participate in our Daily Office online? Those are on Facebook. [Here's the link.](#)

-Sermon Blog

Ever hear something in worship and think, I wish I could look at that again or send it to a friend? Well now you can. Now St George's has a Sermon Blog. Weekly sermons and reflections will be posted here from now on. Rev. Michelle's sermons will appear on Sunday morning, Morning Prayer reflections will usually be up within a couple of days. Feel free to share! [St George's Sermon Blog](#)

-When to contact the Priest:

Please be in touch. I can only pray, help or connect you with resources if I know what is happening.

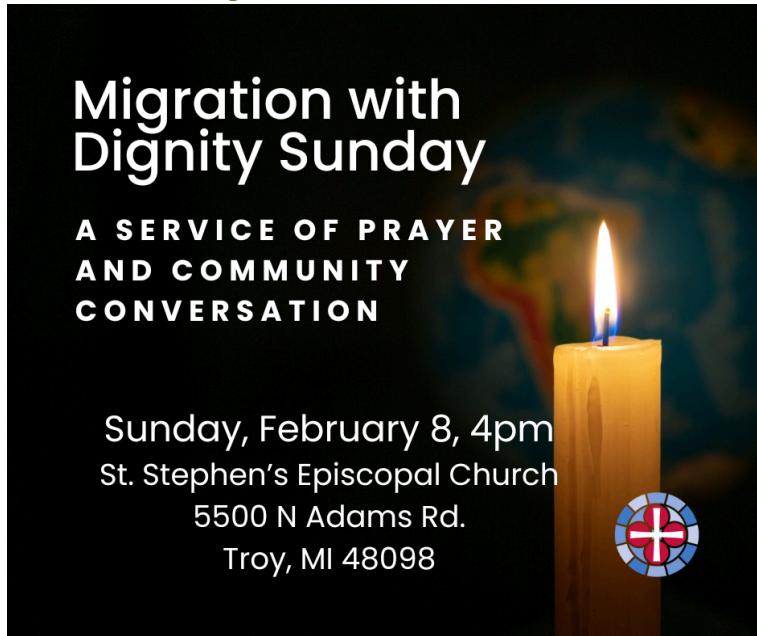
Examples of when to contact the Priest: Birth, Death, Illness, Hospitalization, Difficulty in the Family, You would like to receive sacraments or a Pastoral visit, You have an idea or ministry you would like to discuss. I am usually in the office Wed and either Tues or Thurs 9:30-3. If you see my car in the lot, feel free to pop in. If I don't answer the phone make sure to leave a message or send a text and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

How to contact Rev. Michelle: **Phone/Text:** (734) 646-4064 or **Email:** priest@stgmilford.com

-Forward Day by Day Devotions

The February-April Booklets are available now to pick up in the Narthex. Let us know if you need one mailed/delivered to your house. The cost is \$2.00 for each booklet. Please reimburse us as you are able in the donation box nearby. I recommend a read! 

Community Events



**Migration with
Dignity Sunday**

**A SERVICE OF PRAYER
AND COMMUNITY
CONVERSATION**

Sunday, February 8, 4pm
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
5500 N Adams Rd.
Troy, MI 48098

