

St. George's Episcopal Church, Milford

July 22, 2026 EBlast



Things that Grow in Unexpected Places

Remember how we talked at church a couple of weeks ago about the *Parable of the Sower*, and how if we spread the love of Jesus around us, we never know what seeds might take root and what beautiful things might grow even in the most unexpected of places? Well I have great evidence that this is indeed true, even right here in our own congregation. The picture above is of our very own Joan Basil, proudly displaying Easter lilies brought from the St G's sanctuary growing robustly in her garden. When they came to her they looked pretty sad, the blooms had all fallen off, some of the leaves were wilted. But Joan loved and cared for them and look at them now, happily blooming away proudly beautifying a statue of what I am pretty sure is St Francis. New life in an unexpected place.

But this story is about so much more than flowers. Joan has been a member of our church 'since the dawn of time' as I like to say. She has filled many roles and done just about every job imaginable around the church. She has been faithful to this congregation for decades. A couple of years ago, shortly after I started here, her diabetes made it unsafe for Joan to attend worship in-person on a regular basis anymore, but her faithfulness and her dedication remains undiminished. Instead, the Holy Spirit planted new seeds, so that faith could grow in a new way. I bet most of you didn't know that almost every week, our treasurer Ed Caravallah takes the time between services to go visit Joan. He brings her a copy of the bulletin, a copy of the sermon and the good tidings and news of the church. Margaret Walbridge sometimes joins them and brings communion. And from this, a beautiful friendship has grown and faith lived out in a new way for all involved.

So enjoy the sun, little lilies. I hope you all keep your eyes open for these areas of unexpected growth in your own lives.

See you Sunday,
Rev. Michelle

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sunday July 26

8:30am - Holy Eucharist Rite I in the Church
Celebrant: Rev. Michelle Werner

10:15am - Holy Eucharist Rite II in the Church & Livestreamed
Celebrant: Rev. Michelle Werner

July 27-Aug 2 Rev. Michelle on Vacation

Wednesday July 29

6:30 - Braver Angels Town Hall

Wednesday August 5

1:00 - Crochet for a Cause

Fri- Sun August 7-9

9:00am-6:00pm - Milford Memories Parking

Sunday August 9

11:30am - Farewell & Godspeed for John Potter

Wednesday August 19

1:00pm - Crochet for a Cause

6:30pm - Men Group

Saturday August 22

2:00pm - Vestry Retreat

Sunday September 6 - Labor Day - Bishop's Visit

8:30am - Indoor Worship

10:15am - Outdoor Worship w/ Pet Blessing

11:30am - Lunch with the Bishop

1:00pm - Vestry meeting with the Bishop

Sunday September 20 - Crossroads Lunch Service

8:30am - Worship at St G

8:00am-10:30am - Cooking Shift at Crossroads

10:30am-1:00pm - Serving Shift at Crossroads

12:30pm - Worship at The Church at Crossroads

No 10:15 worship at St G

Sunday September 27

9:30am-12:00pm Vaccine Clinic

Rev. Michelle on Vacation July 27-Aug2

Rev. Michelle will be on vacation with her family in New England next week. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Deb Sawyer and she will put you in contact with local clergy.

Milford Memories Aug 7-9

Parking for Milford Memories is our biggest fundraiser of the year. It funds all our **Outreach Ministries** and covers the cost of serving at the Crossroads Soup Kitchen and we can't do it without you! We are trying out an electronic sign-up this year so please **use the QR code or follow the link below to sign up to fill a 3 hour slot sometime during the weekend.** We also need donations of bottled water and ice.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E44A8AD2EABF58-64673364-stgeorges>

Folks will be available at church if you prefer to sign-up the old fashion way as well. Materials and instruction will be provided. See Mike Darcy or Mike Fanfair Sr. for more info.

**Farewell and Godspeed to John Potter**

John will be completing his ministry with us on **Sunday August 9**, so we will be wishing him Farewell & Godspeed in worship and at a special coffee hour celebration after the 10:15 service. Please see Deb Sawyer if you would like to contribute.

Braver Angels Citizen Led Town Halls

The second meeting was a success and we are thankful for all who participated. The third meeting on **July 29, 2026 at 6.30pm**, a Citizen-Led Town Hall, will involve working together across political perspectives to find mutually agreeable actions that address the challenges we have uncovered. Come and help us start the conversation! Feel free to invite your friends and neighbors.

The Bishop is Coming Labor Day Weekend

The Rt. Reverend Bishop Bonnie Perry will be making her triennial visit to St George's on Sunday September 6th. Due to her great love of dogs (She employs her own dog Tally as Canine to the Ordinary and he regularly assists her in worship), her visit will coincide with our final outdoor worship of the year and our annual pet blessing. More details to come, but mark your calendars and invite your friends and family for what promises to be a spirit filled Sunday.

Save the Date: Crossroads Sunday Lunch is Sept 20

We will be returning to Crossroads to provide our annual Sunday Lunch on September 20th. **We will not have 10:15 worship at St G's.** We encourage folks to come at 8:30 or to worship with us at The Church at the Crossroads. Sign-up genius will be available by Mid-August but mark your calendars and invite your family and friends now.

Coffee Hour in July and August

Folk do stuff with family and friends at weekends in the summertime hence attendance at St G ebbs and flows! Ensuring our Sunday Coffee Hours are hosted during July and August when there is no 'special event' thus becomes somewhat hit and miss. So let's stock St G. up with packaged treats, all individually wrapped eg: granola bars, little bags of cookies or chips, tiny muffins, trail mix, mini Kit Kats/Snickers etc. Items that do not need freezing, have long dates, are all individual - no packets which get left half eaten and open and no stuff in the freezer! A cupboard is labeled up **'PACKAGED TREATS'** to store these tasty snacks. Then there will always be something to accompany a cup of tea/ coffee as we enjoy Sunday Fellowship together over the Summer. If you have any questions see Deb Sawyer.

This will only work if we all keep shopping and help to set out these delightful treats on a Sunday... over to us all heh! And we've made a really good start!

Printing of Service Bulletins over the Summer

Service Bulletins will be printed on Wednesdays for the remainder of July and all of August. If you have any announcements or info for any Service Bulletins or the eBlast please ensure it is emailed to Rev. Michelle & Deb Sawyer by at the latest Monday close of business of the respective week or earlier if possible.

Our thanks In anticipation,
Rev. Michelle & Deb Sawyer

Changes to Our Staff

The posting for our new Director of Music position is now live. You can find it here on indeed: https://www.indeed.com/viewjob?jk=d117ccd7b4f3e5fe&from=shareddesktop_copy If you happen to know anyone who may be interested, please pass it on. In the meantime, please keep our search committee and John & D'Anna in your prayers. If you have any questions or ideas please feel free to reach out to any of our search committee members, Rev. Michelle, Mike Fanfair Sr, Ruth Jeffrey, Deb Sawyer, Dot Vangel & MaryLou Johnstone.

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

Recyclable Textiles - Oakland County Foster Closet - in pink bags, first classroom - ongoing

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

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

The next meeting will be the third of three town hall meetings on **Wednesday July 29** in the Fellowship Hall. See you then.

-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 August 5 & 19 (no 5th Wednesday this time).**

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

All four weeks of cookie donations each month continue to be covered by the Darcys, Mike Fanfair Sr., Vestry and Linda Gillespie. Thank you for your ongoing support! Should one of these volunteers need a break, they will let Dot know and she will specifically reach out for additional help, if needed.

-ECW (Episcopal Church Women)

ECW meetings are cancelled for the summer reconvening in September when ECW will continue to meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday. The **next Meeting is Tuesday September 8 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 **July 26 & August 9 & 23.** 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.

August 25-26 - Joyce Spletzer - Stratford Trip

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. The **next meeting is on Wednesday August 19 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, Carol R., Caroline, Cheryl, Doug E, Dot V., Eric, Fred K. & Family, Helen, Janine C., Jeanne, Jim, Joan B., Joe, John E., Judi V., the Kane Family, Katie M., Karen S., Kim, Leon & Sheila S., Lisa D., Lisa S., MaryLou, Mary S., Matt W., Michael B., Mike W., Michelle M., Michelle R., Nancy B., Olivia S., Rebecca, Rick, Ron D., the Sera Family, Sharon A., Sue H., Theresa A., Tom C.,* 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 Aug-Oct 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