

St. George's Episcopal Church, Milford

June 18, 2026 EBlast



A Reflection from Rev. Teresa

A significant date is coming up: July 10, 2026.

What does that date mean? Ten years ago, on Sunday, July 10, 2016, I walked into Crossroads of Michigan to begin The Church at Crossroads!

I entered the dining hall where the weekly Sunday community meal was being offered (about 600 meals), and began talking with and listening to people, especially to hear how the Spirit might be guiding the formation of a new worshipping body among us. I loved the idea of singing together and began convening singing circles right inside the dining hall. One of the first people to join us was Laureen Hamilton, who became our first founding member. She died this past Easter Sunday, and we commended her to God during her memorial service in May.

We began with music from the hymnal, Lift Every Voice and Sing II, along with other spiritual songs that people knew. At some point, we were gently invited to make a joyful noise outside of the dining hall and began meeting in the chapel!

I had graduated with a Master of Divinity from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific (CDSP) in Berkeley, CA that previous May and was ordained a deacon the following December 10, 2016. I had attended my first year of studies at home in Detroit at the Ecumenical Theological Seminary.

So, we began holding worship in the chapel, using the service of Ante-Communion, the first part of the Eucharist rite through the offering of the Peace. We began offering Holy Eucharist the following year when I was made a priest on June 10, 2017.

The new seedling Church had a little seed money from grants from the Episcopal Evangelism Society, the United Thank Offering of The Episcopal Church, and CDSP. We used it to help with things like printing costs, Bible purchases, and facility support (donations to Crossroads).

You might be asking: If TCAC is here 10 years later, why aren't we celebrating in a big way? Actually, I've been asking myself that question! Here's what I think.

First, we should be celebrating, and I am! But, I've held back from celebrating in a large corporate way. In the world of church planting, our official 10-year anniversary will not take place until June 1, 2028. Why? This is when the founder/planter/cleric began receiving compensation (that's me).

It took a couple of years to develop the community to the level where a part-time salary could be paid. It is a helpful benchmark for starting the official clock, so to speak. But the two years prior were, of course, essential to that point.

My big takeaway is this. I think it is very, very important for our churches to know the story of their founding: what happened, the fits and starts, the obstacles, the unknowns, and the roadblocks. And it's important to remember and celebrate the amazing grace, love and faith that brought a community to the present.

Speaking of amazing grace, I realize, too, that this unofficial 10-year anniversary has kind of come upon us in a way that I perhaps could not have imagined! **And here we are!** So, yes, there is much to celebrate! I am counting our blessings and giving thanks to God, who is ever faithful.

For the Church is only and always the people—people gathered together because God is doing something in their individual and collective lives, and are called and bound together in the communion of the Body of Christ. This is an amazing thing! This is Amazing Grace!

So, happy unofficial 10th Birthday to The Church at Crossroads - Episcopal, Detroit!

Thank you to each person who has walked through the community in some way. Thank you to anyone who has trusted us enough to steward your financial donations to be put to good use in building this community.

Stay tuned: there is more to come, and an Official Anniversary to celebrate in 2028!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Teresa+

St George's will be participating in the Summer Lunch program alongside the Church at Crossroads on July 8. Stay tuned for more information and sign-ups coming soon. And don't forget to wish her a happy anniversary when you see her.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sunday June 21

8:30 am - Morning Prayer Rite I in the Church

Officiant: Deb Sawyer

10:15 am - Morning Prayer Rite II in the Church & Livestreamed

Officiant: Dave Dickey

11:30am - Father's Day Lunch

Tuesday June 23

6:30pm - Braver Angels Town Hall #2

Thursday June 25

1:00pm - LOK Event - Diamond Jack River Cruise

Friday June 26

7:00pm - Recycled Rockettes

Sunday June 28

8:30am - Indoor Worship

10:15am - Outdoor Worship

11:45am - Benthic Brass Outdoor Concert

1:00pm - Post Concert Luncheon

Wednesday July 1

1:00pm - Crochet for a Cause

Sunday July 5

9:30am - Patriotic Organ Concert

Wednesday July 8

10:00am-1:00pm Summer Lunch at Crossroads

Sunday July 12

8:30am - Indoor Worship

10:15am - Outdoor Worship with Dragon Slayerz Band

11:45am - Picnic Lunch

Update on Janine

Janine's surgery on Monday went better and quicker than expected and the surgeon was able to remove the whole large tumor and only a small piece of her lung. She was able to go immediately into a stepdown unit and is making good progress. As of Wednesday she has said she is not ready to take calls "until I can get rid of some of these tubes" but she appreciates all our prayers and well wishes. Please keep praying for her full and speedy recovery,

Benthic Brass Outdoor Worship, Concert and Picnic

Our first outdoor worship of the summer will be Sunday June 28. Following the service, the Benthic Brass return for a stirring outdoor concert at 11:45 followed by a luncheon of chili dogs, salads and all the fixings. Please sign-up in the Fellowship Hall if you would like to contribute to the luncheon.

Braver Angels Citizen Led Town Halls

We had a successful meeting on Wednesday May 27 with about 20 people from the community attending the first session of our Citizen-Led Town Hall meetings. The focus of the first meeting was upon identifying community strengths and challenges, and deciding which makes sense to address at the community level. The second meeting on **June 23, 2026, 6:30-8:30 pm**, will be a discussion of the current ways in which residents can communicate with local governments, and why they work or don't work for residents. The third meeting on **July 29, 2026**, a Citizen-Led Town Hall, will involve working together across political perspectives to find mutually agreeable actions that address those challenges. Come and help us start the conversation! Feel free to invite your friends and neighbors.

June LOK Outing

Diamond Jack Detroit River Cruise will be on **Thursday June 25 at 1pm**. Cost is \$20 for Seniors, payable at the Dock please arrive 30 minutes early for boarding. Carpool arrangements are happening now in the Facebook group, check there if you need or can provide a ride. If desired, lunch afterwards at Sinbad's on the river. Men are welcome!

Recycled Rockettes June 26

Our very own Deborah Lesnew and Becky Sheridan will be performing **Friday June 26th at 7:00pm** at the Hartland Senior Center. The theme this year is Swing Time: A Big Band Dance Party. See either Deb L. or Becky S. for advance tickets (\$10)

4th of July Patriotic Concert Sunday July 6 at 9:45am

Come a little early or stay a little late this Sunday to enjoy John's annual American Music Concert between the services. It will be a great and festive way to wrap up the Holiday week.

LOK Outing to St Sabbas - CANCELED

Our LOK plans to attend the monastery in July are scrapped. After multiple attempts by Sandy Scott to contact them, there has been no response. Sandy will refund everyone's money of course!

October LOK Outing

Deb Lesnew needs a count for the Dio dinner theatre show on October 4th. We are seeing the Crucible. We plan on the afternoon show at 12:15. The cost will be around \$50. It can be less depending on the group size. It is non refundable. She needs a count by June 15. Please sign-up at church, on the Facebook Group or RSVP to Deb Lesnew.

Changes to Our Staff

After thoughtful prayer and discernment, St. George's is moving in a new direction with its music ministry. As a result, we are not renewing John's contract. He will continue with us through the end of summer. We are grateful for the ministry that both John and D'Anna have blessed us with over the last ten years and we will all have an opportunity to celebrate his ten years of ministry with us closer to his departure date. We have formed a search committee to begin the process of seeking a new Director of Music consisting of Rev. Michelle, Mike Fanfair Sr, Ruth Jeffrey, Deb Sawyer, Dot Vangel & MaryLou Johnstone. Our goal is to create a music program that offers accessible music oriented to our small choir and congregation, moves to a greater focus on congregational singing, and adds both traditional and newer music to our services. Members of the search committee welcome ideas and feedback from across the congregation. Changes like these are always difficult, and we will continue to keep John and D'Anna in our prayers. We will also continue to provide periodic updates on the status of our music ministry in the eBlast.

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 - through end of May

Children's items and Luggage - Oakland County Foster Closet - end of hallway - through end of May

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 second of three town hall meetings on Tuesday June 23 in the Fellowship Hall. See you then.

-Coffee Fellowship

Coffee Fellowship June Sign up is posted in the Fellowship Hall. **Please sign up to Host!** We also always need people to set-up & clean-up for Coffee Hour.

-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 July 1 & 15.**

- 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 June & July reconvening in August when ECW will continue to meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday. The **next Meeting is Tuesday August 11 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 19**. 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.

June 25 at 1pm - Laura Frost & Deb Shomoch - Detroit River Cruise - see above for more info

June 26 at 7pm - Deb Lesnew & Beck Sheridan - Recycled Rockettes

July 18 - Ann Gatland - Summer Party

July 28 - Sandy Scott - St Sabba's Orthodox Monastery - CANCELED - see info above

August 25-26 - Joyce Spletzer - Stratford Trip

September - Caroline Liebau - Mariners Church

October 4 - Deb Lesnew - Dio Dinner Theatre - see above for more info

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 July 15 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, Denise, Dot V., Eric, Fred K., 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, 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 May-July 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



FOREVER IN RHYTHM

TICKETS:

\$10 IN ADVANCE OR

\$15 AT THE DOOR

JUNE 25 - 1PM

JUNE 26 - 7PM

Hartland Performing Arts Center 9525 E Highland Road Howell, MI 48843

