

St. George's Episcopal Church, Milford

June 25, 2026 EBlast



Happy Father's Day (a little late)

So, I was remiss last week because I was off and we had a guest article scheduled for last week's eBlast. But then I realized this meant that I missed out on the opportunity to reflect a bit on the importance of Fathers both inside and outside the church. The biblical and theological language of the church is absolutely steeped in fatherhood language. We identify the first person of the Trinity as God the Father in language Jesus himself used extensively throughout the Gospels. And so therefore, our experience of God and our experience of fatherhood or lack thereof are almost always inextricably tied.

For generations, the social role for fathers was fairly limited. Traditionally, the role of father was idealized as patriarch, the sole wage earner, the family provider and protector, and the moral and religious educator of offspring. Roles for men and women were strictly segregated. But in the most recent generations, as the opportunities and roles for women have changed, so have the opportunities for men. As more and more women enter the workforce, men are taking on more caregiving and household duties (though still not quite in equal measure to women). Younger generations of men and their children report much higher levels of emotional connection and involvement as and with their Fathers than previous generations.

And all this makes me think about how these changes might be subtly changing how we think about God. If our earthly fathers were idealized to be emotionally distant providers and disciplinarians, the same was often believed of God the Father, hence the frequently cited trope of "*sinner in the hands of an angry God*". But how much easier does it become to believe statements like "*God loves everyone. No Exceptions.*" if we are beginning to idealize and experience earthly fatherhood in a new way, if we have begun to offer and receive unconditional love and connection with our own fathers and children? Perhaps this is one more unexpected blessing of our more expansive imagining of leadership and human connection within the Episcopal Church.

See you Sunday
Rev. Michelle

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Friday June 26

7:00pm - Recycled Rockettes

Sunday June 28

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

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

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 Dragonslayerz Band

11:45am - Picnic Lunch

New Update on Janine

Janine is home and recovering well. In typical Janine fashion, the wait was too long for a bed in rehab so she got them to send her straight home. The surgeon said that the tumor was the size of a cantaloupe but it came out with remarkably little damage. She is already breathing much better and plans to be in church on Sunday so you can congratulate her there. Please keep praying many prayers of thanksgiving and for a continued and speedy recovery.

Benthic Brass Outdoor Worship, Concert and Picnic

Our first outdoor worship of the summer will be this 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.

Recycled Rockettes June 26

Our very own Deborah Lesnew and Becky Sheridan will be performing **Friday June 26th at 7:00pm** pm 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)

Summer Lunch at Crossroads Wed July 8

We will be participating in the summer lunch program at Crossroads on **Wednesday July 8**. We need to arrive at Crossroads at 10:00 am. If we have enough people to arrange a carpool, we will meet at the church at 9:00 am. We should be done by 1:00pm. Food for the main meal will be purchased by Crossroads but we can provide dessert items and a craft. Sign up sheet is available in the fellowship hall.

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.

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**, 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.

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 will be 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 start shopping... over to us all heh!

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!

The Bishop is Coming Labor Day Weekend

The Rt Reverend Bishop Bonnie Perry will be making her triannual 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.

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 - 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 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 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 & 26.** 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



The poster features a blue background with a globe and stars. On the left, a red box contains the text "RECYCLED ROCKETTES" and "Don't miss this dance concert featuring Livingston County's most incredible dancers aged 50 and up!". To the right is a grid of photos showing dancers. Below this, the text "FOREVER IN RHYTHM" is prominently displayed. Ticket information is provided: "TICKETS: \$10 IN ADVANCE OR \$15 AT THE DOOR". The dates and times are "JUNE 25 - 1PM" and "JUNE 26 - 7PM". At the bottom, the location is given as "Hartland Performing Arts Center 9525 E Highland Road Howell, MI 48843" and a photo shows a drum line.