

# St. George's Episcopal Church, Milford

## May 6 2026 EBlast



Oakland County  
**FOSTER CLOSET**

### Ministry Spotlight: Oakland County Foster Closet

You guys are doing a great job of cleaning out your closets this month and bringing me all your precious junk. So I thought you might want to learn a bit about what all your old shoes, clothes and bedding are going to support. Here is a little bit about the Oakland County Foster Closet (OCFC) and all the great ministry they do:

#### **Our Story**

*Foster mom Michele Austin founded Oakland County Foster Closet in 2013. She knew firsthand that foster children often enter the system with nothing but the clothes on their backs, so she collected donations like clothing, shoes, bedding and diapers, and operated the closet out of her home. As OCFC grew in popularity among families in need, the nonprofit organization moved into an office building.*

*In 2023, OCFC moved into a 4,000-square-foot building in Farmington Hills that enables foster and low-income families to “shop” for what they need, with all items free of charge. OCFC continues to expand and is seeking a forever home that is between 12,000 and 15,000 square feet. This larger space will allow OCFC to serve more foster and low-income families, and to provide more basic needs that build up and strengthen the community.*

#### **Our Services**

*OCFC helps reduce financial strain for foster families by freeing up funds that would otherwise be used to fulfill immediate needs like clothing and diapers, which are not always paid for by state agencies. This enables foster families to use their funds to help children adapt to their homes. OCFC also helps low-income families who need these same items for their children.*

#### **Our Impact**

*At OCFC, we strive to empower foster families by providing necessary resources and support. Our mission is to ensure that every child has a loving environment to grow and thrive. Since we started we have helped more than 6,000 families, 16,000 kids and given out more than 408,000 items.*

St George's has helped provide Easter baskets for their annual breakfast with the Easter bunny the last two years. We are excited to partner with them for our textile drive this Spring and to see where the Holy Spirit leads us next as we continue to partner with this wonderful organization. The fish will be out for the next two weeks if you want to make a cash donation and we will continue to collect textiles and other items throughout the month of May.

See you Sunday,  
Rev. Michelle

### Calendar of Upcoming Events

#### **Thursday May 7**

1:00pm - Outreach meeting - **New Time!**

#### **Saturday May 9**

9:00 am - Spring Clean Up Day

## **Sunday May 10**

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

10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Rite II Celebrant: Rev. Michelle  
In the church & livestreamed

## **Tuesday May 12**

11:00am - ECW

## **Wednesday May 13**

7:00pm - Worship Committee Meeting

## **Saturday May 16**

2:00-4:00pm - End Gun Violence Candidate Forum - Cathedral Church of St Paul in Detroit

8:00pm - LOK Outing - "Hello Dolly"

## **Monday May 18**

7:00pm - Vestry Meeting

## **Wednesday May 20**

1:00pm - Crochet for a Cause

6:00pm - Men's Group

## **Scam alert:**

Some members are getting texts from an unknown number pretending to be Rev. Michelle, Deb or anyone else from the church will never ask you for money, gift cards or personal info by text or email. If anything seems fishy at all please call Rev. Michelle or the person texting you directly using the number in the directory. Scammers are using AI to make these scams more believable and effective. Please stay safe and take care of each other.

## **Textile Drive**

Do you have old, stained or damaged clothing, sheets, bedding, purses or other textiles laying around your house? Now is the time to bring them to church. This Spring we will be participating in the textile drive for the Oakland County Foster Closet. They get paid by the pound to recycle old material so all that stuff that is too damaged to donate elsewhere can help support kids in need. See flyer below for exactly what they take and how to package it. Special pink bags are available at church in the narthex and fellowship hall. Please return items to be recycled to the first classroom next to the kitchen off the fellowship hall. If you have other higher quality still usable/salable items you can package them separately and put them in the hall by the bathrooms. Adult items will go to Grace Centers of Hope and kids items and luggage will go to the actual Foster Closet (see flyer below for their needs).

## **Outreach Meeting Thursday May 7 at 1:00pm (new time)**

Join us at **1:00pm** for our spring Outreach Meeting. We will be planning our outreach activities for the Spring and Summer. All are welcome to join us. If you have ideas for ministries or organizations you would like us to support please come or let Rev. Michelle, Mike Fanfair Sr. or Dot Vangel know your ideas.

## **Church Clean-up Day - Sat May 9**

Join us Sat May 9th 9:00am-1:00pm to help clean-up the church and grounds for spring. Indoor and Outdoor Projects available for people of all physical ability levels. Sat May 23 will be our make-up day in case of rain.

## Governor Candidate Forum - Saturday May 16

Join the Bishop for this Governor Candidate Forum sponsored by End Gun Violence Michigan to be held on Saturday May 16 2-4pm at the Cathedral Church of St Paul, 4800 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. This Event will feature Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson and Sheriff Chris Swanson. Visit [www.edomi.org/egvmi](http://www.edomi.org/egvmi) to register.

## Worship Committee May 13

The Worship Committee will meet Wednesday May 13 at 7:00pm to plan for summer & fall worship. All St George's members are welcome to help us and make your voices heard.

## Braver Angels Citizen Led Town Halls

The Braver Angels in Milford group at St. George is hosting a monthly series of non-partisan moderated Citizen-Led Town Hall meetings, beginning with "Working Together to Keep The Community Strong" on **May 27, 2026, 6:30-8:00 pm**. The focus of the first meeting is upon identifying community strengths and challenges, and deciding which make sense to address at the community level. The second meeting, a Citizen-Led Town Hall on **June 23, 2026, 6:30-8:30 pm**, is focused on identifying mutually agreeable actions that address those challenges. The third Citizen-Led Town Hall meeting on **July 29, 2026** will focus upon planning and supporting the actions identified in the second meeting. Come and help us start the conversation!

## 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.

## 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

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, May 27 in the Fellowship Hall. See you then.**

### -Coffee Fellowship

Coffee Fellowship May 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. 1<sup>st</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. We have a great time! **Next Meeting is May 20.**

## **- 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 Gillepsie. 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 will continue to meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday. The **next Meeting is Tuesday May 12 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 **May 24 & June 7.** 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.

May 16 at 8:00pm - 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 - 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 May 20 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 E., Barry, Brett & Megan & Joshua, Carol R., Caroline, Cheryl, Denise, Dot V., Eric, Fred K., Helen, Janine C., Jeanne, Jim, Joan B., John E., Judi V., the Kane Family, Katie M., Karen S., Kim, Leon, Lisa D., Lisa S., MaryLou, Matt W., Michael B., Michelle M., Michelle R., Nancy B., Olivia S., Rebecca, Rick, the Sera Family, Sharon A., 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](mailto: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



Highland Activity Center  
Spring Blood Drive

May 12, 2026  
11am – 3pm

Highland Activity Center  
209 N. John St.  
Highland, MI 48357

For an appointment, please visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)  
Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).





# Get a fresh start!

We are the Oakland County Foster Closet (scan our QR code to learn more about us). We are a 501c3 nonprofit providing children that qualify, all of the essentials that they need, absolutely FREE

## Donate your items instead of throwing them away in a landfill and we earn .10 cent per lb.

We have a partnership with Simple Recycling (You can visit them at [www.simplerecycling.com](http://www.simplerecycling.com)) that allows us to recycle items that are torn, ripped, stained, old, unusable or just not needed. We receive .10 cents per lb., but more importantly, these items do not end up in a landfill. If you would like to participate with this program, you can use the attached PINK/ ORANGE Simple Recycling bag or you can use a white garbage bag with a large "X" on both sides. Please return bags to the church by the end of May and we will deliver them to the Foster Closet.

### This is what they recycle: (In Pink/ Orange Bags)

Men's Clothing	Children's Clothing	Women's Clothing	Boots & Shoes
Belts & Ties	Books	Bras	Coats & Jackets
Fashion Accessories	Handbags & Purses	Hats & Gloves	Kitchenware
Linens	Pillows	Sandals & Slippers	Socks
Stuffed Animals	Table Linens	Tools	Towels
Toys	Undergarments	Bedding (sheets, pillow cases, blankets, comforters)	

To learn more about the Foster Closet **Scan this QR code**

Items they **CANNOT** take collect include:

Appliances	Furniture
Carpeting	Mattresses
Hazardous Waste	Tires
Paint	Traditional Recyclables (metal, glass, paper)



### Items they take for use for their clients (Do not put in pink bags)

Clothing:	Sizes NB – adult 2X Clothes for children and should focus on what children would wear
Linens:	Sheets for Crib, Twin, Full or Queen Bath towels, Washcloths
Luggage:	Carry-on, Regular luggage, Duffle bags (No garment bags or make-up bags)
Shoes:	Tennis shoes, Water shoes, Boots, Sandals
Books:	Board books, Young readers, Chapter books, Series
Toys:	Ages 0-3 new or used, Ages 4 and up new only
Kids equipment:	Strollers, Car Seats, High Chairs, Cribs, Pack n Plays, Gates, Bouncers, Jumpers, Outside toys

**If your item is not on this list, feel free to send a text or picture to us at 248-419-4487**