



The Beacon

July 2025

God Bless our Native Land

I'm still on vacation in the Pacific NW as I consider July. (Yeah, I know, but it can't be helped.) We just spent several days in the Olympic National Park, surrounded by an astonishing variety of natural wonders: Snow-capped peaks, 300-foot-tall trees, a glacier-carved lake, and the western-most beaches of the country. Jaw-dropping beauty was everywhere we looked. If you can get here someday, taking a couple of days before or after a cruise to Alaska (we saw many people hanging around Seattle, waiting to board), you really should! I'll give you some recommendations when I get back.



View from
Hurricane Ridge

On day 2 of our trip, Eric and I were having breakfast at our hotel and struck up a conversation with the solo traveler next to us, a young soccer-fan from Argentina. The Club World Cup held matches in Seattle this week. He was full of praise for our national parks. "So many people from my country only go to Miami, New York or LA," he told us. "They think that is America. But your parks are the best places."

We heartily agreed! Olympic Park is a prime example of unspoiled nature. There are no condos going up

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St. Jude's Episcopal Church

106 E. ELIZABETH STREET
FENTON, MI 48430

(810) 629-5681
STJUDESFENTON.COM

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAYS & THURSDAYS
9 AM - NOON

TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS
9 AM - 4 PM

STJUDESCHURCHFENTON106@GMAIL.COM

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CHOIR DIRECTOR

RON SPAULDING
ORGANIST

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SEXTONS

"...Native Land" continued

behind the giant Sitka Spruce or Douglas Fir trees, no jet skis disrupting the peace on Crescent Lake. Also not in evidence: drilling for oil or gas, nor mining for coal or rare earth metals. We drove 100 miles today without seeing a single billboard or a McDonalds, until we left the Park and the contiguous Reservation land.

I pray that my (future) grandchildren and yours will experience the same beauty, decades from now; and that tourists will still come from other states and other lands to admire our foresight in preserving them.

Blessings are everywhere,

Susan+

Pacific sunset at
Rialto Beach



2025 Holiday Craft Show & Bazaar Update

Can you believe it? July is here and our Craft Show and Holiday Bazaar scheduled for Friday November 7th and 8th 2025 t St. Jude's Episcopal Church is getting closer everyday.

We have already received four paid Crafters. Now is the time for those interested in being in our event to get in touch with St. Jude's for an application to participate. As many of you know our spaces are limited and fill fast.

We are asking all parishioners and friends of St. Jude's to visit the surrounding farmer's markets and craft shows and share our information with crafters. It would be great to get some new ones as well. Maybe there is a pottery, leather or wood worker you think would be good to have in our show? We will have small flyers that you can take with you to give to interested crafters beginning Sunday, July 13. Grab some to pass out!

If you have questions please let Heather Ludwig, Lynn Hopper, Sue Premo or Ron Trimmer know.

Craft Show Committee



July Birthdays

1st Jessica Miller
 10th Mike Little
 13th Jerry Graham
 14th Liz Sailus
 16th Lucy Brewer
 18th Ron Trimmer
 21st Kathy Kortge
 Austin Rayner
 25th Shirley Gernack
 28th Bill McDonald
 Tim Norred
 30th Kathy Hopper
 Nancy Ryan

July Anniversaries

1st Charlie & Francine
 Johnston (47th)
 4th Katie Young &
 Laura (10th)
 12th Doug & Diane Hill
 (58th)
 Dave & Denise
 Rayner (51st)

Book Club Meetings have been changed to the 3rd THURSDAY of the month beginning in August. Schedule will be up soon!



Building & Grounds Update

Over the last few months your Building and Grounds Committee and other volunteers continue to put many hours into caring for our building and grounds. It is and has been amazing to me to witness the love for St. Jude's.

Our Organ and Pipes have been cleaned and repaired. They work and sound fantastic! Thank you to an anonymous donor that covered the expenses to accomplish this long overdue repair.

Our air conditioning has been checked and programed and those working on our Memorial Garden have given us a beautiful and peaceful space. Thanks to the team for laying the mulch and making our grounds look great.

At the present time we are still working on getting the roof to the church replaced. Thanks to Doug Hill we have received three proposals and recommendations have been made to the Vestry. The Vestry has approved doing the project and is working on the financing that needs to happen. Hope to share more with you in the near future.

Our committee will be meeting on Saturday July 12th at 9:30 in Vandenberg hall we would love to have new members. There is a lot to do and very few stepping up to help. Could you give a couple of hours of time occasionally to this special ministry?

Ron Trimmer & B&G Committee

News from Refugee Welcoming Team

Our friends at Fenton First Presbyterian report that they have just finished their second, 12-week session of ESL (English as a Second Language) conversational meetings for refugees. There may be a third round, or it's possible that Mott Community college in Flint will be hosting it next.

Sarah Martin-Fanone also reports: "There have been some difficulties recently. Throughout this month ICE has stepped up the frequency of its raids and visits in Genesee County including one at the Walmart where most families do their shopping. I cannot overstate how stressful this is for our community. Everyone is afraid. This has affected attendance at classes and community events. It also places families in dangerous situations by creating an atmosphere where people are reluctant to call the police for any issue. ALL of the families with whom we are working have all of the proper documentation granting them the right to live here. Unfortunately, that does little to assuage fears when ICE is not asking for papers, just zip tying hands and carting people away.

"In response to this alarming increase, we have decided to form a rapid response team. We are receiving information and training from other similar groups who have already formed around our state. If anyone would like to be a part of this effort please contact Donna Anderson for additional information. She can be reached at Donna.ander@gmail.com."

Rev. Susan Anslow-Williams

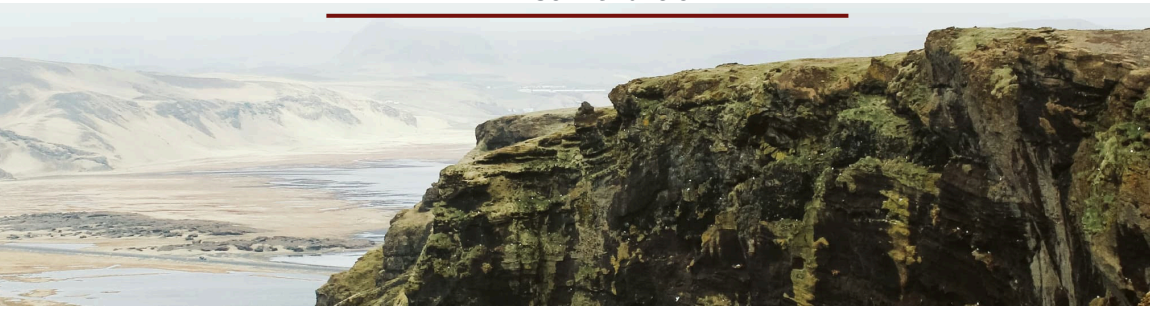
Reflections

Submitted by Judy Marinco from "Our Daily Bread", June 5th edition

The Gift of Giving

*Each of you should give . . . not reluctantly or under compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver.*

2 Corinthians 9:7



In his 2024 address to 1,200 university graduates, billionaire businessman Robert Hale Jr. said, "These trying times have heightened the need for sharing, caring and giving. [My wife and I] want to give you two gifts: The first is our gift to you, the second is the gift of giving." His words were followed by the distribution of two envelopes each to the unexpectant graduates—five hundred dollars to keep and five hundred to give away to a person in need.

Though Robert Hale's wealth has allowed him to share like this on more than one occasion, generosity isn't reserved for those with great means. Believers in Jesus in ancient Macedonia gave out of their poverty so the needs of believers in Jerusalem could be met. Paul said of the Macedonians, "In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity" (2 Corinthians 8:2). He commends them because "they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people" (vv. 3-4).

Those who recognize that they've been given much grace from God through Jesus can respond with generous hands to the needs of others. With God's help, let's give after the example of the one who said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

By Arthur Jackson

Reflect & Pray

What can you offer generously to someone? How have you been the recipient of another's generosity??

Heavenly Father, please help me to give generously to others.

Upcoming Events to Note

Saturday, July 5-
9 am - Noon: Basic Needs
Pantry

Wednesday, July 9 -
1 pm: Outreach Meeting

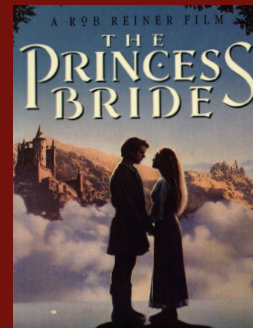
Wednesday, July 12 -
9:30 am: Building &
Grounds Meeting

Tuesday, July 15 - 1 pm:
Prayer Shawl Ministry

Wednesday, July 16 -
7 pm: Finance Meeting

Saturday, July 19 -
10 - 11:30 am: Alzheimer
Caregivers Class

Tuesday, July 22 - 6 pm:
Book Club (*House in the
Pines* by Ana Reyes)



Bring a friend and join us for Popcorn and Snacks as we watch the movie "The Princess Bride" at the Vandenburg Hall "Drive"-In. If you've never seen it, you'll love it. It has everything; fencing, fighting, torture, revenge, giants, monsters, chases, escapes, true love, miracles.....who could ask for more. This is a kid friendly movie so feel free to bring the kids, grandkids, neighbors.....

Bring lawn chairs and a snack to share, popcorn and drinks will be provided.

Following the movie there will be a discussion about Christian themes that may be hidden in the movie.

WORSHIP LEADERS for July 2025

Lay Eucharistic Minister(s)	2 nd Chalice	Reader	Intercessor	Ushers	Altar Guild	Vestry Person of the Day	Live - Streamer	Coffee Hour Host(s)
<u>July 6</u> Holy Eucharist - The Rev. Mary Jo Schuetz								
Paul Dolza	Mary Louise S.	Deb James	Jeff Wood	Nancy Day, Lynne R.	Sarah D. Lisa Cronk	Charlie Johnston	Lynn Hopper	Ellen Tripp
<u>July 13</u> Holy Eucharist - The Rev. Susan Anslow Williams								
Amy Freeman	Dee Grossmann	Rev. H Wayne Knotts	Dave Rayner	Dave & Deb James	Mary Louise S. Diane Hill	Dave James	Dave James	Katie Young
<u>July 20</u> Holy Eucharist - The Rev. Susan Anslow Williams								
Dee Grossmann	Lynn Hopper	Denise Rayner	Paul Dolza	Dave & Denise Rayner	Dee G. Lisa Cronk	Doug Hill	Dave Rayner	??
<u>July 27</u> Holy Eucharist - The Rev. Susan Anslow Williams								
Mary Louise S.	Clay Putnam	Pedro Melchor	Dee Grossmann	Charlie J., Jeff Wood	Terri H. Francine J.	Sue Premo	Paul Dolza	??
<u>August 3</u> Holy Eucharist - The Rev. Susan Anslow Williams								
Clay Putnam	Dee Grossmann	Ellen Tripp	Dave James	Lisa & Kelly Cronk	Sarah Dolza Lisa Cronk	Dave Rayner	Dave Rayner	??

Monday Office Volunteer(s):

7th - Ron Trimmer
 14th - Heather Ludwig
 21st - Kathy Kortge
 28th - Dave Little

Thurs. Office Volunteer(s):

10th - Ellen Tripp
 17th - Lynne Ronthi
 24th - Nancy Day
 31st - Ellen Tripp

Wednesday Office Volunteer(s):

2nd - Judy Marinco
 16th - Judy Marinco



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VESTRY

2026

Bill Anderson
Paul Dolza
Heather Ludwig
Dave Rayner

2027

Doug Hill
Dave James
Jim Ramelis

2028

Charles Johnston
Sue Premo
Megan Rosa-Norred

Delegates to the Diocesan Convention

Paul & Sarah Dolza
Dave & Debbie James