



The Beacon

July 2024

Politics in the Bible

Preachers are warned repeatedly: *Keep politics out of the pulpit!* It's good advice, especially in recent years as the IRS has cracked down on mixing the two for fundraising. I will never tell you whom to vote for; I'll let Jesus help you figure that out, LOL.

This summer, however, our Sunday lessons from the Hebrew Scriptures will be *entirely political!* Politics from about 1,000 BC, that is; and the politician is David, the former shepherd and giant-slayer. We've already heard how he was secretly anointed to be the next king by the prophet Samuel, when David was young. Then how he ran off to join the army and killed Goliath with his slingshot, earning him a place at King Saul's court where he learned the machinations.

King Saul turns out to be emotionally unstable, unfortunately. Our readings skip over the stories of Saul's mood swings, and how David soothes him by playing his harp; and later, how Saul's jealousy grows intense when David's popularity increases. Saul's own son Jonathan becomes David's best friend (see 1 Samuel ch. 18 for just how close) causing further tension in the royal household. Eventually Saul orders the arrest or death of David, who then takes off with his own band of

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St. Jude's Episcopal Church

106 E. ELIZABETH STREET
FENTON, MI 48430

(810) 629-5681
STJUDEFENTON.COM

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAYS & THURSDAYS
9 AM - NOON

TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS
9 AM - 4 PM

STJUDESCHURCHFENTON106@
GMAIL.COM

THE REV. SUSAN ANSLOW WILLIAMS

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REVSAN65@GMAIL.COM

THE REV. JUDY MARINCO

DEACON
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ELIZABETH SAILUS

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

LAURA & STEVE KOCH

SEXTONS

July Birthdays

- 10th Deborah Davies
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 (46th)
- 7th Lester & Nancy
Jones (51st)
- 12th Doug & Diane Hill
(57th)
Dave & Denise
Rayner (50th)

“Politics in the Bible” continued...

warriors – this is like something from *Game of Thrones*, folks! We’ll only get highlights on Sunday mornings, but it’s worth reading the whole thing at one sitting if you can (1 Samuel ch. 8 through 1 Kings ch. 2).

What’s amazing is how *detailed* the accounts of David’s actions and decisions are! Some reports, like his “inviting” Bathsheba over to the palace, raping her and arranging for the death of her husband (July 28’s reading), are deeply disturbing in their honesty. In seminary, we were told about the “Court History,” a document now lost but assumed to have existed; in which an official within the court took notes on what went on. No expletives, sins or reactions were deleted from the record. Fascinating to imagine, isn’t it? This secretary would have been scratching away on papyrus, or maybe clay, as David either pleases or disappoints the people, and the Lord.

Your preachers won’t always comment on the David epic. But, we hope you’ll enjoy this summer’s series of *David* readings. Perhaps the Lectionary wants to disabuse us of the idea that politics don’t belong in worship. Once upon a time, they were the same story.

Faithfully telling it again and again,

Susan

Office Volunteers

THANK YOU to everyone who volunteers their time Mondays and Thursdays to help me in the church office! Nancy, Ellen, Judy, Lynne, Ron T., Kathy K. and Heather - you all are wonderful and make my job so much easier!

I am currently looking to train a few new people. If you are able to be in the office any morning Monday - Thursday and can greet people, fold bulletins, answer phones and other small office tasks, please let me know! In October, many of my volunteers will be out cruising and, in November and December, I am planning to be on maternity leave. I will be providing trainings on basic tasks in the next couple of months. - Liz Sailus

Reflections

Submitted by Judy Marinco from "Our Daily Bread", June 14th edition

Dilemmas and Deeper Faith

Daughter, your faith has healed you.

Mark 5:34



During a Saturday morning Bible study, a father was perplexed because his beloved, wayward daughter had returned to the city, but he was uncomfortable with her in his home because of her behavior. Another attendee was not well in her body because the physical effects of long-term disease and aging had taken their toll. Numerous visits to numerous doctors had yielded minimal progress. She was discouraged. By divine design, Mark chapter 5 was the Bible passage they studied that day. And when the study was over, hope and joy were palpable.

In [Mark 5:23](#), Jairus, a father with a sick child, exclaimed, "My little daughter is dying." On His way to visit the girl, Jesus healed an

unnamed woman of her long-term health issue, saying, "Daughter, your faith has healed you" (v. 34). Jairus and the woman, compelled by faith in Jesus, sought Him out and they weren't disappointed. But in both cases, prior to meeting Jesus, things had progressed from "bad to worse" before getting better.

Life's dilemmas don't discriminate. Regardless of gender or age, race or class, we all face situations that perplex us and send us searching for answers. Rather than allowing challenges to keep us from Jesus, let's strive to have them stir us to deeper faith in the One who feels it when we touch Him (v. 30) and who can make us well.

By Arthur Jackson

Reflect & Pray

What current situation compels you to seek Jesus? What's your heartfelt prayer today?

Dear Jesus, You know each painful situation in my life. Please make me strong in faith even when things go from bad to worse.

Prayer List

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Skip, our Assisting Bishop; for the Standing Committees of the Dioceses of Eastern & Western Michigan; for Susan, our Priest-in-Charge; for Judy, our Deacon; for the Vestry.

For Al; Margaret; Bill; Holly; Todd; Diane; Sue; Barbara & Joe; Cindy; Cathy; Molly; Cory; Dale; Sue; Linda; Marcia; Gabe; Rose; Joan; Jerry; Rex & Judi; Lois; Jim; Bob; Jim; Sharon; Alan; Mia; June; Ed; Carl & Connie; Sydne; Laura; Liz; Mike; Mary Lou; Pedro; James; Randy; Sherry; Pam; John; Francine; Sara; Marsha; Chet; Mike; Leonard; Ron; Ellen; Glenn; Jim; Patti; Brad; Emily.



June Coffee Hour

Thank you to those who hosted coffee hour in June:

Francine Johnston & everyone who contributed to the taco bar and games; John & Carol Pettipher; Mary Louise Susalla



Freedom Festival Parking

Thursday, July 4 is the Freedom Festival and Parade in downtown Fenton. We would like a few people to volunteer to pass out bottled water and accept cash donations for parking in our parking lot that morning. Thank you to Mary Louise who has volunteered but **we really need a couple more people (maybe someone who is willing and able to lift a cooler with water bottles and ice in it)**. The parade is at 10 am so plan to arrive around 8:30 am. You shouldn't be there for more than an hour or so. Let Susan or Liz in the church office know if you are interested in helping!

Building & Grounds

Our committee recently met on Sunday, June 23, 2024 and discussed the many projects that have been completed and discussed and began planning upcoming projects.

Thanks to those who have worked very hard the last couple of months getting our Memorial Garden to look so great . The beautiful plantings and flowers along with the new seating gives us all the opportunity to sit and enjoy a place of quiet and peace and to remember those who ashes have been placed in our garden.

Greg Forsyth has taking the lead in estimating and installation of new memorial brick pavers to our memorial garden. Paul Dolza and Mike Marinco will be working on resurfacing the steps and porch at the memorial garden entrance. Sarah Dolza and the memorial garden got the green light for a four foot fence on the east side of the memorial garden.

Our team is also working toward estimating and, hopefully, eventually replacing the roof and making repairs to the wood and Bell Tower. Thanks to Paul Dolza, Doug Hill and Bill Anderson in taking the lead and getting information together for our committee to consider and make recommendations to our Vestry.

The work continues!

Ron Trimmer

Building & Grounds Chair

Fenton Pride Night 6/20/24

Thank you to those of you who volunteered and stopped by our booth at Fenton Pride Night.

It was great to see people in the community and let them know that all are welcome at St. Jude's Church!



Family Promise of Mid Michigan

Registration is OPEN!

4th Annual Golf Fore Families Charity Outing
Saturday, September 21, 2024
at SugarBush Golf Club in Davison
9am Shotgun Start

Register early and secure your chance to win a Bushnell Phantom 2 GPS.
Join us for a day of fun, camaraderie, and giving back!



Enter to Win



BUSHNELL
PHANTOM 2

REGISTER NOW

<http://bit.ly/fpmmgolfforefamilies>

Important July Dates

- 4th 4th of July
Freedom Festival
Downtown
Office closed
- 6th 9 am - Noon: Basic
Needs Pantry
- 10th 1 pm - Outreach
- 13th 9 am - 1:30 pm:
Blood Drive
- 20th 2 pm - Burial for
Carol Hall
- 23rd 6 pm - Book Club @
Dee Grossmann's

Every Sunday:

10:30 am: Worship Service
in church building &
livestreamed on Facebook

July Blood Drive

Thank you to Heather Ludwig for always doing such a great job coordinating and being here at the church to supervise our quarterly blood drives with Versiti! This upcoming drive, she could use a little help particularly at around 8 am to open the building and move any tables/chairs that need to be moved and around 1:30 pm to help get things re-set for coffee hour on Sunday morning. If you can help, please let her or Liz in the church office know!



**Saturday
July**

13

9:00 AM – 1:30 PM

**Helpful tip:
Make sure to eat a healthy
meal and drink plenty of
water before donating.**



*NO PURCH. NEC. MI, OH, IL, IN, and WI residents only; 18+. Ends 7/17/24. One drawing per state; five (5) winners. Enter by blood donation or online. See Official Rules and online entry form at versiti.org/grill. Sponsor: Versiti, Inc., 638 N. 18th St., Milwaukee, WI 53233.

ST. JUDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

LOCATED IN VANDENBERGH HALL

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- Visit Versiti.org
- Follow QR Code Link



Eligibility question call 1 (866) 642-5663
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VESTRY

2025

Terri Hutchins

Francine Johnston

Clay Putnam

Julie Wood

2026

Bill Anderson

Paul Dolza

Heather Ludwig

Dave Rayner

2027

Doug Hill

Dave James

Jim Ramelis

Delegates to the Diocesan Convention

Paul & Sarah Dolza

John & Carol Pettipher