

The Prefect's Post



ST. GREGORY'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

New Memorial Courtyard Sexton Announced



Mike Zimmerman

Over the years, St. Gregory's Memorial Courtyard has seen a number of people step forward to safeguard the task of interment in our courtyard. Our newest Memorial Courtyard Sexton is Mike Zimmerman. Mike stepped forward to do this important job.

As a holder of remains, St. Gregory's is legally responsible for keeping accurate records of site preparation, interments, donations and plaques as well as forever holding death certificates and cremation certificates. This indeed is an important job and is the responsibility of the parish no matter who is on the vestry or who the Rector is.

We are so delighted that Mike has taken the job, and we hope this will streamline the Memorial process at St. Gregory's. Mike has some back-up plans for the job and may even call on you to help! His main role includes maintaining and holding the interment location records, arranging new interment site openings, opening a location when an interment is imminent, arranging the creation of the plaques and arranging plaque placement and installation.

Thanks Mike!

DECEMBER 2011

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Pledge Card Reminder

Just a gentle reminder that we need your 2012 Pledge Card as soon as possible.

(See Stewardship Prayer, pg. 6)

As of 11/27/11, we have had 25 Pledges turned in totaling \$45,400.00.

Reminder letters will be sent to those who haven't yet returned their Pledges.

If you have misplaced that orange slip, more are available in the Narthex.

'Tis the Season to be Chocolatey!

Fair Trade Coffee & Chocolate Gift Baskets

are back & can be ordered from

Mtr. Rachael

Customized baskets available

Price range \$20 & up

Mission and Outreach Helps Others — Locally and Beyond

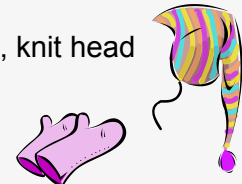
The Holiday Season is always a time when we are asked to help others, and with the unstable economy affecting so many, the need is great again this year. St. Gregory's has always been a giving parish. The 2 families who were provided Thanksgiving meals from generous donations were extremely thankful for our food gifts.

Deacon Lily and the Outreach Committee have been busy selecting Christmas Outreach opportunities from which St. Gregory's parishioners may choose to participate. Please be aware of deadlines for the different listings.

Local Listings:



- **Supper House** needs socks, mittens, hats, gloves, scarves, knit head bands, and books for all ages. **Deadline December 9th.**
- **See Deacon Lily**



- **3 Needy Families:** This Christmas we will be providing a Christmas meal and gifts for 3 families in the Muskegon area. These families were provided to us by Love, INC and the Salvation Army. Watch for sign ups and a gift tree. This will be an opportunity for the entire parish to be involved in providing a wonderful Christmas for area families in need.



- Brian Rhinesmith and Jan VanDeusen will be organizing the food.
- Boxes will be made by Rhonda Holtrop.
- Deacon Lily Marx will be organizing the gift tree.
- The Youth will be delivering the food and gifts.
- Money donations will be accepted as well.



Toys for Tots



- We are officially a drop off site for the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves Toys for Tots.
- Mike Zimmerman is organizing this project.
- Please bring in toys and tell your friends that we are a drop off point!
- Times for drop offs will be posted on our sign out front.



Diocesan Outreach:

We will be donating money toward the purchase of a wood stove for a family in Kentucky. This is the family which was helped during the last Diocesan Mission Trip. Our Mission and Outreach Committee has decided to donate \$100. If anyone in the parish would like to donate something as well, please see Deacon Lily Marx and we will make sure your donation gets to the right place.

Vestry Highlights October & November

- New toilet has been installed in the old men's restroom;
- Old drinking fountain with plugged drain has been removed and drain capped;
- Diocesan pledge payments are up-to-date;
- The 2010 Audit has been completed by Tom Fett, who has performed the audit in previous years;
- New Sanctuary Lamp has been installed and uses liquid wax like the candles;
- New Christmas frontal and vestments have been donated;
- December 11th is the next vestry meeting.

Missing!

Have you seen or know the whereabouts of Fair Trade mini packets of coffee? The box was under the Fair Trade table in the Narthex and has vanished!

The coffee packets were assembled by the Youth for sale at the Diocesan Convention last spring.

If you have information, please share it with Mtr. Rachael.

Altar Guild and Flower Opportunities



Christmas Poinsettia Altar Flower Donation

Remembering loved ones at Christmas with a donation to the flower fund decorates the Sanctuary during the Christmas season. Please consider donating to help defray the cost of \$7.62 for each plant. See the form on page 7 or find them in the Narthex. Or you can email the information to Mtr. Rachael at: AJ.RN.EVANS@gmail.com. Checks should be made to St. Gregory's and "Christmas flowers" written in the Memo.

Turn in or send in the name information to Mtr. Rachael NO LATER THAN Wednesday, December 21st to have your names in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day service bulletins

Altar Guild Breakfast and Workbee

The Altar Guild will have its semi-annual Breakfast and Workbee on December 10 starting at 8:30 am. The breakfast will be potluck. After breakfast we will be getting ready for Christmas!

If you've ever wondered what the Altar Guild does, or have been thinking of joining the Altar Guild, please come to the breakfast and workbee. We always have a good time socializing while we polish the silver and brass and generally get the Sanctuary ready for Christmas.



2012 Altar Flowers

Donating altar flowers in memory or in thanksgiving of loved ones is a time-honored custom. For years there has been a sign up sheet on the large bulletin board, but recently few have signed up for Sunday flowers. Included in this newsletter and also available in the Narthex is an Altar Flower Sign-up sheet for your convenience. See page 7. Specific information is included on the form.

Complete the form at your convenience and return it to Jocelyn Shaw or Mother Rachael at least 2 weeks before the date you wish to donate flowers. Questions should be directed to either person.

December Servers

December 4	December 11	December 18	December 24 – 11 pm	December 25 – 8 am
LEM	LEM	LEM	LEM	LEM
Linda Scheerer	David Wells	Lou Manak	Linda Scheerer	TBD
USHERS	USHERS	USHERS	USHERS	USHERS
Jim Horan Mike Skodack	Jeff Ohs Mike Skodack	Alister Jackson Dave Katz	Vestry Members	Jim Horan Mike Skodack
Reader	Reader	Reader	Reader	Reader
Dean Huff	Brian Rhinesmith	Jim Horan	TBD	Deacon Lily
Altar Guild	Altar Guild	Altar Guild	Altar Guild	Altar Guild
Julie Fugate & Sharon Skodack	Jennifer Manak	Marti Johnson	Jocelyn Shaw	Jocelyn Shaw
Fellowship	Fellowship	Fellowship		Fellowship
Skodack	Olthoff	Potluck		Deacon Lily



December 2011



December Birthdays

- 3- Lynne Gill
- 4- Joshua Ledesma, Nancy Wells
- 11- David Visger, III
- 15- Marc Lakatos
- 23- Julie Fugate
- 26- Alister Jackson
- 30- Angela Thompson
- 31- Ardis Tammen, Mike Olthoff

December Anniversaries

- 3- Lynne & Barb Gill
- 27- N.B. & Betty Sawyer
- 29- William & Ellen Hanichen

New and Noteworthy:

- **Wednesday Night** Sung Compline continues during Advent at 8:15pm
Dec. 11th - Vestry meeting on **Dec. 18th**-Potluck, guitar mass and presentation of the kids Christmas video

Christmas Eve Service will begin at 11pm with Carols beforehand at 10:30pm

Christmas Day service at **8am ONLY**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 ADVENT 2 8am Eucharist 10:30am Eucharist	5	6	7 7:00pm Choir 8:15pm Compline	8	9	10
11 ADVENT 3 8am Eucharist 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Eucharist Vestry Meeting	12 MAP Supper House 3:30pm	13	14 6:15pm Guitars 7:00pm Choir 8:15pm Compline	15	16	17
18 ADVENT 4 8am Eucharist 10:30am: Worship w/ guitars POTLUCK; Youth Video	19	20	21 7:00pm Choir 8:15pm Compline	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 10:30pm Carols 11pm Eucharist
25 Christmas 8am Eucharist	26	27	28 7:00pm Choir	29	30	31

CREATING CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

St. Gregory's Youth is creating a unique DVD to share their Christmas memories and family traditions as well as giving personal interpretations of the Christmas Story.

Each child or young adult relates favorite holiday family traditions, special memories and other things that makes Christmas special for him or her. Then, each one is asked to pick a character from the Christmas Story and tell the story through the eyes of that person or in some cases, animals. The interviews are digitally recorded and will be edited and compiled onto one DVD that will be shown on Sunday, December 18th.

Children or grandchildren can still participate in the unique and memorable "pageant". Video taping will be done during Sunday School time on December 4th and 11th. Contact Maribeth Picard for more information.

WESTERN MICHIGAN
EPISCOPAL
Christ is
Counting on You!



What is Cursillo? Cursillo is a method of creating in the minds and hearts of Christians an awareness of the presence of God in their lives - a desire to live a life with Him and to bring Him into the lives of everyone they meet. Website: <http://www.wmec.net/index.htm>

Cursillo Announcement: mark your calendars: the next cursillo weekend will be at St. Paul's in Muskegon on **May 3-6th, 2012**. This will be a co-ed weekend. Anyone interested - please see **Stu Smith, Dave Katz or Jone Benedict**.



DECEMBER 18TH

☞ Contemporary
Service with Guitars

☞ Viewing Youth's
Christmas DVD

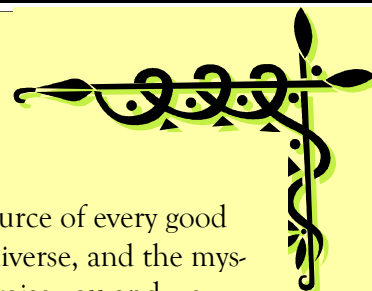
☞ Potluck after
late service



Coming in January

Book and/or Bible Study
group

Watch for more information and a sign-up sheet after the first of the year!



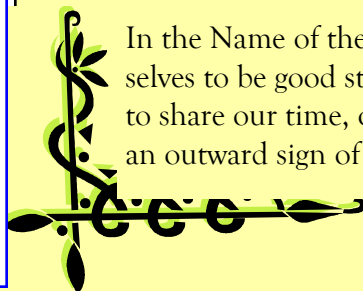
Stewardship Prayer

Lord God, you alone are the source of every good gift, of the vast array of your universe, and the mystery of every human life. We praise you and we thank you for your great power and your tender faithful love.

Everything we are and everything we have is your gift. After having created us, you have given us into the keeping of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Fill our minds with His truth and our hearts with His love that in His Spirit we may be bonded together in a community of faith, a parish family, a caring people.

In the Name of the Spirit of Jesus, we commit ourselves to be good stewards of the gifts entrusted to us, to share our time, our talent and our material gifts as an outward sign of the treasure we hold in Jesus.





Christmas Poinsettia Altar Flower Donation

Donation checks should be made to St. Gregory's with "Christmas Flowers" in the Memo and can be attached to this form. Place in the Offering plate at any service through December 18th, or they may be mailed to the church.

Names for Christmas Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday, December 21st.

Please list those to be remembered and by whom:

In Memory of	Given By
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
In Thanksgiving of	Given By
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

2012 Altar Flower Remembrance Donation

- Floral arrangements can be purchased through Le Fleur Florists for \$23 per Sunday.
- Flowers may also be purchased elsewhere and arranged in our vase liners. Contact Jocelyn Shaw to pick up the liners.
- Person(s) donating flowers must have them at the church on Saturday.

Follow these directions:

- 1- Choose and circle below date(s) you wish to donate altar flowers
- 2- List name(s) for a memorial or in thanksgiving
- 3- Return the form to Jocelyn Shaw, Altar Guild Directress

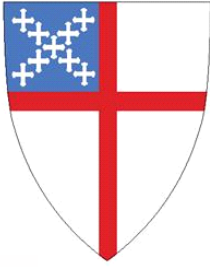
Please Note: There are no altar flowers in Advent or Lent; Christmas and Easter flowers are ordered separately.

Jan. 1	April 15	June 3	August 5	Oct. 7
Jan. 8	April 22	June 10	August 12	Oct. 14
Jan. 15	April 29	June 17	August 19	Oct. 21
Jan. 22	May 6	June 24	August 26	Oct. 28
Jan. 29	May 13	July 1	Sept. 2	Nov. 4
Feb. 5	May 20	July 8	Sept. 9	Nov. 11
Feb. 12	May 27	July 15	Sept. 16	Nov. 18
Feb. 19		July 22	Sept. 23	Nov. 25
		July 29	Sept. 30	

List name(s) & date(s) in memory: *Use back if needed.*

List name(s) & date(s) in thanksgiving:

St. Gregory's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



1200 Seminole Rd.
Muskegon, MI 49441
231-780-2955

Address label

Find us out on Facebook
Follow us on Twitter:
(StGregsMuskegon)
Connect with us on our website:
(www.stgregorysmuskegon.org)
Email the Rector at:
AJ.RN.evans@gmail.com

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU!

Christmas Service Schedule

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24

10:30 pm - Christmas Carols & Music Selections

11 pm - Christ's Mass

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25

8 am Holy Eucharist

Festive Music by Josh Ledesma

(No organ music)