

The Saline Psalter

HOLY FAITH CHURCH

Episcopal and ELCA Lutheran

6299 Ann Arbor-Saline Road, Saline, MI 48176

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July/August 2012

THE PASTOR PONDERERS

Why I Tried to Get Arrested

As I write today, my two attempts to engage in civil disobedience and peacefully resist the eviction of Camp Take Notice have failed. (Getting arrested turns out to be more difficult than I'd ever imagined!) Nonetheless, I feel I owe fellow Faithers a considered explanation of why I was willing to make this stand of conscience—not because I expect to win agreement, but because I hope to increase understanding.

At the beginning of the third chapter of Mark, Jesus enters the synagogue on the Sabbath and encounters a man whose withered hand has most likely made him a beggar. The Pharisees are waiting for him to heal the man, so they can plot against him and accuse him of breaking God's law against working on the Sabbath. Jesus heals the man anyway. Why? It's not as if the man is in imminent danger. Couldn't Jesus just wait until the following day?

Of course he could, but the point of his action is not simply to extend mercy to the man with the withered hand. The point is to critique the Pharisees' unjust execution of the law. Jesus wants to illustrate here that "the Sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the Sabbath." He clearly feels he must make a show of breaking the law in order to call attention to the heartlessness with which the Pharisees are applying it. That is why, just before the healing, Mark tells us that Jesus is angry and "grieved at their hardness of heart."

I have also felt angry and grieved at the "hardness of heart" that various parties have displayed in the treatment of our homeless friends at Camp Take Notice. This is not to say that the camp's neighbors don't have legitimate complaints that ought to be addressed. But government agencies have not approached the eviction in the spirit of finding a more viable solution that protects both homeless and homeowners. Instead, these agencies have invoked property and trespassing laws to destroy a self-governed community that was doing much to provide the basic necessities of shelter, safety, and community to people who literally had nowhere else to turn. (Shelters in our area are routinely full beyond capacity.) As a result of this eviction, half of the 65 campers, ineligible for the housing vouchers the state has promised, have had to move to other "illegal" city sites from which some have already been evicted yet a second time.

To my mind, this "Anywhere But Here" tactic is unconscionable. It effectively criminalizes homelessness. And yet if homeless people protest against the policy or choose to resist these evictions, will anyone notice? Will anyone care? Of course not—the homeless are as invisible and unacknowledged in our society as were beggars with withered hands in Jesus'.

So it is in the spirit of Jesus' critique of the Pharisees that I have tried to break the law on behalf of these disempowered people. This has not been an easy decision for me. I am by nature a rule follower. I have literally zero experience with the criminal justice system. And yet my hope was always that in choosing to break a law which homeless people are forced to break all the time, I might be able to call attention to the injustice of its application. I may be able to help shine a light on government agencies' disregard for our most vulnerable citizens' basic rights to shelter and security. I might be able to hold a mirror to the hardness of heart in our system and remind us all that the law was made for humankind—all of humankind—and not humankind for the law.

Pastor Ian will be out of the office from June 27 to July 14. The first ten days are vacation, and the last week is an all-expenses-paid fellowship at the Chautauqua Institute in upstate New York, where he will attend lectures and dialogue with new clergy from other denominations and faiths about creative approaches to ministry in the 21st Century.



HOLY FAITH COOKBOOK

***We would like at least one recipe
from every family in Holy Faith!***

We are still collecting recipes for our new church cookbook. We will have it published and ready for you to purchase for Christmas gifts.

So if you haven't submitted a recipe, please dig out your best and send them to:

Joan Barbret at joan@holy-faith-church.org ~or~
Susan Cummings at a2pinkaster@gmail.com

You may also fill out a recipe form (there are copies on the shelf under the bulletin board) or put photocopies in Joan's mailbox. Please submit as many recipes as you wish and include a "recipe note" about each one so we know why your recipe is special.

Some recipes to look forward to: Skillet Rosemary Chicken, Juliette's Favorite Breakfast, Venison Pockets, Shrimp Jambalaya, Southern Date-Apricot Loaf, Grandma Reed's Orange Cookies, Cordon Bleu Appetizers and much more!

Donate Your Car

Do you have an old clunker ready for the junkyard? Holy Faith now has an account (under our official name, Faith Lutheran) at a website where you can donate your car, receive a tax write-off, and at the same time provide funds to support our mission.

Just click the link in the **Stewardship and Giving** page of our website for more information.



Diocesan Picnic

Our Episcopal Bishop is hosting a picnic for all of the diocese on Saturday, July 28, 2012 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the beautiful Emrich Retreat Center (7380 Teahen Road, Brighton, MI 48116). If you'd like to go, please sign up on the bulletin and write a check to Holy Faith with "Bishop's Picnic" on the memo line (\$5 per person/\$20 maximum per family). The bishop asks us to bring school supplies to be donated to children in need.

New Beginnings for Our Friends at Camp Take Notice

Please help our friends from Camp Take Notice who are transitioning into housing in the wake of their eviction. Folks will need some items to make homes out of the bare walls into which they are moving. If you can bring in one or more of the items listed on the bulletin board, new or gently used, please sign your name and deliver them to the church where we will collect them into a "New Beginnings Basket" for a household. If you have questions please contact our basket coordinators, Pam Molascon or Mary Fatchett.

IT'S OUR FIRST SUMMER MISSION CAFES!!! COME JOIN IN THE FUN AND THE FOOD!

Our first Summer Mission Cafe will be after the Celtic Worship Service on July 15th! This Mission Cafe will benefit our own seminarian Marcia Ledford by helping to offset some educational expenses. Please come help us celebrate and support Marcia! (Who knows, you might be able to sample some genuine Celtic cuisine!)

Mission Cafe on August 19th will benefit the Memorial Garden - isn't looking beautiful? We just need some finishing touches! Please come and support the wonderful, peaceful and holy place that is our Memorial Garden!



Mark Your Calendars!!! Daytime Bible Study Group

There will be a meeting on September 16th after the 10am service to discuss a daytime Bible Study. All are welcome. Please bring your calendars and any ideas you may have concerning frequency of meeting, day to meet and morning or afternoon. We also need to decide what the structure of the Bible Study will be. We will remind everyone as the time gets closer. Thank you for your interest.

If there are any questions between now and September 16th, please contact Sandy or Milo White at 429-7688 or by email at mrwjr33@comcast.net.

July 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Pentecost 8:00 & 10:00am Worship Coffee Hour at 11am <i>Ian on vacation</i>	2 AA Mtg 7pm	3	4 Office Closed	5	6	7
6 Pentecost 8:00 & 10:00am Worship Coffee Hour at 11am <i>Ian, Continuing Ed.</i>	9 AA Mtg 7pm	10	11	12	13	14
7 Pentecost 8:00am Worship 10:00am Celtic Worship Mission Café	16 AA Mtg 7pm	17	18	19	20	21
8 Pentecost 8:00 & 10:00am Worship Coffee Hour at 11am	23 AA Mtg 7pm	24	25	26	27	28
9 Pentecost 8:00 & 10:00am Worship Coffee Hour at 11am	30 AA Mtg 7pm	31 Delonis 3-7pm	Reminder—Joan's summer hours are 10am—2pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday She will begin regular office hours on Tuesday, September 4			

			1 <i>Ian on vacation</i>	2	3	4
10 Pentecost 8:00 & 10:00am Worship Coffee Hour at 11am <i>Ian on vacation</i>	6 AA Mtg 7pm	7	8	9	10	11
11 Pentecost 8:00 & 10:00am Worship Coffee Hour at 11am Contemplative Worship 7pm	13 AA Mtg 7pm	14 PLT 7pm	15	16 Ian out of office	17 Joan out of office	18
12 Pentecost 8:00 & 10:00am Worship Mission Cafe	20 AA Mtg 7pm	21	22	23	24	25
13 Pentecost 8:00 & 10:00am Worship Coffee Hour at 11am	27 AA Mtg 7pm	28	29	31		

Special Gifts Offering
July 2012
Ele's Place

This month our Holy Faith community is offered the opportunity to support a very special program. Ele's Place is a healing center for grieving children in our area.. Utilizing peer support group programs, Ele's Place helps grieving children ages 3 to 18 who are facing the death threatening illness of a parent, sibling, or other loved one. It is a non-profit community based program. There is no charge and all children are welcome. In appropriate age groups, children interact with peers who have suffered similar experiences. Music, art, playacting, storytelling and writing provide the children an opportunity to express fear, anger, guilt, and sadness. Groups are led by trained volunteers and supervised by a professional clinical staff.

Ele's Place was established in 1991 and named in honor of Ele Stover, who died at 11 months of age leaving four siblings. Ele's Place seeks donations to ensure that support groups are available at no charge to all grieving children in the area. They also seek volunteers and provide training. For more information visit www.elesplace.org.

Please make checks out to Holy Faith and note "Ele's Place" on the memo line.

Special Gifts Offering
August 2012
Saline Area Social Services

Our special giving opportunity for August, SASS, is very familiar to us. SASS provides essential help to our less fortunate neighbors in many ways. Giving our wholehearted support to SASS programs is a wonderful way to reach out to our community. While many of us remember SASS throughout the year, we choose to designate SASS as our August giving opportunity because of their special needs at this time of the year. Traditionally they receive fewer donations during the summer and additional funds are needed for the August school clothing program. As always they continue to need our monthly donations of food and paper goods. *Please make your check out to Holy Faith and note "SASS" on the memo line.*

Food Garden Notes:

We have harvested the onions we planted last fall and taken them to SASS. Sugar Snap Peas are also being picked.

Everything else looks great! We can hardly wait for our first tomatoes to proudly be donated to those in need.

**In Our
Prayers**



For Continued Healing from Illness: Rhys, Elaine & Elwood Godfrey, Don Dersnah, Sam Proud, Kris Paggett, Art Wendt, Mackenzie, Max Balden, Allison Ginsberg, David Dubay, Ben, Justin Francis, Dean, Nancy Crichton, Carol, Stephen Henry, Mary Ellis and Anita R. and her husband

After a Death: for the soul of Beau McTague and May Wake's mother and their families in their grief.

For Paula: as she prepares to move to Texas.

Serving in Afghanistan: Brandon Wixson.

**Keeping Your
Pledge Current**

Trying to figure out a way to keep your pledge current while you're on vacation? **THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!!**

Please consider E-giving - it's a great way to keep those pledges coming if you are out of town!! Just go to www.e-giving.org to sign up!

Altar Flowers are Given...

July 1 by Fritz & Lisa Reifert
In honor of their 23rd Anniversary

July 8 by Betsey Hubbard
In memory of her parents

July 22 by Heather & Sarah Herrick Zilka
In honor of their 1st Anniversary on July 30

August 5 by Suzanne Buchalski and Mike Centlivre
In honor of their 20th Anniversary on August 8

August 19 by Rick and Judie Wales
In honor of their 35th Anniversary on August 26



Sign up on the bulletin board to buy altar flowers. Two arrangements are \$30 and will remain on the altar for two weeks. The flowers are selected by the florist. If there are specific requests, please discuss your concerns with the florist, Maureen's Flowers at 429-8700.

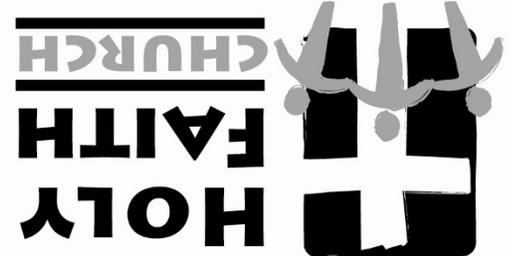
SUNDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	5 Pentecost July 1	6 Pentecost July 8	7 Pentecost July 15	8 Pentecost July 22	9 Pentecost July 29
8:00 Reader	Leonards	Buchalski/Centlivre	C. Johnson	A. Witbart	Leonards
10:00 Asst. Min.	M. White	A. Leonard	M. Ledford	H. Herrick Zilka	L. Reifert
10:00 Reader	J. Dodge	T. Dersnah	N. Reed Twiss	B. Arnold	
10:00 Ushers	S. Proud	M. Barber J. Shumate	J & R Wales	S. Proud	T. Dersnah
10:00 Greeters		B. Hubbard	D. Goble/T. Dersnah	M & S White	J & L Darling
Altar Guild	A. Witbart	A. Witbart	A. Witbart	A. Witbart	A. Witbart
Coffee Hosts	Ledford/Reifert	Peña/Arnold	<i>Mission Cafe</i> Baker/Dersnah	Determan/Johnston	Dindoffer/Berger
Counters	M. White F. Reifert	H. Tinsey L. Kaufman	W. Determan M. White	F. Reifert H. Tinsey	L. Kaufman W. Determan

	10 Pentecost August 5	11 Pentecost August 12	12 Pentecost August 19	13 Pentecost August 26
8:00 Reader	Buchalski/Centlivre	C. Johnson	A. Witbart	Leonards
10:00 Asst. Min.	K. Garvey		S. White	M. Barber
10:00 Reader	B. Johnston		M. White	J. Shumate
10:00 Ushers	L. Kaufman		J. & R. Wales	S. Proud
10:00 Greeters	H. & N. Tinsey	B. Hubbard/T. Dersnah	J. & L. Darling	S. & M. White
Altar Guild	A. Witbart	A. Witbart	A. Witbart	A. Witbart
Coffee Hosts	Donovan/Darling	English/Garvey-Erickson	<i>Mission Cafe</i> Schneider/Edwards	Proud/Hoffman
Counters	H. Tinsey/F. Reifert	W. Determan/M. White	L. Kaufman/F. Reifert	M. White/W. Determan

	14 Pentecost September 2	15 Pentecost September 9	16 Pentecost September 16	17 Pentecost September 23	18 Pentecost September 30
8:00 Reader					
10:00 Asst. Min.		TBA			
10:00 Reader					
10:00 Ushers					
10:00 Greeters					
Altar Guild					
Coffee Hosts	Francis/Steude	Chan/Clark	Vaillancourt/Bowers/ Hammond/Gordon	Beaubien/Berry/ White	Shumate/Wales/ Salmons
Counters					

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Grow in Spirit and Love.
Reach Out to Our Neighbor and the World.

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