

The Messenger

St. Paul's

A progressive community of faith with ancient roots.



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Invitation to the Annual Interfaith Holocaust Memorial Service

The Annual Interfaith Holocaust Memorial Service will be held on Thursday, April 25, 2024 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 201 East Ridge St. in Marquette. The service will start at 7 p.m. and a reception will be hosted at Temple Beth Shalom, 223 Blaker St. (diagonally across Ridge St. from St. Paul's) immediately following the service.

The guest speaker is Dr. Ellen J. Narotzky Kennedy, founder and Executive Director of the organization World Without Genocide <<http://worldwithoutgenocide.org>> which is headquartered at the Mitchell Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, MN. Dr. Kennedy is originally from Ishpeming and has multiple degrees from University of Michigan, NMU, and University of Minnesota.

She was a Professor at the University of St. Thomas for nearly 20 years and was Interim Director at the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota for three years. She has been an adjunct professor at Mitchell Hamline School of Law since 2006. Last year Dr. Kennedy was recipient of the 2023 Distinguished Alumna award from NMU.

Dr. Kennedy has taught at many colleges and universities around the world and speaks at events and conferences locally, nationally, and internationally. Dr. Kennedy is the representative of World Without Genocide to the United Nations Department of Global Communications.

The Marquette Interfaith Forum has invited speakers from several faith groups to participate and several local choral groups including The Marquette Male Chorus and Marquette Senior High School Chamber Singers will present music relevant to the occasion.

The NMU History Department will present the winners of the Human Rights and Ethics Essay Competition.

In the interest of security, please do not bring any backpacks, bags, or large purses into either of the venues. If additional information is needed, please email apsmd@aol.com.

Re: Reception to follow at Temple Beth Shalom Community Room

We welcome anyone willing to help with serving at the reception to contact Ann Arnold 906-360-0973

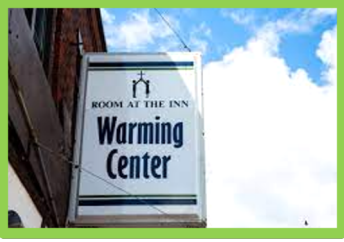
To bring food - "anything that goes on matzah crackers." Yep, it's Passover and we eat matzah, but not any bread or cake for this 8-day holiday. Suggestions: cheese tray, fruit tray, vegetable tray, hummus and other dips of dairy or fish, fruit juice, or milk. We will provide plenty of tasty, Kosher and Pareve matzah - no one will go home hungry!

Come and chat with Ellen Kennedy after her presentation.

April Outreach Offering: RATI

by Bob Potrzuski

Like the night of Jesus's birth, there is always Room at the Inn, the homeless shelter located in downtown Marquette. It is currently a 30-bed, 24 hour a day facility that has replaced the long-time rotation among the area churches.



With that major change, which relieves the community of the task but not the social responsibility, costs naturally increase. St. Paul's focus for giving during the month of April is Marquette's Room at the Inn.

Your donation will go towards day-to-day expense of food, refreshment, laundry, cleaning supplies, and paper goods, as well as other costs.

The reasons for homelessness are as numerous as the homeless themselves. The shelter does a great job in coordinating services and advancing their 'guests' toward a healthier lifestyle and their own place to live.

We hope that the congregation will be generous and thoughtful with their donations this month. RATI is certainly worthy of your consideration.

April Birthdays

Marna Franson	4
Peggy Frazier	9
Andrew Goodrich	12
Sonja Soderberg-Wagstaff	12
Jack Bullock	14
Bill Sheehan	15
Ann Smith	27
Jan Brodersen	29
Jim Sorenson	29

Team Brownsville in Mexico

by Sue Micensky



Team Brownsville helps asylum seekers waiting in Mexico. They are using the CBP1 app to get appointments to cross into the United States at a port of entry. One encampment on the banks of the Rio Grande River was recently demolished by the Mexican military and has been re-established in the same general vicinity. There are approximately 30-40 people living there in very basic conditions. They have makeshift shelters created out of poles, tarps, and blankets to protect them from the elements. My heart broke to see their deplorable living conditions and at the same time I was filled with admiration for people's resilience and determination. As they wait, they can look across the river to rolls and rolls of razor wire and armed patrols to keep them out. The message that they are not welcome is very clear.

Another larger encampment of about 1,000 people is outside a former hospital. Tents are under canopies. Pallets are used to deal with flooding problems. They have Porta Potties and a few sinks with cold running water. They can use part of an old kitchen with stoves, refrigerators, and storage space. Team Brownsville is able to order food and have it delivered directly to this encampment. One member of our group, Father Bruce, brought smiles to people's faces as he sang in Spanish and played Martin (his guitar). They clapped and joined in the singing as they waited in line for lunch. In a small classroom, Father Bruce sang again as we passed out bags of coloring books and stuffed animals to the children.



“TENS for 24 – Walk in Love”

submitted by Charlie West.

(i.e. “The Episcopal Network for Stewardship Theme for 2024 is Walk In Love!”)

“Feeding our Family” – an Easter Reflection by The Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons: walks in love with God’s people inside and outside the church doors as rector of Trinity Parish in Seattle, WA.

When I was growing up, my mother always invited about 40 people to Easter dinner. Family, friends, and even people she saw at church Easter morning who didn’t have any place to go for Easter dinner.

Mom cooked for all of Holy Week, carefully freezing pastries made early in the week and making the yeast bread last. The dinner table always included boiled eggs, roast lamb, wheat berry porridge, piroshki, cabbage rolls, a giant salad of fresh greens, and special sweet Easter bread encircled with a braided crown.

With great pride, my mom gathers the guests before the meal to explain the rich food’s significance. For her Russian Orthodox peasant farmer ancestors who passed down these recipes, Easter was a huge feast to celebrate the coming of spring. The signature dessert, a cheese pashka, includes all the things that would have been unavailable or denied during Lent: fresh eggs, cheese, sugar, cream, almond flour, and candied fruit, carefully pressed in a mold and decorated with Easter symbols.

After giving thanks for the day and food, people fill their plates and find a place to sit. Inside, on the couch or chairs, on the floor, standing in the kitchen. Outside, at the picnic table in the yard or sitting on the edge of the porch that ran around the house. Friends and strangers sharing stories of life, family, and food while children play. Every Easter Sunday is a new community, formed by and for that time together.

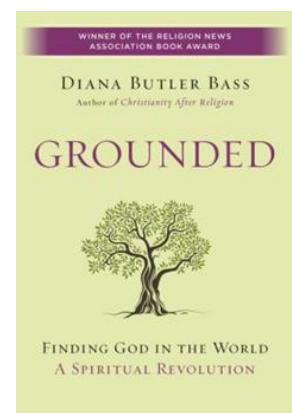
Only as an adult did I realize the significance of mom’s Easter dinners. How her labor of love and sacrifice gathers and creates a community, feeds people in body and soul, connects us with the stories of the faithful ancestors, and inspires us to do the same.

Walking in Love is how we do all things with love because we believe that God gives us more than enough: service, sacrifice, gratitude, gathering, remembering, eating, playing, and spreading hope and peace in the world.

First Wednesday Reading Group

by Charlie West

The First Wednesday Reading Group will meet on Wednesday, **April 3**, at 1 p.m. to discuss *Grounded*, by Diana Butler Bass. As many people leave behind traditional religious practices, Bass suggests that what appears to be a decline actually signals a major transformation in how people understand and experience God. The distant God of conventional religion has given way to a more intimate sense of the sacred that is with us in the world. This shift, from a vertical understanding of God to a God found on the horizons of nature and human community, is at the heart of a spiritual revolution that surrounds us -- and that is challenging not only religious institutions but political and social ones as well.

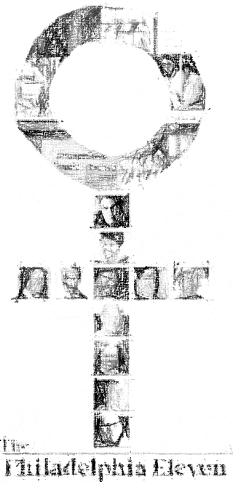


The First Wednesday Reading Group meets at the Crib Coffeehouse on Third Street in Marquette. Interested? Check with Charlie at 906-360-9216 or mqtchaz@gmail.com

Celebrate the Ministry of Women in The Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Northern Michigan!

by Dan Rydholm

Come join us at Thomas Theatre in Marquette where The Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan will host a screening of "The Philadelphia Eleven" on the big screen!



The event takes place on Saturday, **April 13**, 2024 at 12:15 p.m. and will be followed by a short discussion.

Schedule

12:15 p.m.

Brief introduction to the film

12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

"The Philadelphia Eleven" Film

2:00-2:30 p.m.

Discussion

From the film's website: "In an act of civil disobedience, a group of women and their supporters organize their ordination to become Episcopal priests in 1974. The Church of the Advocate in Philadelphia welcomes them, but change is no small task. The women are harassed, threatened, and banned from stepping on church property."

In this feature-length documentary, you will meet the women who triumphed in sparking a movement that transformed a venerable institution - while challenging us to rethink traditions of patriarchy within Christendom.

Registration Required: You can register by calling the Diocese of Northern Michigan at 906-228-7160 or online at: <https://forms.gle/GkK9kLJbxYJQB3LA7>

Suggested contribution: \$5.00. For more information about the Philadelphia Eleven visit: <https://www.philadelphiaelevenfilm.com/>

Liturgical Leadership

Sundays:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Preside</u>	<u>Preach</u>	<u>Deacon</u>
April 7	Easter 2	Bob	Marcia	Coralie
April 14	Easter 3	Jim S.	Judd	Coralie
April 21	Easter 4	Marna	Marna	Coralie
April 28	Easter 5	Marcia	Bob P.	Coralie



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Plan Ahead —

Next Messenger is the May/June issue.

Deadline: Friday, April 26, NOON!!

Strict deadline as Editor will be abroad.