

# THE monthly newsletter from All Saints Episcopal Church MESSENGER



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## Fifty Days of Party Time!

**Rector's Message: by Kit Carlson, All Saints Rector**

Think back to the best party you ever attended. Maybe it was a surprise party for someone you love. Your parents' 50th anniversary. Your wedding. A graduation bash. Think about the sense of joy, the camaraderie with great people, the feeling of freedom and delight, where every moment was another "aha!" and another "wow!"

That is the spirit with which we enter these fifty days of Easter. As though it were the Best Party Ever.

Once again, we have walked through forty days of Lent. Once again, we have pondered our mortality, mortified our flesh, and read, fasted, prayed and

contemplated. Then we walked to the cross with Jesus, and watched him hang there, dying.

But all that is behind us now. The stone is rolled away, and Christ is raised. Everything that is bad and wrong with this world has been proven to have no power in God's kingdom. Cancer? No power. War? No power. Death? No power. Cruelty? No power. Simple human cussedness? No power. That is the joy of Easter, to look every one of these forces of destruction and suffering and pain right in the eye and say, "Ha! You think you can beat God? Wrong again!"

How can we keep from singing? How can we keep from

dancing? From reaching out to embrace one another and say, "Yes, yes, yes"? We've made it through -- buried with Christ in a death like his to be raised in a resurrection like his.

Nothing can conquer us. No one can condemn us.

This calls for a celebration. Thank God the church gives us not only the glory of the Easter Vigil and the joyous shout of Easter Day, but fifty days to party, to dance, to sing, to praise God and to love one another. Death is conquered. We are free. Christ has won the victory.

Break out the confetti.

+ Pastor Kit

*Join us for our first celebration of Easter at the Great Vigil, 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 3. Services on Easter Day are at 8 a.m.; at 10 a.m. with choir, brass and timpani; and at noon for families with young children, with an egg hunt to follow.*

## Worship Times: First Days of April

### Thursday, April 1, Maundy Thursday

7 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
7 p.m., Choral Eucharist,  
Foot Washing

### Friday, April 2, Good Friday

Noon to 3 p.m.,  
Good Friday Prayers  
and Meditations  
7 p.m., Good Friday Liturgy

### Saturday, April 3, Holy Saturday

8 p.m., Easter Vigil and First  
Eucharist of Easter

### Sunday, April 4, Easter

8 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
10 a.m., Festal Eucharist  
with brass, bells and choir  
Noon, Easter Eucharist for families  
with young children (Easter egg  
hunt following)



## Baptism to be Offered May 23

The sacrament of Holy Baptism will be offered at the regular 10 a.m. Sunday service on the Feast of Pentecost, Sunday, May 23. If you would like to be baptized yourself, or you have a child to be baptized, please contact Pastor Kit at [pastorkitcarlson@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkitcarlson@gmail.com) as soon as possible. Baptism preparation classes are required for parents, godparents and adult candidates.

## Standing in Prayer as you Worship in the Easter Season

Since the earliest days of the Christian church thousands of years ago, the Great Fifty Days of Easter -- the time between Easter Day and Pentecost -- have been celebrated with special joy.

The alleluias return to our lips, the church is clad in dazzling white and the tall Paschal Candle, symbol of Christ's death and resurrection, burns at each service through the season.

During this season, it is most appropriate to stand, if you are able, through the entire Eucharistic prayer and when you receive Communion.

The Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. specified that the people were to pray standing through the Great

Fifty Days as a sign of their share in Christ's resurrection and his royal priesthood. "For those who had been 'raised with Christ' (Col. 3:1) and made 'a kingdom of priests,' (Rev. 5:10), the usual posture for public prayer was standing. Particularly was this so for the Eucharistic prayer, which in form is essentially a thanksgiving." (The Ceremonies of the Eucharist, by Howard E. Galley, p. 51)

So share with us in Christ's eternal priesthood, give thanks, and if you wish and if you are able, stand before God as a symbol of your share in Christ's resurrection through this Easter season. + Pastor Kit

## All Saints Memorial Fund Offers Opportunities to Care for Your Church

The All Saints Memorial Fund is the repository of gifts made to the church in memory of someone who has died. While these gifts are most often made at the time of the person's death, it is also possible to donate to the Memorial Fund at any time in memory of anybody. The gifts made to the fund are used for special beautification or capital improvement projects around the church.

For example, in the last year, Memorial Fund monies were contributed to the lighting project that brought new, beautiful, energy-efficient lighting to the choir loft and the sanctuary. The new pew candles that were used at Christmas and which you will see again at Easter also were provided by Memorial Fund monies. We have commissioned a set of white altar hangings from Anne Gephert, a Michigan fabric artist, using money from the Memorial Fund, and they will be used for the first time this Easter.

Other plans for the Memorial Fund for this year include a new processional cross, energy-efficient film to be applied to the west windows of the sanctuary, and a new welcome center for the Abbot Road entryway. Decisions on what projects to fund begin in the Memorial Fund Committee, which includes the rector, Bill Murphy, Anne Watson, Kathy Berry, Mary Anne Marvin and Bea Moulton.

If you would like to make a gift to the church in memory of someone you have loved and lost, the Memorial Fund is the appropriate place to direct your gift.

## What's Happening with Action of Greater Lansing?

All Saints has been actively involved in an ecumenical justice ministry comprised of local churches called Action of Greater Lansing. In the past few years, Action has worked to reduce crime, improve housing, and to support better health care for children.

Last summer, the paid organizer for Action, Valerie Hart, resigned to take another position. This put Action in the position of reassessing its future direction. The Action board voted last fall to disassociate from the Dart Organization, a national community organizing group. In the meantime, Gamaliel, another national group, has been working with local Lansing churches around issues of civil rights for immigrants.

Gamaliel Foundation began in Chicago in 1968 to work to stop housing discrimination against African-Americans. It has grown since then into an international organizing institute that provides training and resources to local community-based justice groups. It has more than 45 affiliates in 17 states and in three provinces of South Africa. Gamaliel has a particularly strong presence in Michigan, with organizations in Detroit, Saginaw, Battle Creek, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids.

Last month the board of Action of Greater Lansing voted to begin an official exploratory process of affiliating with Gamaliel. This exploration time will involve listening in our own congregations first, prior to any major justice initiative in the community. Action will continue its role as a watchdog for the Children's Health Initiative, to make sure the interests of all children are considered as the center is developed.

More information about Action's exploration will come in future issues. In the meantime, information about Gamaliel Foundation's work in Michigan can be found at [www.gamaliel.org](http://www.gamaliel.org).



## Sunday Adult Forum to Feature Anglican Spirituality

What defines us as a particular branch of the Body of Christ? What has shaped our understanding of God and our style of prayer that declares us Anglican? This class will explore some of the people who have influenced our life together, our relationship with God and our work in the world.

The Rev. Jannel Glennie will offer a three-session adult forum series on what makes Anglican and Episcopal spirituality unique. If you are curious about the spiritual roots of our Episcopal tradition, you will enjoy her classes, on Sundays at 11:30 a.m. on April 18 and 25 and on May 2.

Resources include "The Book of Common Prayer," "Lesser Feasts and Fasts," the "Hymnal 1982" and other historical writings. The people are modern as well as ancient and show the diversity of our roots and traditions. This cannot be an exhaustive exploration, but it can give the participant a flavor of who we are as Episcopalians/Anglicans and how we have come to pray the way we do.

## Wednesday Evening Spring Forum Presents a Diversity of Religious Views and Practices

By Tom Jackson

The All Saints Community will not want to miss the Wednesday evening ecumenical conferences commencing April 14 with a guest from the Baha'i faith and ending May 12 with a speaker from the Hindu community.

While several of the nearly thirty thousand Christian denominations hold to the position that "our path to God is exclusive," others see a need to move away from any notion of exclusivity and toward a deeper appreciation and understanding of the diverse working of Holy Spirit. "For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God." (8 Romans 14.)

After all, was not Jesus Christ radically inclusive? Hence, it may be our duty to forge a renewed path of heightened tolerance for religious diversity as well as individual diversity. We look forward to relationship-building over the five weeks.

We will begin with a 6:30 p.m. April 14 session led by David Smith of the Baha'i Community. He will review the tenets of this fast growing world religion, including gender equality, humanity as one family, and the idea of an

auxiliary world language. David is president of Education for Prosperity. He has spent considerable time and energy helping the people of Haiti.

On April 21, our guest will be Ms. Callista Ransom from the Islamic Center of East Lansing. Hear how her religion dovetails with her career in world agricultural programs. Many of us want to know more about the everyday practical roles of Muslim women.

A practitioner of Buddhism, a Jewish rabbi and a representative from the Hindu Community will be available on the other three Wednesdays.

To facilitate presentation and establish interfaith relations, please not only show up for the conferences, but also submit questions in advance to the Education Committee about what you as Christians would like to know about the other faiths.

Let us continue in the spirit of the current reconciliation motif of Wednesday evenings. If healing can take place through forgiveness on an individual plane, it can work on a religious organization level. The bottom line for us as Christians is love, which includes opening our attention to others, be they Hindu, Buddhist, Jew, or Baha'i.

## Discovery! Your Chance to Learn More About the Church

If you are curious about All Saints, curious about the Episcopal Church and would like to learn more about who we are and what we are about, join us for a three-part course, "Discovery!"

Led by Pastor Kit and David Wisner, this class will explore what it means to belong to this parish, to the Episcopal Church and to the worldwide Anglican Communion. It is especially appropriate for

newcomers to our church, or to people who are feeling called to become Episcopalians in an official capacity, or simply for long-time members who are curious.

"Discovery!" will be held at 7 p.m. Thursdays, April 22 and 29 and May 6, in the downstairs lounge. Please speak to Pastor Kit for more information.

## Confirmation Service Will Be Held at All Saints

The Lansing-area spring service of Confirmation will be held at All Saints at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 8. This is an opportunity for young people to be confirmed and reaffirm their baptismal promises. It is an opportunity for adults to join the Episcopal Church officially, or to renew their faith commitment by reaffirming their own baptismal promises.

Our eighth and ninth graders are participating in a confirmation program led by Eric Hegg and Mary Sharp. They are learning what it means to be a Christian and to live into the promises of their baptism. They will use this as a time of discernment to decide if they are ready to be confirmed, to make a "mature, public affirmation" of their faith.

Adults who are interested in becoming Episcopalians by being confirmed can explore this possibility by participating in the Sunday Adult Forum on Anglican Spirituality and also "Discovery!" the class for new / curious / exploring folks at All Saints. More information about these classes can be found in the newsletter.

Adults who took the class "Jesus was an Episcopalian" last fall are also eligible to be confirmed. Please speak to Pastor Kit as soon as possible if you want to be confirmed on May 8.

All are welcome to celebrate the commitment made in confirmation by folks from across Lansing. Join the celebration at the confirmation liturgy!

## Five All Saints Folks Travel to Haiti

Late in March, Pastor Kit, Eric Hegg, Doug Powe, Monica Stafford and Audrey Chegwiddden joined the annual Haiti Outreach Mission trip to Mirebalais, Haiti. All Saints supported this trip by gathering massive amounts of over-the-counter medicines and by turning out for a wine-tasting fundraiser featuring the wine expertise of Tim Vogelsang.

In a country racked by a major earthquake, this mission was both timely and needed. It focused exclusively on medical relief. Later in the spring, Pam Miklavcic plans to travel to Haiti with a smaller HOM team to continue the work on



developing fish ponds for food. More information will be available in the next issue of The Messenger.

## **Wine Tasting generates \$1,200 for Haiti Mission**

About 35 people sipped a variety of vintages and poured out \$1,200 in auction bids March 14 at a wine tasting hosted by All Saints for the benefit of the Haiti Outreach Mission. The auction items included Haitian artifacts and some special bottles of wine. Each attendee also donated \$30 for the mission to Mirebalais.

The guide for the evening was parishioner and vestry member Tim Vogelsang, who became an oenophile as a college senior in an informal wine course in 1989. Tasters tried seven different wines, ranging in price from \$8 to \$40 a bottle, and learned about growing conditions, bouquets, tannins, legs and clarity.

Tasters included All Saints members who left March 19 for the mission along with missionaries from several other parishes.

## **‘Happening’ is Happening at All Saints**

“Happening” is a retreat weekend “for youth, by youth” that allows young people to explore their relationships with Jesus, with one another and the world. Concentrating closely on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ, Happening gives those who attend the desire to understand and serve the church.

What’s more, it provides a means to continue the Christian formation process, which is just begun in the three-day program. And it is lots of fun!

Happening is for students in ninth through 12th grades, and this April, the Diocese of Michigan is hosting Happening here at All Saints. The church will be occupied by teens and their adult leaders from the evening of Friday, April 23, through Sunday afternoon, April 25. They will be on site during our regular Sunday morning worship, but they will be doing their own activities at that time. If you see them around the building that weekend, say a prayer for their experience and encounter with God. After all, it is a Happening!

## **Rebuilding Together Ingham County**

**By Carolyn Plante**

“Rebuilding Together Ingham County” is a local chapter of “Rebuilding Together of Safe & Healthy Homes Initiative” that responds to the needs of our communities’ elderly and disabled homeowners. Through donations and volunteers, the chapter’s members provide repairs and upgrades that enable people to stay independently in their homes. The rising cost of living has left some of our most vulnerable neighbors struggling to maintain the most basic necessities, such as a warm, safe home. To learn more about Rebuilding Together, go to [www.rebuildingtogether.org](http://www.rebuildingtogether.org).

For the third year in a row, All Saints is sponsoring a house for Rebuild by assisting with the cost and providing volunteers for a one-day blitz on April 24. We need volunteers, age 14 and up. Skills such as carpentry, wiring and plumbing are always welcome. But special skills are not necessary. The project includes basic home cleanup, yard work, painting and

repairs. Some of your own tools such as rakes, clippers and ladders may be needed. The basic materials for this project will be donated by local sponsors. Lunch and drinks will be provided.

It still baffles us what happens when a group of people get together for one day and put their hearts and souls into a project! Another joy is making new friends and getting to know one another better. You don’t have to commit for the whole day. Half a day or a couple hours will be greatly appreciated. Let us know ahead of time how long you can be there so you can be placed appropriately on a job.

Because of the short time to put this project together, we really need to know how many volunteers we will have as soon as possible. Contact Neil or Carolyn Plante at (517) 655-2893 or [neil.p@verizon.net](mailto:neil.p@verizon.net) and leave your name and phone number. Please see the forms and display downstairs in front of the bulletin board.

## **Sheila’s Corner**

**Nursery staff needed:** Do you know a reliable adult who loves children and could use extra income? He or she must be available from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sundays, 12 to 3 p.m. Mondays, occasional Tuesday evenings and 6:15 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays. We also need a primary nursery worker and substitutes. Send resumes to Sheila Wiitala at [allsaintssheila@hotmail.com](mailto:allsaintssheila@hotmail.com).

**Easter:** There will be no Sunday school on Easter. The nursery will be open for children of kindergarten age and under for the 10 a.m. service. The nursery will not be open for the 12 noon service because it is a family service, followed by an Easter egg hunt. All children are invited.

**Help needed for VBS:** Vacation Bible School will be evenings June 21 to 24. ReNew is the green theme for VBS. I need many people to help. We will meet at 7 p.m. April 22. If you can help in any way, please email [allsaintssheila@hotmail.com](mailto:allsaintssheila@hotmail.com).

**Zap Zone family fun:** All families are welcome to come to an All Saints party 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 18, at Zap Zone Laser Tag. We will have a little lunch of pizza. If you can bring soft drinks, additional sides or dessert, please sign up. I have reserved the bounce and party rooms. Youths will have two games of laser tag for \$10 a person. For all using the bounce area, the cost is \$10 a family.

## Parish Life, April 2010

### Second-Sunday Breakfast

It's 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. Sunday, April 11. Once a month, All Saints offers a hot breakfast to anyone interested in food and fellowship between the 8 and 10 a.m. services. Join your friends or meet someone new at the meal of the month. Breakfast includes eggs and sausage, croissant or Danish, juice, and coffee, all for a very reasonable \$3. See you in the Undercroft.

### Coffeehouse!

Take a respite from your Lenten sacrifices in the warmth and glow of the All Saints Coffeehouse from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, April 16, in the Undercroft. Sing, listen to music and readings or offer a performance of your own for others to enjoy. You can sign up—or just grab a seat—when you arrive that evening.

Food and beverages will be available; you may bring something to share, if you wish. The atmosphere is relaxed; the evening full. There's no better way to start your weekend. We hope to see you there.

### Attend Wharton Event "South Pacific" with your parish family

If you are interested in attending the Wharton musical "South Pacific" with your All Saints family on **Sunday, May 2, at 1:00 p.m., sign up** in the Undercroft or on the Parish Life Bulletin Board by Sunday, April 11, at 12:00 NOON. Tickets after this date cannot be guaranteed. Price is approximately \$60.00 per person. Rides can be arranged from All Saints.

**Parish Life is seeking the donation** of a medium-sized gas grill to use in church events. The grill can be secondhand, as long as it's in decent, working order. If you plan to replace your grill this summer, please consider donating your used grill to All Saints. Please contact Marguerite Halversen for more information (5417/333-0251 or [halverse@msu.edu](mailto:halverse@msu.edu)).

**Parish Life will be publishing a recipe book** featuring the soups from the Lenten Soup Suppers as a fundraiser in the coming months. If you have made soup this year or in any past years for the Lenten Soup Suppers, please send Marguerite Halversen your recipe at [halverse@msu.edu](mailto:halverse@msu.edu). Place "All Saints soup recipe" in the subject line. Photos of your soup would also be welcome. You will be credited with the recipe in the book. The deadline for recipe submission is May 31, 2010.

*Interested in helping with Parish Life? Call Marguerite Halversen at (517) 333-0251 or e-mail [halverse@msu.edu](mailto:halverse@msu.edu).*

# April 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> 7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with breakfast following  6:30 p.m. ACLU 6:30 p.m. Bell Choir 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday & Footwashing 7:30 p.m. ACOA 8:00 p.m. AIAnon	<b>2 Good Friday</b> Office Closed  Noon Good Friday Meditations  7:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy	<b>3</b> 10:00 a.m. Advent House  8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil & First Eucharist of Easter with Baptisms
<b>4 Easter</b> 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 11:30 a.m. Adult Forum 11:30 a.m. Bell Choir Noon Childrens Service with Egg Hunt 2:00 p.m. EL Writers Forum 5:00 p.m. CMSU HE	<b>5</b> Office Closed Easter Monday  6:30 p.m. Steiner Chorale 7:00 p.m. Prayer/Study 7:30 p.m. AA	<b>6</b> 12:15 p.m. Bible Study  1:30 p.m. Staff Mtg  7:00 p.m. OSL 7:30 p.m. AA	<b>7</b>  1:00 p.m. Parkinson's Support  7:30 p.m. Debtors A	<b>8</b> 7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with breakfast following  6:00 p.m. Outreach 6:30 p.m. Bell Choir 7:30 p.m. ACOA 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir 8:00 p.m. AIAnon	<b>9</b>  1:00 p.m. Duplicate Bridge	<b>10</b>
<b>11 Easter 02</b> <b>Birthday Sunday</b> 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 8:45 a.m. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Breakfast 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 11:30 a.m. Adult Forum 11:30 a.m. Bell Choir 11:30 a.m. Youth Christian Ed Class 2:00 p.m. EL Writers Forum 5:00 p.m. Canterbury MSU	<b>12</b>  1:30 p.m. Staff  6:30 p.m. Steiner Chorale Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Prayer/Study 7:30 p.m. AA	<b>13</b> 12:15 p.m. Bible Study  7:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds 7:00 p.m. Cancer Support 7:30 p.m. AA	<b>14</b>  5:30 p.m. Cherub Choir 5:30 p.m. HE/Healing 6:00 p.m. Supper 6:45 p.m. Adult Ed 6:45 p.m. Children's Choir 7:30 p.m. Debtors A	<b>15 Messenger Deadline</b> 7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with breakfast following  3:30 p.m. ECW  6:30 p.m. Bell Choir 7:30 p.m. ACOA 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir 8:00 p.m. AIAnon	<b>16</b> 1:00 p.m. Duplicate Bridge  5:00 p.m. Happenings  7:30 p.m. Coffee House	<b>17</b> 9:00 a.m. Spring Clean Up  9:30 a.m. Prayer Needlers
<b>18 Easter 03</b> 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 11:30 a.m. Adult Forum 11:30 a.m. Bell Choir 11:30 a.m. Youth Christian Ed Class 2:00 p.m. EL Writers Forum 5:00 p.m. Canterbury MSU	<b>19</b> 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting  6:30 p.m. Steiner Chorale Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Prayer/Study group 7:30 p.m. AA	<b>20</b> 8:00 Breakfast at Coral Gables  12: 15 p.m. Bible Study  5:30 p.m. Finance 7:00 p.m. OSL 7:30 p.m. AA	<b>21</b>  5:30 p.m. Cherub Choir 5:30 p.m. HE/Healing Service 6:00 p.m. Supper 6:30.m. Adult Ed 6:30.m. Children's Choir 7:30 p.m. Debtors A	<b>22</b> 7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with breakfast following  5:30 p.m. ACTION 6:30 p.m. Bell Choir 7:00 p.m. Adult Discovery 7:30 p.m. ACOA 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir 8:00 p.m. AIAnon	<b>23</b>  1:00 p.m. Duplicate Bridge  2:00 p.m. Happening	<b>24</b>
<b>25 Easter -04</b> 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 11:30 a.m. Adult Forum 11:30 a.m. Bell Choir 11:30 a.m. Youth Christian Ed Class 2:00 p.m. EL Writers Forum 5:00 p.m. Canterbury MSU	<b>26</b> 1:30 p.m. EL Women's Club 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting 6:30 p.m. Steiner Chorale Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist 7:30 p.m. AA	<b>27</b> 12: 15 p.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Quilters Guild 7:00 p.m. Vestry 7:30 p.m. AA	<b>28</b>  5:30 p.m. Cherub Choir 5:30 p.m. HE/Healing Service 6:00 p.m. Supper 6:30.m. Adult Ed 6:30.m. Children's Choir 7:30 p.m. Debtors A	<b>29</b> 9:00 a.m. Potters Guild 7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with breakfast following  6:30 p.m. Bell Choir 7:30 p.m. ACOA 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir 8:00 p.m. AIAnon	<b>30</b> 9:00 a.m. Potters Guild  1:00 p.m. Bridge	

ACOA = Adult Children of Alcoholics  
ANS = Abbott Nursery School

AIAnon = Family and Friends of Alcoholics  
Debtors A = Debtors Anonymous

All Saints Episcopal Church  
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**Return Service Requested**

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### **Canterbury MSU**

The Episcopal Chaplaincy at Michigan State University services are held at 5 p.m.  
Sunday evenings during the fall and spring MSU semesters with dinner following in the  
Undercroft. For more information, please email [emmsu@msu.edu](mailto:emmsu@msu.edu).

Chaplain: The Rev. Sarah Midzalkowski