

Find us on:

[facebook.com/  
marinerschurchofdetroit](https://www.facebook.com/marinerschurchofdetroit)

[instagram.com/  
marinerschurchofdetroit](https://www.instagram.com/marinerschurchofdetroit)

[YouTube.com/  
marinerschurchofdetroit](https://www.youtube.com/marinerschurchofdetroit)



[marinerschurchofdetroit.org](https://www.marinerschurchofdetroit.org)

**Parking & Directions:**

[visitmariners.org](https://www.visitmariners.org)

# News By Land & Sea

September 2025



*50th Anniversary Memorial Swim Service - Photo courtesy of Rev. Todd Meyer*

## Words from the Rector

### **All Hands on Deck!**

As the 50th Anniversary of the loss of the *Edmund Fitzgerald* approaches, it has become very apparent that the opportunity to bring Glory to God in this defining Maritime moment is larger than we even imagined. Consider what has happened just in the last month:

200+ athletes, dignitaries, and community members came to honor the men of the *Edmund Fitzgerald* and the swimmers who completed the 411 miles remaining in the Fitzgerald's tragically shortened journey in a very moving tribute. (See cover picture)

Enquires are coming from all over the country on the details of the Sunday, Nov. 9 memorial service and how they might attend.

This is a partial list of news stories about the 50th Anniversary and Mariners' Church:

**Local news stations** from all over Michigan, including a 5 part series that will air throughout the week prior to Nov. 10 on Fox 2.

**CBS/Saturday Morning** a nationally televised show filming at our church about the upcoming release of *The Gales of November*, a book about the Fitzgerald by bestselling author John U. Bacon.

**A documentary**, produced by the crew that followed the swimmers, that will air next year with Mariners' Church memorials featured.

**A live broadcast** of the Nov. 10 Memorial on local PBS station.

On **Monday, Nov. 10**, The Detroit Mercy Law School will host a Symposium on maritime law and join us for our **Memorial Service at 12:10pm**. All attending the service are invited to join the luncheon on their campus across the street on Jefferson Ave. immediately following.

The "Evening of Tribute tor the *Edmund Fitzgerald*" on **Friday Nov. 7** has sold almost 100 of the available tickets... two months **before** the event.

This is truly a time for us to serve and be a light to our community. The main point of these events is to honor those who died and to minister to those who survive. The collective grief the Great Lakes community and beyond feels about this tragedy is something we have been part of ever since Bishop Ingalls rang our Brotherhood Bell, and Gordon Lightfoot composed an epic song. It is a responsibility we don't take lightly. We view this as an opportunity to show the world where to turn when tragedy strikes: Jesus Christ, our loving Savior.

Picture this as having invited guests to your home and more people showed up than you thought. A hospitable host would give up their spot at the table and help with the extra demand to take care of the guests. That is exactly how we want to approach the weekend of November 7-10. Would you help us?

If you consider Mariners' your home (*whether you live in Detroit or not*), then I would challenge you to be part of this extraordinary opportunity, not as a spectator, but as a

participant. Instead of considering not attending the services because “it may be too crowded”, think about how you can serve those who are visiting your home. Instead of wondering if you will be able to get there early enough to find a seat, think about how you might give your seat to a visitor and stand greeting or ushering. Jesus said of Himself, “*the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve.*” (Matt 20:28) We, wanting to be like Christ, have an opportunity here to follow in his steps in a small way.

Consider this: We are in need of greeters, ushers, and hosts that would look out for the needs of the many guests we are expecting.

**The 3 specific events to consider serving are:**

**Friday, November 7, 5-8 pm.** - “Evening of Tribute to the Edmund Fitzgerald”. No need to buy a ticket if you would like to serve as an usher or greeter. Please see page 4 for more information. Thank you!

**Sunday, November 9, 11 am** - The Annual Great Lakes Memorial Service with a special Tribute to the 50th Anniversary of the Edmund Fitzgerald. This is where the largest crowd is expected and we need people there as early as 10am to help greet and direct people.

**Monday, November 10, 12:10 pm** - The actual date of the anniversary. We will be hosting the community and Detroit Mercy Law school. Please also join us for lunch at the Law School afterwards.

If you can help with any of these events please reply directly to this newsletter email. Charlotte McKenzie will receive it and we will get you plugged into helping on these most momentous days.

Thanks for considering being part of all that is happening to serve our city. See you on Deck!

*Blessings and peace,*

**Rev. Todd**



## Outreach Fall Events

**A Special Evening of Tribute to the *Edmund Fitzgerald*  
Friday, November 7, 2025, 6:00-7:30pm, Mariners' Church of Detroit.**

A story-telling, musical program about the loss of a Great Lakes ship, its crew, and the song that told its haunting tale. Hear the stories of the crew members, their families and the ironies of a doomed ship in one of the worst storms in Great Lakes history. Learn how the hit song "**The Wreck of The Edmund Fitzgerald**" was written, recorded and performed by Gordon Lightfoot. Hear the mesmerizing song played live by **Mike Fornes**, who performs as Lightfoot live in concert.

**Tickets are available for \$10 per ticket (max. 4 per person) and can be purchased by clicking here: [Nov. 7 Edmund Fitzgerald Tribute](#)**



### **Gleaners Thanksgiving Food Drive September 14- November 21**

Since 1977, Gleaners has been committed to “feeding people and nourishing lives in Southeastern Michigan.” Please join Outreach in partnering with Gleaners Food Bank to collect nonperishable food items from Sunday, September 14 to Friday, November 21. Your donation will help those in need this holiday season. Here are some suggestions of the top five nutritious canned and dry goods that Gleaners uses the most : canned fruit (no heavy syrup), tuna fish, peanut butter (in plastic jars) and healthy cereal/oatmeal. Please no opened containers, homemade food or expired products. Please avoid glass containers. You may place your items in the receptacles located in the Narthex, the rear entry door, and outside the Julia Anderson Room. In the spirit of Christ, let’s “take hunger off the table” for kids, families, seniors, and veterans by supporting Gleaners which served 1 million households in 2024.

Special thanks to Peggy Pennock, Trustee, for coordinating this event and being a contributing editor.

### **Upcoming Advent Events**

There will be more information to follow on volunteering for The Holiday Shop at the Children’s Center of Wayne County and the Pope Francis Center this Advent. Please continue to watch your bulletin for additional details.

*Lisa Baker, Trustee Board and Outreach Committee Chair*

# Annual Parish Dinner



**\*\*\**You Must RSVP by Sunday, September 14*\*\*\***

The Rector and Trustees of Mariners' Church  
Invite you to join us for our  
Annual Parish Dinner

**Friday, September 26, 2025**

**HONORING REV. DANIEL AND PEGGY LEWIS**

**Chateau on the River**  
4250 Elizabeth Dr.  
Trenton, MI 48183  
*(Located inside Elizabeth Park, Trenton, MI)*

Social Hour – **6:00 pm.**  
Dinner Buffet – **7:00 pm.**

**Tickets are \$50 per person.**

**Special Note:**

~Ample self-parking is available at Chateau on the River

**\*\*\**You Must RSVP by Sunday, September 14*\*\*\***

# Congratulations Maya Joy Wiora!

Please join Rev. Todd in welcoming **Maya Joy Wiora**, beloved daughter of **Daniel Wiora and Katherine Morse**, to our church family. Maya is also the granddaughter of faithful Mariners' parishioners and very proud grandparents, **Ken Morse and Ireng Tseng**. She was baptized during the 8:45am service on Sunday, September 7. *(Photo Credits: Ken Morse)*



**Rev. Todd, Daniel Wiora, Katherine Morse, and Baby Maya**



**The Godparents: Michael Wiora (l) & Sarah Morse (r)**



**The Grandparents: Red & Nancy Wiora (l) - Irene Tseng & Ken Morse (r)**

## Nursery Opportunities

We are looking for people who would like to help in the nursery between the two Sunday services. We only need help when there is Bible Study.

There are plenty of activities to do with the little ones. Having people in the nursery will allow parents and other helpers to participate in the Bible Study classes.

We need to have two adults with the children each Sunday. Mariners' Child Safety Policy requires that adults working with children go through a background check first. To initiate the background check, please contact the Church Office.

If you would like to help, please add your name to the sign-up sheet outside of the Church Office or reply to this email.

# Stained Glass Legacy Visits

Our historic parish was blessed to have family members representing two of our stained glass windows visit in August and September.

## The James Vernor Window

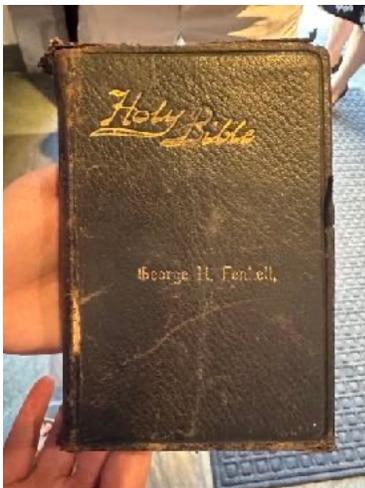


**Members of the Vernor's Family**  
photo credit- Rev. Todd



**The Vernor's Collectors Club**  
visits Mariners' Church.  
photo credit-Keith Wunderlich

## The George Fenkell Window



**George Fenkell's Bible**



**Sandy, Annie, & Ric Stern**  
(Fenkell family members)  
with Rev. Todd.

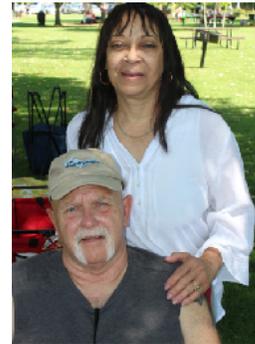
# Parish Picnic - July 12, 2025



**Charlotte, Lindsay,  
Kathy, Kelly**



**David, Peggy**



**Jackie, Neil**



**Rev. Dan, Peggy, Andrew**



**The Blake Family**



**Barb, Rev. Todd, Lary**



**Ann, Travis**



**Patti, Jeff**



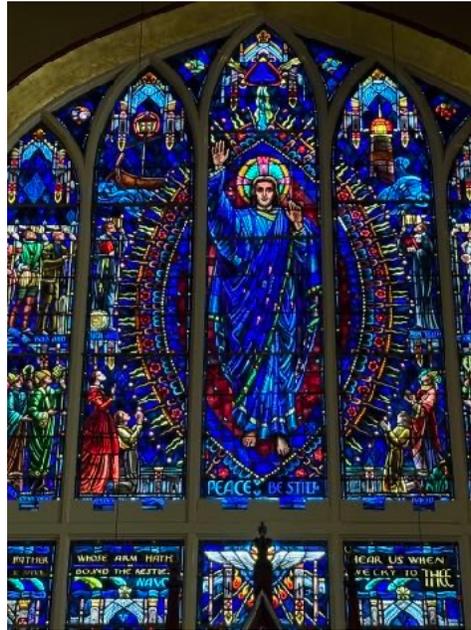
**Grace, Christian,  
Baby Andreas**



**Danica**

*Special thanks to Jacqueline  
Gensler for the great photos!*

# In Loving Memory of our Fellow Mariners



*Jack Sellick, April 6, 2025*

*Norina Molinaro, April 10, 2025*

*Anne Trudeau, May 16, 2025*

*David Ferriss, May 31, 2025*

*Kathleen Feenstra, May 31, 2025*

*Karl Johnson, July 12, 2025*

*Dorothea Smith, August 13, 2025*

*Dr. Martin Herman, August 28, 2025*

***May they Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.***

## Contact Us

Mariners' Church of Detroit  
**Rev. Todd A. Meyer, Rector**  
 170 E. Jefferson Ave.  
 Detroit, MI 48226  
 (313) 259-2206

**Websites:**  
[marinerschurchofdetroit.org](http://marinerschurchofdetroit.org)  
[visitmariners.org](http://visitmariners.org)

**Email:**  
 Church email: [info@marinerschurchofdetroit.org](mailto:info@marinerschurchofdetroit.org)

**Church Office Hours:**  
 Monday - Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. *(Please call ahead to schedule a tour).*

## Services

### Sundays

8:45 a.m. The Holy Communion *(with Music)*  
 11:00 a.m. The Holy Communion *(includes our Professional Choir)*  
 Church Sunday School *(September - June)*  
 12:10 p.m. Thursdays - Service of Holy Communion

## Parking

Parking for all services at Mariners' Church is validated and secure in the Ford Underground Garage located at the corner of Woodward and Jefferson Avenues. Please bring your parking ticket with you into the church to receive your validation sticker. Directions and parking information: [visitmariners.org](http://visitmariners.org)

## The Trustees of Mariners' Church

Lisa L. Baker, Chairman; Rev. Dcn. Frank Bateman; Andrew J. Galsterer III;  
 Paul J. Fishwick, Treasurer; Neil P. Gensler; Peggy A. Pennock, Secretary

## The Trustees of Mariners' Church Foundation

Kenneth L. Morse, Treasurer; Steven A. Roach, Secretary,  
 R. Stephen Trudeau, Chairman

[News by Land & Sea](#) edited by Charlotte McKenzie

