

The Episcopal Church of the Nativity

Announcements

16 August 2026

Welcome! This morning, the Rev. Dr. Barrie Bates presides and preaches. Our musician is Sal Page.

Our annual parish picnic takes place this coming Friday, the 21st. If you are planning to attend, please so indicate on the sign-up sheet *today*. We will gather at 5:30 at the Boyne City Marina Pavillion, 207 North Lake Street. There's plenty of parking. Sign up to bring a dish to share. The church will provide baked chicken. Water will also be provided—or bring your own beverage.

Spotlight on Hymnody: “From all that dwell below the skies” (Hymn 380, which we sing today) is a metrical paraphrase of Psalm 117 by Isaac Watts. Such settings of psalms were once the mainstay of the Church of England hymn singing. Watts (1674-1748) is credited with some 750 hymn texts, and he was a committed nonconformist, which was their way of saying he was a Congregational minister. For this reason, he could not attend either Oxford or Cambridge universities.

Who Knew? Some churches commemorated Hippolytus, a priest of the third century, this past Wednesday, the 12th. Hippolytus is credited with authorship of the *Apostolic Tradition*, one of the earliest liturgical manuals to survive to our day. In it, he tells of a course of preparation for baptism lasting three years; of offerings of cheese, olives, and milk on the altar; and of the need for “every faithful man and woman, when they have risen from sleep in the morning, before they touch any work at all” to “wash their hands and pray to God.” *Blessed be God in the angels in the in the saints.*

Many thanks to Jamie MacKenzie for building and installing the railings leading to our altar platform! Here's the backstory: the oak he used came from the Church of the Annunciation in Oradell, New Jersey. When Barrie was Rector there, he arranged to have several pews shortened to make space for wheelchairs, walkers, and baby strollers. Jamie saved the wood, and we benefited from his foresight as well as his labor.

Church of the Nativity, Post Office Box 228, Boyne City, Michigan 49712
episcopalboyne.org episcopalchurchofthenativity@gmail.com
The Rev. Dr. J. Barrington Bates, Priest-in-Charge

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