

# St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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Volume 28, Number 7

July 1, 2005

## AN INVITATION TO PRAYER

Currently, St. Michael has three young people going through confirmation, the series of classes we ask young people to participate in to help prepare them to affirm the promises made at their baptism. Two of our young people, Scott and Robert, will be going with me to Confirmation Camp from July 10 through July 16 to learn more about their relationship with God.

During the week of July 10 through 16, I invite you to set aside a few extra moments each day to pray for Scott and Robert as they grow in their lives of faith. I also invite you to set aside a few extra moments to pray for all children and all newly baptized that they too might be surrounded by God's love and presence. If you're not sure what to pray, I'd suggest the prayer we use during the baptismal service:

*God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through Holy Baptism. Pour your Holy Spirit upon, Scott, Robert, all children and all the newly baptized: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence. Amen.*

Prayer is powerful! I hope you will join me during the week of July 10 through 16 and pray for Scott, Robert, all children and all the newly baptized that they might know God's presence as they grow in their relationship with God.

## **Sharing Our Gifts: Time, Talents and Treasure**

*We offer with joy and thanksgiving what He has first given us--our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of His gracious love.*

### **Thank you to some “quiet” servants**

To Ann and Dave Surface for helping with the July newsletter mailing and providing pizza for Vacation Bible School one evening; Don Linkous for mowing around our St. Michael sign on Prices Fork Road; Judy Clemens for donating Tupperware containers for the kitchen; Ross and Kitty Kirk for donating a new 12-cup coffee maker; Lorin Crowder and Donita Moore for providing music for Sunday Church School; Linda Elliott for managing the Kroger Gift Card program; Ray Howell for replacing several church windows; Lorin, Sarah and Daniel Crowder for delivering and spreading mulch under the children’s playground; Dickie Shepherd and Ross Brown for killing weeds along the fence line; and Barbara Corbett and Lynn Hickok for weed control around the church.

### **Because of Your Gifts**

Your generous gifts in June supported our benevolence to the Virginia Synod, donations to the Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Christian Children’s Fund, our facilities, salaries for our pastor, secretary, organist and custodian, Vacation Bible School materials, window replacement and baby changing table installation and Synod convention expenses.

We encourage the congregation to continue their contributions to the **Justice and Mercy Fund** and to refer friends and family to use the fund as you see need. Our thanks to the 17 individuals and families who purchased the Kroger Gift Cards. Five percent of all card purchases and “reloads” will be credited to our Justice and Mercy account when our account reaches \$5,000 or above. Cards are still available for purchase from Linda Elliott or Sandy Birch for an initial investment of \$25. Thank you to all VBS participants for donating their offerings to the Justice and Mercy Fund.

### **New Flooring Coming In August**

As a community of believers guided by the Holy Spirit, the mission of St. Michael Lutheran church is to:

Care for all God’s people in need,  
**H**ear of God’s love through Word and Sacrament  
**R**espond to God’s grace with thankful hearts,  
Invite others into Christ’s community,  
Serve God in our daily lives, and  
**T**ell the story of God’s love for all.

Thanks to your approval of the challenge project in the 2005 Spending Plan and your generous giving, St. Michael will replace the carpet in the sanctuary, the flooring in the narthex and hallways, and the flooring in the kitchen. The final decisions still need to be made on colors and styles, but work is scheduled to begin on the new flooring on August 23. Following worship on August 21, volunteers will be needed to remove the pews from the sanctuary and then on Saturday, August 27 volunteers will be needed to return the pews to the sanctuary for worship. Watch for sign up sheets in the weeks to come.

If you would like to make a gift to help with the cost of the new flooring, just place it in the offering plate and note, "New Carpet" on the memo line or on the envelope. With your help, we are being good stewards of the facilities God has given us and opening the door to support new and expanded ministries.

### **Planning A Legacy For Ministry Society**

The Virginia Synod has started a group to recognize individuals who have named ministries in their will or other estate plans called the *Planning a Legacy for Ministry Society*. The purpose of the group as Bishop Mauney says in his introductory letter, is "to give and show others how easily one can make a testamentary gift. The size of a gift does not matter; rather, it is the commitment to direct a gift to a ministry or ministries of the church alongside any inheritance one intends for loved ones. In so doing, we have the capacity to teach those nearest us, in a final act of stewardship, our desire to share." If you have remembered a ministry in your will or estate plans and would like to be a part of the group or if you would like more information about how to include a ministry in your will or estate plans, please contact Pastor George Sims at 540.667.8609 or by email at [gsims@plan2giv.org](mailto:gsims@plan2giv.org).

### **Lutheran Disaster Response Of Virginia**

Lutheran Disaster Response of Virginia is a way that Lutherans can both receive help following a natural disaster and provide long term help to other people following a natural disaster. Lutheran Disaster Response of Virginia has a new coordinator who is looking for an individual in each congregation to serve as a contact person. The contact person would be responsible for gathering information about St. Michael's resources and would be a point of contact should a need arise. If you are interested in serving as the contact person for St. Michael or would like more work about the ministry of Lutheran Disaster Response of Virginia, please talk to Pastor John.

### **Boy Scout Troop Forming At St. Michael**



A new Boy Scout Troop is forming at St. Michael for youth in our community. The Troop Planning Committee is being led by Ben Crawford. The goal for the group is to have a Boy Scout Troop actively meeting at the church by this Fall. If you would be interested in helping with the Planning Committee or would like more information about Boy Scouts, please talk to Ben Crawford at 961-5733 or [ben.crawford@vt.edu](mailto:ben.crawford@vt.edu).

**HELP WANTED:** St. Michael is seeking a part-time nursery worker to staff our nursery during the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services and during Sunday School. If you know someone who would be interested in this part-time job, please refer them to Pastor John.

### **Summer Reading: Focus On Corinthians**

Teachings on the Gifts of the Spirit, warnings on how to behave, a defense of Paul's ministry - you can find all of that and much more in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians. You are invited during the month of July to do a little summer reading and focus on Paul's letters to the Corinthians. Try reading just one chapter a day during the month of July (you'll even have two extra days in case you miss one) and by the end of the month you will have discovered or re-discovered Paul's insightful and challenging words to the church at Corinth and to us today. Join Pastor John this July and do a little summer reading.

### **Sunday Morning Study On Corinthians**

In conjunction with the Summer Reading: Focus on Corinthians, Pastor John will be teaching a study on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians on July 3, 10 and 17 from 9:50 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The study will provide background information on these two books and focused conversation on specific teachings. Make plans to come and be a part of the discussion.

### **Christmas In July**

On Sunday, July 24, St. Michael will celebrate Christmas in July. Come and sing some of your favorite Christmas Carols and hear the story of Christ's birth unfold again. There are no gifts to buy, no tree to put up, no lights to hang, just the celebration of Christ's Birth and the joy of Christmas!

### **House Blessings**

Pastor John recently conducted two house blessings for the new homes of Burn and Betty Gross and Fran and Dickie Shepherd. The Housing Blessing Service is a simple service of prayer and scripture reading that asks for God's blessing upon the people who make a house a home. While the House Blessing Service is usually done when someone moves into a new home, it can also be used in situations where someone is looking for a new beginning in their current home. For more information about the House Blessing Service, please talk with Pastor John.



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## *July Servants*

	<b>July 3</b>	<b>July 10</b>	<b>July 17</b>	<b>July 24</b>	<b>July 31</b>
<i>Acolytes</i>	Kelsey Trimble	Kelsey Trimble	Sarah Crowder	Scott McGuigan	Scott McGuigan
<i>Altar Care</i>	Judy Clemens and Donna Oliver				
<i>Comm. Assts.</i>	Sandy Birch		Mickey McGuigan		
<i>Fellowship Hour</i>		Wertz family			
<i>Greeters</i>	Marguerite Olinger and Peggy Price				
<i>Lay Readers</i>	Jenny Akers	Dianne Krallman	Shannon Rigsbee	Kelsey Trimble	Josh Moura
<i>Nursery Assts.</i>	Kris Wertz	Chelsea and Linda Naughton	Jane and Katy McGuigan	Lauren and Sharon Robinson	Jane Lane
<i>Ushers</i>	George and Linda Naughton Burn Gross Dickie Shepherd	Bob and Peggy Brown J.D. Robinson Hank Schneider	Jeff Birch Ray Howell Sam Akers Philip Isenhour	Roscoe Turman M. McGuigan James Pascoe Burn Gross	Vickie and Steve Moura Gary Worle Don Linkou

Lawn Mowers: Sam Akers (back-7/2); Jim Clemens (front-7/9); Jay Nagle (back-7/16); Tim and Doug Smiley (front-7/23)

*The Sunday Servant List for July through September is available on the Front Hall Shelf.*

## Davey and Goliath's Circus Spectacular Vacation Bible School A Great Success!

A special thank you to all the teachers and volunteers who made the week so much fun and Christ-inspired: Jody Smiley, our fearless leader, head clown, and pre-school teacher; Erin Miller, the ring master and pre-school assistant; Jane McGuigan, teacher of grades K-1; Carol Bland and Kris Wertz, team teachers of grades 2-3; Lorin Crowder, assisted by Karen Mayer and Jenny Akers, teachers of grades 4-5; Pastor John, teacher of the adult class; Linda Naughton and Cindy Dowdy, crafts instructors; Lorin Crowder, Jenny Akers, Karen Mayer and Donita Moore, music leaders; Sandy Birch, substitute teacher; Judy Clemens, Mary Lou Saville, Chelsea Naughton, Leslie Bland, and Daniel Ehrich, class helpers; Betty Gross, Ann Surface, Fran Gallimore, Jane Lane, Wanda Pascoe and Carol Crawford, the kitchen crew; and all St. Michael members who donated materials and encouraged friends and neighbors to attend VBS. Thank you also to all who attended VBS.

Pictures say it all.....(and more pictures on the next page)



Chase, Erin, Alexis, Chelsea and MaKayla



MaKayla, Chris, and Alexis

Clown Jody, Erik and Parker



Erik, Jane, Parker and Corson



Kylie, Brooke, Branden, Dustin (camera-shy) and Matthew in the crafts corner.



Steffan, Braden and Katy (the fishers of men) in the boat.



Students practicing “Love, Love, Love” which they sang at Sunday’s worship service.



Opening time with songs and stories.



Congratulations to Karin Solberg and Seth Colish who were married on May 19<sup>th</sup> in Avon, Hatteras Island, NC. They will make their home in the Philadelphia area.

Congratulations to Rick and Carrie Mayer on the birth of their first child, Alexis Shannon, on June 8.

Congratulations to Brian and Allison (Keister) Price on the birth of their second son, Cole Walker, on May 31. Cole joins big brother Chance.



### Women Of The ELCA News



In July, The Women of the ELCA will be **collecting school supplies** to be donated to a local elementary schools (Lafayette and Prices Fork) and to the Salvation Army Backpack Drive. Every year, many students come to school without the necessary school supplies because their families simply do not have enough

disposable income to buy everything they need. We can help. **Needed supplies include:** backpacks, 3-ring binders, spiral notebooks, pens, #2 pencils, ruled paper, rulers, colored pencils, child-safe scissors, Elmer's glue, crayons, glue sticks. Look for a display and drop box in the narthex. The display will also include lists of supplies.

This month, we will be **collecting soup** for the Food Bank, though donations of any kind of non-perishable food are always welcome.

On July 29-31, Jody Smiley, Sandy Birch, and Alice Schneider will be attending the annual **Virginia Synodical Women's Organization (VSWO) convention** at Roanoke College. Jody is a member of the Board of Directors of VSWO, Sandy is the New River Coordinator, and Alice, as president of our WELCA group, will be the voting delegate. The theme of the convention is "Act Boldly."



**The Men's Choir** shared their version of "Oh Happy Days" on Father's Day.

Pictured are Jeff, Doug, Mack, Freddie (hidden), Pastor John, Dean, Gary, and John.