

St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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Coming this Summer

Often people think about summer as a time when things slow down a little, but for the ministry of St. Michael, summer is a time when a lot of exciting things happen. Here are just a few of the ministry opportunities that are coming up this summer.

- *Vacation Bible School* will run from Sunday, June 11 to June 15. This year's theme is *Gospel Express* and we will have classes for all ages from toddlers to adults.
- The Rev. *Hynna Motec*, the president (Bishop) of the Island District of New Guinea will be a guest at St. Michael on June 14.
- The *confirmation students* will be going to camp at Lutherock in Newland, NC from June 18 to 24 where they will learn more about living a life of faith.
- *The Lutheran Course*, an opportunity to discuss faith, life and Lutheran teachings, will begin on Sunday, June 25 at 9:50 a.m. and continue each Sunday until August 6.
- A *Food, Fun and Fellowship Event* for the whole family is being planned for July 14.
- On July 29, a group from the church will be attending a *Salem Avalanche baseball game*.
- The weekend of August 20th, we will have an *outreach booth at the Price's Fork Fair* and we will have a *Blessing of the Backpacks* at worship.
- Each Sunday we will have worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

From learning to fellowship to worship, it will be a busy, wonderful summer at St. Michael.

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,
Hear of God's love through Word and Sacrament
Respond to God's grace with thankful hearts,
Invite others into Christ's community,
Serve God in our daily lives, and
Tell the story of God's love for all.

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 Linda Elliott for helping with the Sunday bulletins in May; to Linda Elliott and Carla Schwertz for helping with the June newsletter; to Shirley Linkous for serving as the 9 a.m. “servant coordinator”; to Tacey Apisa, Carrie Mayer, Jody Smiley, and Kris Wertz for helping with Kid’s Night.

Because of your gifts

Your generous gifts in May supported supplies for Kid’s Nights, our benevolence to the Virginia Synod, donations to MCEAP, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Christian Children’s Fund, our facilities, salaries for our pastor, secretary, organist, custodian, and nursery workers and publicity for our worship services.

The **Justice and Mercy Fund** continues to assist our neighbors in the community and the world. In May, we provided assistance with electric bills for two families, a water bill for one family, and rent assistance for a fourth family. The fund also provided the first month’s rent for a homeless family. We encourage the congregation to continue their contributions to the fund and to refer friends and family to use the fund as you see need. Kroger Gift cards are still available; contact Sandy Birch. In May, we received a check for \$256.50 which represented five percent of our purchases.

Some thank you notes received recently.....

Thank you for the church scholarship award. I feel so honored to be selected. Being chosen for the special award means more than anything because it is from people who truly care about my future and it is from you, my home church. This will definitely help me on my way to college at Christopher Newport University and continuing my education. Thank you again.

Sincerely, Stuart Worley

Thank you to my St. Michael family for the many cards and calls after the death of my sister, Sybil Pettrey. You are a caring congregation. Sincerely, Irene Ashley

An Invitation to Prayer

Prayer is a wonderful and powerful part of our lives of faith. During June, you are invited to include in your prayers, the Virginia Synod, which will be gathering in Assembly from June 16 to 18 to conduct the business of the church. You are invited to pray for our Confirmation Students while they are at camp from June 18-24 as they seek to grow in their lives of faith. You are also invited to pray for a mission trip to Malawi

Africa which includes two people from St. Michael, Karen Mayer and Kris Wertz.
Thank you for remembering these ministries in your prayers.

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June Servants

	June 4	June 11	June 18	June 25
<i>Acolytes</i>	Sarah Crowder	Steffen Bohn	Scott McGuigan	Katy McGuigan
<i>Altar Care</i>	Volunteer Needed			
<i>Comm. Assts.</i>	Dan Crowder		Shannon Rigsbee	
<i>Fellowship Hour</i>		McGuigan family		
<i>Greeters – 9 am</i> <i>Greeters – 11 am</i>	Ted and Angela Peterson		Jolynne and Doug Tschetter	
	Peggy Price and Marguerite Olinger			
<i>Lay Readers</i>	Cindy Dowdy	Kelsey Trimble	Karen Mayer	Isaac Nagle
<i>Ushers</i>	Dickie Shepherd Philip Isenhour Don Linkous Randy Robinson	Ray Howell Sam Akers Dave and Ann Surface	Burn Gross James Pascoe J.D. Robinson Jeff Birch	Hank Schneider M. McGuigan Bob and Peggy Brown

Mowing schedule: Sam Akers (6/3 – back); Jim Clemens (6/10 – front); Jay Nagle (6/17 back); Doug Smiley (6/24 – front); Sam Akers (7/1 – back)

Women of the ELCA



Our June gathering will be Thursday, June 22 at 6 p.m. at Carol and Ben Crawford's cottage on the New River. All women of the church (and their guests) are invited. Directions are available in the hallway; carpooling arrangements can be made. Bring a side dish or dessert to share for this fun fellowship gathering on the river. Hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks will be provided. Please rsvp by contacting Carol at 961-5733 or ben.crawford@vt.edu or use the "Welcome to St. Michael" form.

Remember the Food Bank: June is cereal month -- though any kind of non-perishable food is always welcome.

Remember the Women's Resource Center: In June, we'll collect new children's books.

The Virginia Synodical Womens Organization (VSWO) has provided more opportunities to share with others. From June through mid-July, we will be **collecting new childrens books** for the Womens Resource Center in Radford. We will also be **preparing "Teen's Personal Care Kits" for youth in treatment foster care** who have been removed from their home due to neglect or abuse. Often these young people leave their homes with few or no personal possessions. Personal Care Kits allow them to go to their treatment foster family with something to call their own. Foster care youth already feel different. To help them feel more like their peers, they prefer "young" personal care products.

For young ladies: 1 weekend size duffel bag containing:

toothpaste	toothbrush	shampoo	conditioner	body lotion	lip gloss
deodorant	bath gel	hand or bath towel	ladies' razors	facial cleanser	
hair accessories	nail polish				

For young men: 1 weekend size duffel bag containing:

shaving cream	razors	hair gel	facial cleanser	shampoo	
conditioner	toothpaste	toothbrush	deodorant	bath gel	towel

God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.

2 Corinthians 9:8

Happy Go Lucky

Our May program, “Remembering Our Story”, led by Jan McGilliard of ElderConnections, reminded us that we need to find ways to leave our memories and family stories for our children and friends. A little exercise on the origin of our given names was just an example of how varied and interesting our histories really are.



The college students appreciated the “survival kits” and we received several thank you notes:

*Thank you for the exam survival kit. What a sweet and much obliged gesture. ☺
Dominique Dupras*

*Thank you so much for the exam care package – all the yummy food, baked goods and toys. I’ve really enjoyed worshipping at St. Michael. You are such a friendly and welcoming congregation. Thanks for everything.
Kim Lehman*

Thank you so much for the exam “survival pack”. There’s nothing like a sugar rush to keep you going! Thanks for making St. Michael a place I look forward to returning to in the fall.

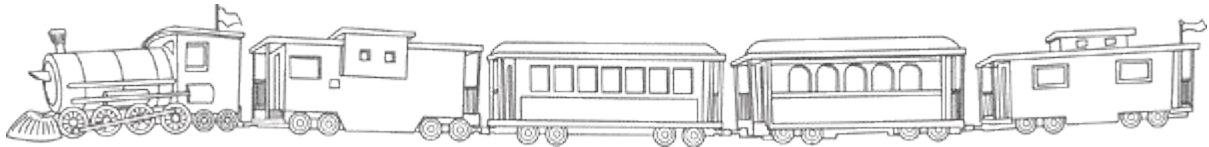
Matthew James

Vacation Bible School for Youth and Adults

The fun begins on Sunday, June 11 and continues through Thursday, June 15. Each night will begin with a light supper at 6:15 p.m. and end at 8:15 p.m. There will be class for everyone from toddlers to adults.



For more information, see Pastor John or email at: stmlc@earthlink.net



Guests from Papua New Guinea on June 14

On June 14, the Rev. Hynna Motec, president (Bishop) of the New Guinea Island District churches and Mr. Dacca Wagai, Youth Director of the Island District will be at St. Michael for a visit and to participate in Vacation Bible School. They will join us for dinner at 6 p.m., take part in Vacation Bible School and then share in worship with us that evening at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday School Planning Meeting

Everyone interested in helping with Sunday School is invited to a meeting on Sunday, June 4 at 2 p.m. to discuss new Sunday School material for next year. The meeting will be at Pastor John's home, 2013 Broken Oak Drive in Blacksburg.

The Lutheran Course

Beginning on Sunday, June 25, Pastor John will be offering the Lutheran Course from 9:50 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. The course uses interviews from leading Lutheran teachers, small group discussion and a new book entitled, "The Lutheran Handbook" to explore the teachings of the Lutheran Church. Whether you are new to the Lutheran Church or have been a member your entire life, this is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about faith and life. If you are interested in being a part of the Lutheran Course, please sign up on

the “Welcome” sheet in the bulletin so that we can order the proper number of books. Child care will be provided.

Congratulations to our Ten Graduates

We recognize and congratulate our 2006 high school and college graduates.

Dayspring Christian Academy – **Jada Brown** will be attending New River Community College this fall with the goal of becoming an occupational therapist. Jada was a member of the Dayspring basketball team.



Blacksburg High School – **Leslie Bland**, a BHS softball player, will be attending New River Community College this fall in the pre-nursing program. **Tim Smiley** will be attending the University of Missouri at Rolla and majoring in Chemistry. This year, he was the pitcher and designated hitter on the BHS baseball team and was named the Most Valuable Senior on the team by the Blacksburg Sports Club. **Stuart Worley** will attend Christopher Newport University and study in a Pre-Med or Pre-Vet field. Stuart played the trombone in the BHS Symphonic Band and was a member of the football and track teams. **Daniel Ehrich** will be attending Johnson & Wales University in Charlotte, NC and studying culinary arts. Daniel was a member of the BHS soccer team.

Virginia Tech – **Joshua Mouras** received his BS in Civil Engineering and will be working this summer in Houston with a structural engineering firm. In August he begins his Masters program at the University of Texas at Austin in Structural Engineering. **Kim Lehman** received her degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and will be attending graduate school at Virginia Tech in Elementary Education. **William Walker** earned his degree in Aerospace Engineering and will also be attending graduate school at Virginia Tech. Kim and William are members of the Lutheran Student Movement at VT and have been attending St. Michael during their undergraduate years.

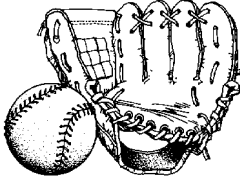
Bridgewater College – **Angie Dolph** received her BS degree in Chemistry and will be attending Marshall University to obtain her Masters in Forensic Science.

James Madison University– **Emily Lippard** received a BA degree in Media Arts and Design with a concentration in corporate communications. She will be attending Emerson College in Boston, MA in the fall to pursue a Masters in Global Marketing, Communications, and Advertising.

Nova Southeastern University – **Dorothy Birch** received her MS in Environmental Education and will be teaching environmental courses at children’s camps this summer in Pensacola, FL.

We're very proud of all of you and wish you success in your future studies and careers.

Softball Season In Full Swing



The team invites everyone out to the Tom's Creek softball field on Monday nights for some exciting softball. Loud and supportive fans always help the team play better. The times are listed on the June calendar and in the Sunday bulletins.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame on July 29

St. Michael is going to Salem Avalanche Church Night on Saturday, July 29. In addition to the game against the Frederick Keys, there will be a post-game concert by a Christian band, *Building 429* and an appearance by the Veggie Tales characters. The game begins at 7:07 p.m. Reserved Seat tickets are \$8.50 per person. Sign up on the "Welcome" form in the bulletin.

An Invitation from Zion Lutheran in Floyd

You are invited to a "family-friendly" summer music series presented by Zion Lutheran Church in Floyd. Every summer on Saturdays, Zion hosts a series of outdoor music and drama events that include Classical, Cajun, Gospel, Bluegrass, Blues, Irish-Celtic as well as special dramatic productions by the Zion Players and local colleges. These events take place on the stage in the beautiful oak grove behind the church. The season will run from June 3 to August 26. Details about each event and directions to the church may be obtained at www.floydlutherans.org under the heading "Pavilion Summer Program. Admission to the series is free of charge.

Power in the Spirit – July 13-15

Power in the Spirit, a learning and worship opportunity sponsored by the Virginia Synod, will be held from July 13-15. This year the theme is "Spiritual Disciplines: Habits of the Heart." The keynote speaker is Dr. Susan Briehl and the Bible leader is Dr. David Rhoads. Registration booklets are available in the front hallway or you can find more information at www.vasynod.org. **Registration is due by June 15.**

Early Service Fellowship and Conversation on June 4

Following the 9 a.m. Service on June 4, St. Michael will have a time for fellowship and conversation to discuss the new pianist to be added at the 9 a.m. Service. If you want to

share your ideas about music at the 9 a.m. Service, but can't be at the Fellowship and Conversation time, please talk with Pastor John.



Congratulations

Douglas Dandro and Amy Garst exchanged wedding vows on May 7, 2006. May God's blessings be with them as they begin their life together.

Welcome to the St. Michael Family

On April 30, several new members joined the St. Michael family. Marguerite Smiley, mother of Doug Smiley, transferred her membership from Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Vienna, VA where she was a charter member. Since August, she has lived at Showalter in Warm Hearth. Jennifer and Alexis Niemiera and Andrea, Will and Matt Sharpe are the grandchildren and great grandchildren of the late Stella Mae Keister. Will (age 10) and Matt (age 6) are students at Prices Fork Elementary School. Alexis (2 ½ years old) attends Judy Clemen's Mother's Day Out Program. Andrea writes, "we are thrilled to be members of St. Michael Lutheran Church."

