



St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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June 1, 2008

Thank You from Bishop Mauney

Following his visit to St. Michael on Sunday, April 13, Bishop Mauney sent the following letter to St. Michael.

Dear Pastor Wertz and the saints of St. Michael!

On behalf of your sisters and brothers of the Virginia Synod, I want to thank you for your VERY kind remembrance of their needs and mission with your gracious and generous gift of \$1,000 from your surplus!! Your gift will bring great joy and celebration for our ongoing work and life together.

I am very excited in seeing your building plans for your new addition and pray that the coming steps with county and building contracts, etc. will go smoothly. Your plans show a future picture for an area where growth will be happening all around you.

It is a joy to see your growth and joy as a congregation! I give thanks to God for your presence and partnership and for the vitality of your faith and life among us!

As you continue in this Easter season, know of my commendation for your generosity, my thankfulness for your partnership, my admiration of your faith and love in gifting others in the life of the Church! Your gift is a powerful way that you proclaim to us throughout the synod that you are truly Ambassadors for Christ!

Yours in Christ,
The Rev. James F. Mauney, Bishop

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 our Youth Bell Choir led by Donita Moore, who provide beautiful music for our worship services; the choir for its special music this past spring; Pat Smith for delivering our Food Bank and Women’s Resource Center collections each month; Judy Clemens for organizing meals for families experiencing illness or loss of a loved one.



Because of your gifts

Your generous gifts in May supported supplies for Youth Nights, VBS materials, music supplies, our benevolence to the Virginia Synod, donations to MCEAP, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Christian Children’s Fund, our facilities, and salaries for our ministry staff.

The **Justice and Mercy Fund** continues to assist our neighbors in the community and the world. In May, we provided assistance for **six** families: three with electric bills, one with rent, one with food, and sixth family with gas. 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.

Brownie Troop 737 designed, planted, and donated the three terra cotta pots under the Fellowship Hall windows as a thank you to St. Michael for providing a meeting space for the last four years.

Feeding the Flock Cookbook

Hungry? For only \$12, you can purchase a new St. Michael cookbook. The cookbook entitled *Feeding the Flock* features favorite recipes from our members and friends. All sales go to help others through our Justice and Mercy Fund. Cookbooks are available from Betty Gross (552-2154), Carol Crawford (961-5733) or Sandy Birch during fellowship time after worship services.

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June Servants

	June 1	June 8	June 15	June 22	June 29
<i>Acolytes</i>	Matthew Pasier	Will Sharpe	Sarah Crowder	Corson Wertz	Katy McGuigan
<i>Altar Care</i>	Doug and Jody Smiley				
<i>Comm. Assts.</i>	Hank Schneider		Bob Brown		
<i>Christ's Kids</i>	Kris Wertz	Michelle Berg	Katie Wright	Andrea Robinson	J. McGuigan
<i>Youth Servant</i>	Andrew Bales	Corson and Parker Wertz	MaKayla Dowdy	Will and Matt Sharpe	Lexi, Carlie Simmers
<i>9 AM Worship Asst.</i>	Keith Gay	Ted Peterson	Lori Anne Kirk	Fred Spengler	Margaret Larson
<i>Greeters – 9 AM 11 AM</i>	Charlene Harris and Linda Elliott		Clifton and Shelane Walters		
	The Pasier and the Birch families				
<i>Lay Reader</i>	Dianne Krallman	Andrea Robinson	Cindy Dowdy	Joanne Pascoe	Jay Nagle
<i>Ushers</i>	David Hillis Ray Howell Ann and Dave Surface	Dickie Shepherd Randy Robinson James Pascoe Jay Nagle	Ben and Grace Simmers Roscoe Turman Jeff Birch	Bob and Peggy Brown J.D. Robinson Hank Schneider	Isenhour McGuigan Burn and Betty Gross

Weed patrol: week ending 6/7 – Barbara Corbett; 6/21 – Nancy Franz

Mowing: Doug Smiley 6/7 front; Sam Akers 6/14 back; Jim Clemens 6/21 front; Jay Nagle 6/28 back. Rear lot: Tom Hodge 6/2; David Hillis 6/9; Jeff Crowder 6/16; Dave Surface 6/23; Tom Hodge 6/30

Women of the ELCA

Remember the Food Bank: June is “kid-friendly food” month – bring fruit or pudding cups, small cans of pasta, cookies, etc., though any kind of non-perishable food is always welcome.

Remember the Women’s Resource Center: In June, we’ll collect baby food.



Over 40 sisters attended the annual Sisters in Christ luncheon in May aboard the “Friend Ship”. An offering for a scholarship honoring our founding “mothers”, Betty Gross, Thelma Hylton and Jane Lane was forwarded to Roanoke College. Thank you to the Women of the ELCA for sponsoring the reception for the 2008 graduates.

O.K.s (Older Kids) on the Go



**OKs
on the Go!**

On May 15, ten members and friends of St. Michael toured the WDBJ television station and saw all the anchor persons “up close and personal”. We even watched a live weather telecast. The trip included lunch at the Roanoker Restaurant and some shopping in the downtown Farmer’s Market. Another trip is planned to Roanoke on Sunday afternoon, July 27, to attend a performance of the musical, “Idols of the King” at the Mill Mountain Theater. We’ll put on our blue suede shoes and shake, rattle and roll to Elvis and his greatest hits. The cost is \$35 which includes transportation and admission fees (a very special rate for the OKs) and **the registration deadline is May 30.**

Registration forms and a “travel brochure” for the trips planned for this year are available on the bulletin board. Contact Sandy Birch (951-3455 or birch@vt.edu) for more information.

Preparing for St. Michael’s 40th Anniversary in September

This September, the St. Michael family will celebrate our 40th anniversary. To enrich the celebration, we are collecting pictures and other memories from our past. This includes video recording stories from members of the two Lutheran churches, St. Mark’s and New St. Peter’s, who joined together to form St. Michael in 1968. If you have pictures to share or memories we could record, please contact Sandy Birch.

An Invitation to a 50th Wedding Anniversary Party

The family of David and Ann Surface invite you to share in celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Saturday, June 14 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Blacksburg. No gifts please.



Care of Creation Toolbox

Collections continue for used printer cartridges for the Justice and Mercy Fund, pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Roanoke, and used flower vases for flower bouquets for hospice patients. We will also recycle old magazines. The recycle table is in the front hallway.

Update on Our Seminary Partner – Kristy Buyok

Over the past two years, our Sunday School offerings have helped support the seminary education of Kristy Buyok who is preparing for ministry at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, South Carolina. Kristy has been on internship at St. John Lutheran Church in Walhalla, South Carolina for the past year and will be returning to the Seminary in the fall to finish her degree. Kristy hopes to visit St. Michael again in the fall.

Vacation Bible School for Youth and Adults

The fun begins on Sunday, June 8 and continues through Thursday, June 12. Each night will begin with a light supper at 6:00 p.m. and end at 8:15 p.m.

**Come and be a part of
POWER LAB Vacation Bible
School
June 8 through 12**



Thank You Sunday School Teachers!

Thank you to all the teachers and leaders who have helped make this a wonderful year. From the pre-school class to the adults, the story of God's love and presence in our lives has been proclaimed.

Summer Sunday School Schedule

During the summer, St. Michael's regular Sunday School takes a break. Three short courses for adults will be taught by Pastor John over the course of the summer beginning at 9:50 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Child care will be provided.

June 15 and 22	Lutheranism 101
July 20 and 27	Nurturing Faith
August 17 and 24	Sharing Faith

Take me out to the ballgame....



The team invites everyone out to the Tom's Creek softball field on Monday nights for some exciting ball. Loud and supportive fans always help the team play better.

June 2 vs. Blacksburg Christian at 8:15 p.m.

June 9 vs. St. Mary's Catholic at 6:15 p.m.

June 16 vs. Centennial Christian at 9:15 p.m.

June 30 vs. Dwelling Place at 6:15 p.m.

3rd and 4th Graders visit Heritage Hall



On April 20, Sandy Birch's Sunday School class visited residents of a local nursing home. They presented many of the residents with greeting cards and stuffed animals and sang some of their favorite Sunday School songs. They brought great joy to the residents, many of whom sang along to "This Little Light of Mine" with the children.

St. Michael Scholarships Awarded for 2008-2009

Thanks to the congregation's generous gifts in 2007, \$2,100 in scholarship funds were available for individuals to pursue studies in post-secondary education. Three of the recipients of the scholarships will be beginning their studies in the fall: Daniel Crowder at Virginia Tech, Justin Dolph at Bridgewater College, and Lauren Robinson at Radford University. The fourth recipient, Carol Bland, will be continuing her studies towards a masters degree in Early Childhood Special Education at Radford University.



“Second Sunday” Summer Brunch on June 8 at 10:00 a.m

You are invited to be a part of St. Michael’s new “Second Sunday” Summer Brunch on Sunday, June 8 at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Bring a dish to pass and come enjoy brunch at St. Michael. In addition to the food and fellowship, the Facilities Expansion Task Force will be providing an update on the proposed *Phase 1 – Classroom Addition*.

Receiving New Members in June

St. Michael will be receiving new members in June. If you are interested in joining St. Michael, please talk to Pastor John.

Bible Study on Mary and Martha

Come learn more about the ministry and witness of Mary and Martha on Sunday, June 22 at 7 PM at the Wertz home. The Bible study will focus on Mary and Martha in Luke 10:38-42 and in John 11:1-44. Directions to the Wertz home can be found in the entryway into the sanctuary.

New Website Online in June

St. Michael’s new website will be going online in June. Check out: www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org to see all the new resources and information that will be available.

Online Giving Option Available

St. Michael now has the ability to receive gifts through a link on our web site. The “Make A Donation” link, which is found on the left side of our home page, will take you to a secure server where you can make a donation through an electronic fund transfer, debit card or credit card. The site allows you to make a one-time, weekly or monthly gift. If you are currently using an online service which charges a fee to make a donation to St. Michael, you can use this service at no charge to you or the church. See <http://www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org/donations.html> for more information.

