



# St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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## Because of your gifts . . .

Ministry happens! Your generous support of God's ministry at St. Michael has a tremendous impact in our community. In some cases it is easy to see the direct line between your gifts and the ministry that is taking place. All gifts to the Justice and Mercy Fund provide direct financial assistance to people in need. All gifts to Micah's Backpack are used to purchase food to feed hungry students in our community. With the Core Ministry Fund and the Facilities Expansion / Growing with Faith Fund, the ministry impact may not always be as clear. Let me give you a few examples of the ways in which your gifts to the Core Ministry Fund and the Facilities Expansion / Growing with Faith Fund make Christ known.

*Core Ministry Fund* - A gift to the Core Ministry Fund supports the overall ministry of the congregation including craft supplies for Vacation Bible School, plates and cups for the Community Thanksgiving Meal and paper for the worship bulletins. As small as each of these items may seem, they are nevertheless crucial components of our learning ministry, our helping ministry and our worshipping ministry. Your generosity provides for these items and therefore makes ministry happen.

*Facilities Expansion / Growing with Faith Fund* - The classroom addition is crucial to the success of Micah's Backpack. Because we were able to create a beautiful new nursery in the classroom addition, storage for Micah's Backpack could move into the old nursery which in turn provided enough space for the program to expand from 65 backpacks per week to 150 backpacks per week. Your gifts to this fund not only reduce debt, support renovation projects and fund future ministries, they are vital to the ministry we are doing with our hearts and hands and voices each and every week.

Because of your gifts, ministry is happening in our community. Thank you for your generosity!

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 Gary Worley, Barbara Corbett, Lynn Hickock, Joyce Coupey, Karen Brown and Maggie Maloney – our talented art team – who recently assembled our latest Gallery of Gifts exhibit in the education addition hallway; Jeanette Pasier for hosting the first Book Club meeting; the LYNX group for wrapping over a hundred mom and dad gifts for the Montgomery County Christmas Store; Donna and Freddie Oliver and Wanda Pascoe for assisting with the *Growing in Faith* mailing.

### Because of your gifts

Your generous gifts in May supported Micah’s Backpack food, Vacation Bible School supplies, Christ in Our Home subscription, a new vacuum cleaner, an Eagle Scout project, two choir robes, 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 **18** families: 12 with electric bills, 3 with rent, 1 water bill, 1 tank of gasoline and 1 telephone bill. 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.



### Thank You

Many thanks to Girl Scout Troop 737 for planting five forsythia bushes, three Leyland cypress trees and one pink dogwood tree along the border of the playground. The plantings were a “thank you” to St. Michael for allowing the troop to meet at the church for the past eight years. Pictured is Olivia Hodge, a member of Troop 737.

### A giving opportunity – Back to School Clothing Program

New River Community Action (NRCA) recently announced the closing of their clothing shop which was the primary funding source of their Blacksburg Back to School Clothing Program. This program provides families with a \$50 voucher to buy clothes from Wal-Mart (and other retailers) on a tax-exempt basis. Members of St. Michael have the opportunity to support these clothing vouchers for our needy children in the community. If you can help – even with a partial voucher – please use the beige envelopes in the pews to designate your gift to “Back to School Clothing”. Justice and Mercy funds may also be used as needed. Our commitment is needed by July 1.

“As you feed one of my children, you feed me. As you clothe my children, you clothe me.”

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2308 Merrimac Road  
Blacksburg, VA 24060**

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***June Servants***

	<b>June 5</b>	<b>June 12</b>	<b>June 19</b>	<b>June 26</b>
<b>Altar Care</b>	Judith Wolfe and Sandy Birch			
<b>9 AM Service</b>				
<b>Greeters</b>	Sandra Hough Linda Elliott	Clifton and Shelane Walters	Clifton and Shelane Walters	Amy and Steve Woods
<b>Worship Asst.</b>	Keith Gay	Matthew James	Jacob Dennis	Margaret Larsen Sandy Williams
<b>11 AM Service</b>				
<b>Acolyte</b>	Corson Wertz	David Christle	Alex Moehling	Parker Wertz
<b>Comm. Asst.</b>		Kris Wertz	Lorin Crowder	
<b>Greeters</b>	Burn and Betty Gross	Burn and Betty Gross	Pasier family	Pasier family
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Anna Rossomando	Margaret Christle	Jennie Brogan	Joanne Pascoe
<b>Ushers</b>	Dickie Shepherd Ray Howell	R. Robinson James Pascoe	Ben/Grace Simmers	Philip Isenhour Hank Schneider
<b>Youth Servant</b>	Jayden Haley	Megan Christle	The Brown girls	Delanie Veit

Mowing: 6/4–Joe Young (front); 6/11–William Allen (back); 6/18–James/Dennis (front);  
6/25- Jay Nagle (back)  
Rear Lot: 6/6–Mike Berg; 6/13-Jim Clemens; 6/20-Dave Surface; 6/27-Jeff Crowder

## Women of the ELCA

**\$558.93! Our Thank offering!** Thank you to everyone who saved their change in the little thank offering boxes last month. This special offering has been sent to the ELCA to provide mosquito nets, spray homes with insecticides, and provide necessary anti-malarial medication to prevent and treat malaria in Africa. All of our pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters really added up. Thank you also for your donations for Pastor Karen Rupp on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.



The annual Virginia Synodical Women's Organization (VSWO) convention will be held at Roanoke College on July 22-24. If you are interested in attending, additional information and registration forms are available on the hallway bulletin board. You can also talk with Jody Smiley, VSWO state president, or Alice Schneider, New River Conference chair as well. **Donations of new children's books for the RAM House will be collected at the conference as well as cans of tuna and juice boxes for the local Food Bank. Contributions from the congregation in June and July are very welcome.**



**Over 30 sisters** attended the annual Sisters in Christ luncheon in May as we celebrated our sisterhood with stories of bold women in the New and Old Testament. Thank you to everyone who brought delicious salads and desserts to share. Two of our sisters were recognized as our Bold Women of 2011: Judy Clemens and Betty Gross. Both were celebrated for their generous and unselfish service to St. Michael.

**Thank you to all the sisters who participated in celebrating Bold Women** at the worship services on Sunday, May 8.

**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.

**We are all Sisters in Christ, members of the Women of the ELCA, serving together with love.**

## Lutheran Men in Mission



The Lutheran Men in Mission and friends are serving dinner at the Roanoke Rescue Mission on Sunday, June 5. We'll leave St. Michael at 3:30 p.m. and return around 8 p.m. after serving at least 200 meals. Please contact Jeff Birch at [jbirch@vt.edu](mailto:jbirch@vt.edu) or 951-3455 if you would like to participate.

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



**OKs  
on the Go!**

On Tuesday, June 7, we'll enjoy a leisurely morning at Claytor Lake and a "Happy-Go-Lucky" catered picnic lunch at the Birch cabin. A Bible study on the patio will be led by Pastor John for those who would like to participate. In the afternoon, we'll explore the rich heritage of Radford and the surrounding area as we tour the Glencoe Museum. The museum is located on the banks of the New River in the 19<sup>th</sup> century Victorian home of Confederate Colonel Wharton. **The registration deadline is June 3** and the cost is \$10.

On Friday, July 8, we'll experience the magic of Maison Beliveau, a French country style retreat on the outskirts of Blacksburg. We'll explore the lavender gardens and learn about the varieties and common uses of lavender in soaps and lotions and explore the medicinal and culinary use of this herb. A gourmet lunch will be served overlooking the beautiful Catawba Valley. **The registration deadline is June 24** and the cost is \$25.

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](mailto:birch@vt.edu)) for more information.

## Middle-agers Dinner and Theater on June 24

The "middle-agers", those between PTA and AARP, mostly with high school and 20's something children, are invited to gather for dinner and theater. On Friday, June 24, plan to meet at Gillie's at 5:30 p.m. for dinner and then we'll head across the street to the new Theatre 101 to attend the free production of "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare" which is described as "a hysterical comic parody of all the plays of Shakespeare". Talk with Suzanne Gay if you have any questions.

## Happy-Go-Lucky Luncheons continue through the summer

Pencil in these dates on your social calendars:

- Tuesday, June 7      Lunch at Claytor Lake
- Tuesday, July 19      Lunch at Amelia's in Cambria
- Tuesday, August 16      Lunch at church and a celebration of Charlie Edge's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday

## St. Michael Book Club Meets on Wednesday, June 29 at 7 PM

The next meeting of the St. Michael Book Club will be on Wednesday, June 29 at 7 p.m. at the home of Dianne Krallman (913 McBryde Drive in Blacksburg). The next book to be read and discussed is *The Piano Teacher* by Janice YK Lee. For more information, please contact Pastor John. All are welcome.



## Congratulations to ....

**PFC Nathan Wall** who recently completed his Marine Corps basic training at Parris Island, SC. Nathan has reported for further training at Camp Lejeune, NC.



### Our College and University Graduates



**John Travis Krallman** graduated from Lewis and Clark Law School on May 28. He will remain in Portland while he reviews for and takes the bar exam in July. In August, John will start work for the EPA office in Boston, MA.

### Our Blacksburg High School Graduates

**Johnathan Henderson**, who is completing a walkway project at St. Michael for his Eagle Scout, will be attending Virginia Tech in the fall.

**Keely Jones**, our nursery assistant, plans to attend Radford University and study to become an occupational therapist. After college, Keely's goal is to work with elementary aged students to help improve their lives.

**Michelle Pasier** will be attending Roanoke College in the fall. She will be enrolled in the Honors and Undergraduate Research Assistance programs and plans to major in Chemistry or Biology, with a goal to conducting research.

### Our Christiansburg High School Graduates

**Sarah Crowder**, a cross country and track team member, also participated in band, chorus, theater and student government. She will be attending Virginia Tech in the fall and plans to study in the College of Natural Resources.

**Victoria Martin**, our newest member of St. Michael, plans to join the military as a chaplain's assistant. She loves doing mission work and working with people, animals and cars.

## St. Michael Wish List

The Wish List consists of items which would enhance and strengthen ministries of the congregation. Gifts may be given for these items in thanksgiving for God's goodness or in memory/honor of a loved one, friend or occasion. If you have an interest in contributing toward one of the following items or if you have an idea for something that could be added to the wish list, please contact Pastor John.

- Choir robes - \$100 each (2 needed)
- ELW Hymnals (6 needed) - \$25 each
- New Refrigerator - \$700 - \$900



## Micah's Backpack Recognized by Two Awards



On May 19, **Jennie Hodge** was named the Gunnar Tielmann Layperson of the Year by the Blacksburg/Montgomery County Kiwanis Club and **Pastor John** received the Community Builders Award from the Hunter's Masonic Lodge 156 at the annual awards dinners of both organizations. The awards were a recognition of their enthusiastic leadership of Micah's Backpack and a celebration of the many volunteers who have helped grow the feeding outreach program from serving 5 students in 2008 to nearly 150 in 2011. Jennie is pictured with Dr. Tielmann's daughter Evelyn.

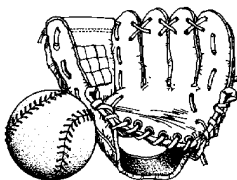
### **“Second Sunday” Summer Brunch on June 12 at 10:00 AM Honoring our 2011 Graduates**

You are invited to be a part of St. Michael's “Second Sunday” Summer Brunch on Sunday, June 12 at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Bring a dish to share and come enjoy brunch at St. Michael. In addition to enjoying the food and fellowship, we will be recognizing our 2010 high school and college graduates and taking a first vote on several constitutional amendments. Descriptions of the recommended amendments are available for review at the congregation website, <http://www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org/downloads/>. A paper copy is available for review in the front hallway.



We will also be featuring our newest Gallery of Gifts art exhibit in the hallway of the classroom addition – a display of Christian symbols created by our St. Michael artists and others.

### **Take me out to the ballgame....**



The team invites everyone out to the Jaycee softball field at the Blacksburg Municipal Park for some exciting ball. Loud and supportive fans always help the team play better.

Saturday, June 11 vs. Slusser's Chapel at 2 p.m.  
Monday, June 13 vs. Harvest Baptist at 7:15 p.m.  
Tuesday, June 14 vs. BJCC-LDS at 8:15 p.m.  
Monday, June 20 vs. Christ Episcopal at 6:15 pm.  
Tuesday, June 21 vs. NRVCC at 7:15 p.m.  
Monday, June 27 vs. Northstar at 8:15 p.m.

**Mark Your Calendars -  
Saturday, July 9 is Lutheran Day at the Pulaski Mariners**

# **PANDAMANIA**

**Where God is Wild about You!**  
Psalm 73<sup>g</sup>™

## **Vacation Bible School for Youth and Adults**

The fun begins on Sunday, June 12 and continues through Thursday, June 16. Each night will begin with a light supper at 6:15 p.m. and end at 8:15 p.m.

### **Thank You Sunday School Teachers!**

Thank you to all the teachers and leaders who have helped make this an exciting year. From the pre-school class to the adults, the story of God's love and presence in our lives has been proclaimed. We appreciate all those who shared their time and talents this year including: Loren Crowder for leading our opening music, Cindy Dowdy, Margaret Christle, and Lisa Moehling for teaching the K-2 class, Maggie Maloney for teaching the grade 3-5 class, Kris Wertz and Jody Smiley for leading the middle and high school class, and Pastor John for leading the adult class. Thank you also to all the substitute teachers.

### **Mission Trip to Southwest Virginia**

Luther Memorial and St. Michael congregations are planning a joint mission trip in southwest Virginia. Volunteers will leave Blacksburg on Tuesday, July 5 and return Saturday, July 9. The group will work under the auspices of Project HOPE (Helping Overcome Poverty's Existence), a local agency which works with homelessness and emergency needs, and will stay at Holy Trinity Church in Wytheville. The exact location of the work is still to be arranged, but it will involve home repair/construction of some type. The cost will be \$100 plus food. Scholarships are available. For more information contact Pastor John ([pastorjohn@stmlc.us](mailto:pastorjohn@stmlc.us)) or Pastor Bill King ([luthercm@vt.edu](mailto:luthercm@vt.edu)).

### **Power in the Spirit is July 8-10 at Roanoke College**

"Shaped by the Master's Hands" is the theme for Power in the Spirit, an inspirational conference for everyone who wishes to explore God's call to service through joyous worship, Bible study, keynote addresses, workshops, and fellowship. Additional information is available on the hallway bulletin board.



## Welcome to the St. Michael Family



On May 15, our family welcomed two new sisters to St. Michael. **Nia Indelicato** is the Executive Director of Literacy Volunteers of the New River Valley. She loves to sing and adds her voice to the St. Michael choir. With a huge interest in international relations, Nia volunteers each year on the staff of a collegiate level Model United Nations Conference out of Chicago. Her name, Nia, is Swahili for “purpose” and it is the fifth day of Kwanza. As a fun fact, Nia has driven all of Route

66. **Joanna Garcia** grew up in Cleveland and attended Ohio Wesleyan University where she ran track and played basketball. After graduating in 1997, she was commissioned in the U.S. Marine Corps and served as an air support control officer stationed at Cherry Point, NC. Joanna’s next stop was at North Carolina State where she earned a master’s degree in accounting and worked as a tax consultant for five years in Raleigh. Now at Virginia Tech to pursue a doctorate in accounting, Joanna plans to become a professor. Her three cats Andy, JJ, and Lucy support her interests in reading, pottery and cooking. Nia and Joanna provided the inspiration and leadership for our new St. Michael Book Club.

### Feeding America Volunteer Field Trip on June 6

Join the volunteers from Micah’s Backpack for fun, fellowship, and food sorting at Feeding America (the food bank) in Salem on Monday, June 6 from 9 a.m. to noon. During the last three months, members of St. Michael and friends from our Micah’s Backpack partner groups traveled to Feeding America to volunteer for three hours to sort, inspect, and pack donated food from Kroger and to bag pasta destined for soup kitchens and other agencies. James, the Quality Control Coordinator at Feeding America, welcomes volunteers with a smile and says they “need 30-40 volunteers a week to make sure food gets from the donation side of the food bank to the distribution side.” No experience is necessary and we promise a fun and fulfilling trip. Please e-mail Jennie Hodge at [jennie@micahsbackpack.org](mailto:jennie@micahsbackpack.org) with any questions or to sign up.

### Micah's Backpack: Summer Feeding Program

Through a partnership with Feeding America, Micah's Backpack will be providing bag lunches to students this summer at two sites. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, we will distribute lunch at the Oak Forest Playground and on Tuesdays, we will distribute food at Blacksburg Estates. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jennie Hodge: [jennie@micahsbackpack.org](mailto:jennie@micahsbackpack.org).