



St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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Volume 34, Number 7

July 1, 2011

Because of your generous gifts . . .

We are sharing God's Word through Vacation Bible School and at Confirmation Camp.

Thank You!



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 Ben and Carol Crawford for representing St. Michael at the Virginia Synod Assembly; everyone who helped with Vacation Bible School (VBS) including Jody Smiley, our VBS coordinator, all our teachers and assistants, and Betty Gross and her kitchen crew; Linda Elliott for donating a portion of her Beanie Baby collection as gifts for the VBS students; and Nancy Goad for loaning us her 3 big Panda Bears for VBS.

Because of your gifts

Your generous gifts in June provided materials and food for Vacation Bible School, office supplies, hymnals, our benevolence to the Virginia Synod, donations to MCEAP, Lutheran Campus Ministry, ChildFund International, our facilities, and salaries for our ministerial staff.

The **Justice and Mercy Fund** assisted **15** families; eight with electric bills, a water bill for one family, rent for one family, gasoline for four families, and medical expenses for one family. A donation was also sent to Rev. Karen Rupp on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation for the homeless shelter. We encourage the congregation to continue their contributions and to refer friends and family to use the fund as you see need.

Some thank you notes

Dear St. Michael Lutheran Church: With gratitude I share this word of thanks to you for your recent gift of \$537.70 for the Malaria Project and for your support of the ministries of the ELCA ...I pray that you will find great joy in knowing what your gift makes possible in the lives of others today, and in the future.

Sincerely yours, The Rev. Mark S. Hanson, Presiding Bishop

Dear St. Michael family, Thank you for your monetary donation. It means so much to know I have such an extensive, supportive church family. Thank you for awarding me your scholarship. It will be very useful in furthering my education.

Sincerely, Michelle Graham

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, please contact Pastor John.

Choir robes - \$100 each (3 needed); playground ball set - \$30; parachute - \$75

Thank you to Barbara Corbett for donating a choir robe and Dean and Jean Rueschman, Pat Smith, and Charlene Harris for donating hymnals.

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July Servants

	July 3	July 10	July 17	July 24	July 31
Altar Care	Burn and Betty Gross				
9 AM Service					
Greeters	Steve and Amy Woods	Shirley Linkous Judith Wolfe	William Allen Judith Wolfe	J.C. and Amelia Martin	J.C. and Amelia Martin
Worship Asst.	Lori Anne Kirk	Amy Dandro Emily and Katie	Jennie and Olivia Hodge	Margaret Larsen William Allen	Keith Gay
11 AM Service					
Acolyte	Seth Brewer	Parker Wertz	Corson Wertz	Alex Moehling	E. Berg
Comm. Asst.			D. Krallman		
Greeters	McCartan/Brewer family	McCartan/Brewer family	Jeff and Sandy Birch	Jeff and Sandy Birch	Berg family
Lay Reader	Lorin Crowder	Salinda Arthur	John Krallman	Jay Nagle	Mike Berg
Ushers	Ray Howell Dickie Shepherd	James and Wanda Pascoe	M. McGuigan JoAnne Pascoe	Randy Robinson Ben Simmers	Philip Isenhour Don Linkous
Youth Servant	Camden Brewer	Jayden Haley	Mazzie Price	Cam Nagle	Delanie Veit

Mowing: 7/2-Joe Young (front); 7/9-William Allen (back); 7/16-James/Dennis (front);
7/23-Jay Nagle (back); 7/30-Joe Young (front)
Rear Lot: 7/4-Mike Berg; 7/11-Jim Clemens; 7/18-Dave Surface; 7/25-Jeff Crowder

Women of the ELCA



The annual Virginia Synodical Women's Organization (VSWO) convention will be held at Roanoke College on July 22-24. The theme of the convention is "Renewal for the Soul". If you are interested in attending, talk with Jody Smiley, VSWO state president. Registration forms are available on the hallway bulletin board.

Donations of new children's books for the Roanoke Rescue Mission and cans of tuna for the Food Bank will be collected at the convention and we welcome contributions from the congregation.



Remember the Food Bank: July is canned fruits and vegetables month, though any kind of non-perishable food is always welcome.

Remember the Women's Resource Center: In July, we will continue our donations of baby items: baby food and diapers.

"Second Sunday" Summer Brunch on July 10 at 10:00 a.m.

You are invited to be a part of St. Michael's "Second Sunday" Summer Brunch on Sunday, July 10 at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Bring a dish to share and come enjoy fine food and fellowship with the St. Michael family. Olivia Hodge will hold a bake sale at the brunch to raise money for her Girl Scout trip to Europe next summer. She will be selling brownies and Hodge Podge cookies.



Thank you to everyone who helped set up, organize the serving, and clean up after the June 2nd Sunday Brunch sponsored by the Women of the ELCA.

New River Conference Youth Event: Hike at the Cascades on July 24

The New River Conference Youth are going hiking at the Cascades on Sunday, July 24. We will leave immediately following the 11 a.m. Service and meet the other youth for a picnic before starting the hike. All youth 5th grade and older are invited. If you are interested in going, please sign up on the Welcome sheet or talk to Pastor John for more information.

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



OKs
on the Go!

Pictured is the group of OKs who enjoyed a lake picnic and museum tour in June. Our next trip is Friday, July 8, to the Maison Beliveau, a French country style retreat on the outskirts of Blacksburg. The remaining trips are:

July 16 Floyd Summer Concert at Zion Lutheran Church and Dinner the Pine Tavern Inn. Registration deadline is July 8 and the cost is \$23 which includes the family-style dinner. Pastor Linda Mitchell Motley and her husband Billy plan to join us.

August 17 Tour the Kroger Distribution Center in Salem and the Roanoke Times and World News Center. Lunch at the K&W cafeteria (on your own). Registration deadline is August 10 and the cost is \$10.

September 21 Visit Mayberry (Mt. Airy, NC) in Barney Fife's Squad Car. Registration deadline is September 14 and the cost is \$20.

October 5 Tour the National Weather Station and Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority with lunch at Amelia's Pizzeria. Registration deadline is September 28 and the cost is \$8.

The Registration forms and a "travel brochure" for the remaining trips are available on the hallway bulletin board. You are encouraged to sign up soon as several of the tours are "filling up". Contact Sandy Birch (951-3455 or birch@vt.edu) for more information.

Happy-Go-Lucky Luncheons continue through the summer

Our July luncheon will be Tuesday, July 19 at noon and our special guest will be Charles Lytton, author of "*New River: bonnets, apple butter and moonshine*". Charles will share stories of growing up along the New River and its influence on his life. The catered luncheon will include recipes from his book. One review of his book states, "Mr. Lytton is a talented storyteller. You may not know him when you begin his book, but by the end he will feel like an old friend."



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 is no tree to put up and no lights to hang..... just the celebration of Christ's birth and the joy of Christmas!

Christmas in July: Gifts of Caring Peanut Butter for Heaven

During July, in conjunction with Feeding America, Micah's Backpack will participate in a food drive to collect small jars of peanut butter for the upcoming school year called Peanut Butter from Heaven. In honor of Christmas in July, bring in a small jar of peanut butter to help stock the Micah's Backpack shelves for the upcoming school year! For questions, please talk to Jennie Hodge: 953-2225 or jennie@micahsbackpack.org.



Reservations for the Wohlfahrt Haus Theater Christmas Show

St. Michael will again sponsor a **trip to the Wohlfahrt Haus Dinner Theater on Sunday, December 4, for the annual Christmas show, "A Wohlfahrt Haus Holiday Spectacular"**. The cost will be \$36 for the show (\$24 for children) and four-course lunch and we've already reserved the best seats in the house.

Please make your reservation on the "Welcome to St. Michael" form in the church bulletin. We only have 22 tickets and will be carpooling to the event. If you have any questions, contact Sandy Birch. Payment will not be due until October.

School Supplies for Children in Need

In July and August, St. Michael will be collecting school supplies for children in need at Price's Fork, Kipps and Lafayette-Elliston Elementary Schools. All supplies are welcome. The collection box is in the narthex. Thank you.



Needed Items

Backpacks	Wide Rule Notebook Paper
Pencils	School Scissors
Glue Sticks	Pocket Folders with Prongs
Crayons	Colored Pencils
Anti-Bacterial Soap	Tissue
Black and White Composition Notebooks	
3-ring Binders	

Pandamania Vacation Bible School a Great Success



Thank you to all the teachers and helpers at Vacation Bible School. Over 70 youth and adults enjoyed learning about God's power for our lives. Go to the St. Michael website for lots of pictures of Vacation Bible School.

Micah's Backpack June 2011 School Year-to-Date Results

147 Students Helped
1600 Volunteer Hours Donated
3,323 Backpacks Delivered
19,722 Meals Delivered
10,034 Items of Donated Food
5 Elementary Schools, 1 Middle School and 2 Preschools Helped



A preschool teacher at a partner school shared the following via email, "I have several students who receive a backpack every Friday and I can see how much it helps them."

Thank you for your generous support of Micah's Backpack this school year!

Pastor John preaches the opening sermon at Synod Assembly



On June 3, Pastor John opened the 24th Annual Assembly of the Virginia Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) with a thoughtful sermon on the Ten Commandments. The annual meeting was held at Roanoke College with 417 ministers and lay leaders attending, including Jody Smiley, President of the Virginia Synodical Women's Organization (VSWO), and Ben and Carol Crawford representing St. Michael. The Reverend Jim Mauney was re-elected Bishop on the first ballot. The Synod Spending Plan was presented to the Assembly by Pastor John and was passed unanimously. The 3-day meeting concluded June 5.

Welcome to the St. Michael family

Our newest member, Victoria Martin, graduated from Christiansburg High School this June. Victoria is very interested in mission work and working with people, animals and cars. She plans to join the military as a chaplain's assistant. Welcome Victoria!



Congratulations to....

Forrest Worley, who graduated from the Academy of Art University in San Francisco with a Master of Fine Arts degree in Illustration. Forrest is completing a children's book as part of his master's thesis project which he hopes will get published. He is also interested in working for a movie studio as a character illustrator or conceptual artist.

Emily Katz, who was baptized on Easter Sunday in Ashville, NC so her ailing great grandfather could be present. Emily is the infant daughter of Bryan and Katie Katz.

Karen Brown, who with her partner Gina Wright, has launched their new company, Community Care Solutions LLC. It is a full service agency that assists families, individuals, and professionals finding solutions to promote independence and a high quality of life for older adults and people with disabilities. Care might include transportation, sitters, and light meal preparation. Their company is located at the intersection of Merrimac and Prices Fork Road (near St. Michael) and the phone number is 953-CARE (2273).



Michelle Pasier (Roanoke College), **Michelle Graham** (Roanoke College), **Keely Jones** (Radford University) and **Johnathan Henderson** (Virginia Tech), recipients of 2011 St. Michael Scholarships. Pictured are Michelle Pasier and Keely Jones at the graduates reception sponsored by the Women of the ELCA on June 12.

Lutheran Ministry in Papua New Guinea Potluck

We are invited to a potluck dinner and fellowship with other Lutheran congregations in the New River to learn about the work of the church in Papua New Guinea. Our guests, Miriam Muyambee and Mary Irasua, will share their stories and we can learn how we can become more involved as ambassadors to our sister synod in Papua New Guinea. Beverages and main dishes will be provided; bring a favorite salad or dessert to complete the evening meal. Please sign up on the St. Michael Welcome form if you can attend.

The event will be held at Our Saviour Lutheran Church on Tuesday, July 19, from 6 to 8:30 p.m.