



St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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God's Work, Our Hands

28 youth and 6 adults can pick a ton of tomatoes. There were probably 40 or 45 large plastic crates sitting by the side of the field and within an hour each of them was filled with tomatoes for the Food Bank. As I looked at the stack of crates, I was reminded what powerful work can be accomplished when God's people come together and use their gifts to serve God and one another. Our morning of gleaning was made possible because a farmer donated the produce from his field, a pastor made the calls to set up the project, a group of young people gave their time to pick vegetables and a driver from the food bank came to pick up the food. Without each person's willingness to share their gifts, this donation of food would not have been possible. As Paul says to the Corinthians, "there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good" (1 Cor 12:4-7).

Each year, St. Michael works to create opportunities for God's people to use their gifts for the common good. You can get involved in short-term projects like the Community Thanksgiving Meal and the School Supply collection or long-term projects, like Micah's Backpack and the Justice and Mercy Fund. You can go on a summer mission trip or you can go visit a neighbor who is sick in the hospital. The key is to find the opportunity that best fits your gifts and passions and get involved. If you want more information about various ministry opportunities at St. Michael or if you have an idea for a new ministry opportunity, please let me know.

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 God has first given us--our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of God's gracious love.

Thank you to some “quiet” servants

To Ray and Tommy Howell for cleaning out the brush in the side yard; the Caring and Sharing team for setting up our “Second Sunday” summer brunch in July; all our lawn mowers this summer – William Allen, Mike Berg, Jim Clemens, Jeff Crowder, Jacob Dennis, Matthew James, Jay Nagle, Dave Surface, Joe Young; everyone who contributed children's books for the Roanoke Rescue Mission; everyone who contributed jars of peanut butter and cans of tuna fish to Micah's Backpack; Corson Wertz who went on the July mission trip to Virginia Beach; Joanna Garcia who helped repair a roof and clean up debris on the mission trip to Washington County; Linda Elliott and Bill Greer who fold our bulletins each week; and Keith Gay who set up our new refrigerator.

Because of your gifts

Your generous gifts in July provided funds for office supplies, our benevolence to the Virginia Synod, donations to MCEAP, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Christian Children's Fund, our facilities, and salaries for our ministerial staff.

The **Justice and Mercy Fund** assisted 9 families; 4 with rent assistance, 4 with help with their electric bills, and one with medical costs. The fund also provided five Back to School clothing vouchers for needy children. We encourage the congregation to continue their contributions and to refer friends and family to use the fund as you see need.

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.

Refrigerator - \$595
Playground ball set - \$30 each
Parachute - \$75

Thank you to Dean and Jean Rueschman for donating two choir robes in loving memory of their parents, Harlen and Irene Rueschman and Charles and Juanita Fillmore and to Kenneth and Denise Krallman for donating three choir robes in loving memory of her parents, Al and Thelma Hylton.

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August Servants

	August 7	August 14	August 21	August 28
Altar Care	Jeanette Pasier			
9 AM Service				
Greeters	Shirley Linkous William Allen	Shirley Linkous William Allen	Lynn Hickok Barbara Corbett	Lynn Hickok Barbara Corbett
Worship Asst.	Keith Gay	Matthew James	Jacob Dennis	Lori Anne Kirk Sandy Williams
11 AM Service				
Acolyte	Corson Wertz	Seth Brewer	David Christle	Sarah Moehling
Comm. Asst.	Jody Smiley		Joanne Pascoe	
Greeters	Jim and Judy Clemens	Jim and Judy Clemens	Pasier family	Berg family
Lay Reader	Cindy Dowdy	Maggie Maloney	Fred Spengler	Salinda Arthur
Ushers	Dickie Shepherd Jeff Birch	Randy Robinson Ray Howell	Ben/Grace Simmers	Philip Isenhour Don Linkous
Youth Servant	MaKayla Dowdy	Delanie Veit	Mazzie Price	Jayden Haley

Mowing: 8/6–William Allen (back); 8/13–James/Dennis (front); 8/20–Jay Nagle (back);
8/27- Joe Young (front)
Rear Lot: 8/1–Mike Berg; 8/8-Jim Clemens; 8/15-Dave Surface; 8/22-Jeff Crowder ;
8/29-Mike Berg



Women of the ELCA

Remember the Food Bank: August is “macaroni & cheese” month, though any kind of non-perishable food is always welcome.

Remember the Women’s Resource Center: In August, we will donate toilet paper.

With your assistance, the Virginia Women of the ELCA donated nearly 600 new books to the Roanoke Rescue Mission. The books were distributed during the 2011 Virginia Synodical Women’s Organization (VSWO) convention held at Roanoke College. At the convention, Jody Smiley was recognized for her faithful service and leadership as president of the organization for the past four years.

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



Twelve
OKs

**OKs
on the Go!**

traveled to Floyd for dinner at the Pine Tavern and music by the White Top Mountain Band in the Oak Pavilion at Zion Lutheran Church. Earlier in the month, eight OKs enjoyed lunch and a tour at the Lavender Garden at Maison Beliveau on the outskirts of Blacksburg.



Our next trip is Wednesday, August 17 to the Kroger Distribution Center in Salem (one of the largest on the east coast) and the Roanoke Times and World News Center with lunch at the K&W Cafeteria. Registration deadline is August 10 and the cost is \$10 (lunch extra). All are welcome on this “manufacturing technology” trip. Registration forms are available on the hallway bulletin board.

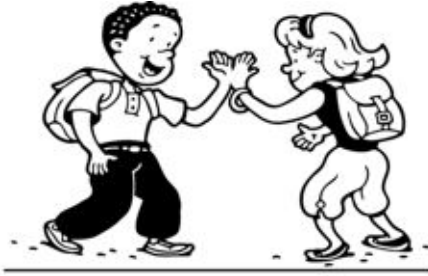
Happy-Go-Lucky Luncheon on Tuesday, August 16

Save **August 16** for fun, fellowship and a tasty catered luncheon. It’s Charlie Edge’s 90th birthday and we’re going to celebrate with him. Social time will begin at 11:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall, with lunch at noon. A \$5 contribution to the meal is appreciated, but not required.



Backpack Blessing on August 14

With the school year preparing to start, St. Michael will have a Backpack Blessing as a part of worship on Sunday, August 14. All youth and teachers are invited to bring their backpacks or school bags to church for this time of prayer and blessing for the new school year. Consider inviting your friends or teachers you know to come and have their backpacks blessed as we ask for God's blessing for all teachers and students.



Backpack Blessing

Back to School Breakfast for the Teachers at Price's Fork Elementary



St. Michael will be providing a back to school breakfast for the teachers at Price's Fork Elementary School on Thursday, August 11. If you would be interested in helping, you can sign up on the "Welcome to St. Michael" form in the bulletin.

School Supplies for Children in Need

St. Michael will be collecting school supplies for children in need at Price's Fork, Kipps and Eastern Montgomery Elementary Schools. The deadline for donations is Sunday, August 14. The collection box is in the church foyer. Thank you.



Needed Items

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

ChildFund Update

Christa, our sponsored child from Indonesia, recently mailed a thank you letter for some gifts we sent her. She reports she "feels so glad because of God's blessing [to] graduate from vocational high school." She will continue studying at a tourism college in Bali. If you'd like to send a message to either of our sponsored children, please see Jennie Hodge. We can even send messages in their native languages using Google translator!

Sunday School and Bible Sunday on September 11



Sunday School will begin again on Sunday, September 11 at 9:50 a.m. **During worship, we will have Bible Sunday and make age appropriate Bibles available to youth and others within the congregation.** If you enjoy working with youth and would like to be a part of a teaching team for the fall, please sign up on the "Welcome to St. Michael" form in the bulletin, or talk to Pastor John.

St. Michael at the Price's Fork Fair

St. Michael will have a booth at the Price's Fork Fair on Friday, August 19 and Saturday, August 20. The booth will offer free games and face painting for kids, free Bibles for families and provide an opportunity to share the ministry of St. Michael with the community. If you have the talent of face painting or would be interested in working the game at the booth, please sign up on the "Welcome to St. Michael" form in the bulletin or talk with Carol Crawford at 961-5733. Volunteers always have a great time.



Library Meeting on Sunday, August 21 at 10 a.m.

A library of "spirit-filled" books and videos related to our faith journey is being organized at St. Michael. Hundreds of titles can be viewed on the St. Michael website. Volunteers are needed to manage the library, e.g., add books to the database, recommend new acquisitions, devise a check-out system. Everyone interested in helping with the library is invited to a meeting on Sunday, August 21, at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

St. Michael Book Club on August 31

In August, the St. Michael Book Club will be reading "Great House" by Nicole Krauss and will meet to discuss the book on Wednesday, August 31. Everyone is welcome to participate.

New Members Received on Sunday, August 28

St. Michael will be receiving new members at both services on Sunday, August 28. If you are interested in joining St. Michael, please speak with Pastor John for more information.

Congratulations to...

Rick and Carrie Mayer on the birth of their son, Reid Evan Mayer on May 29. Alexa is his proud big sister.



Summer Mission Trips

This summer members from St. Michael participated in two mission trips. If you are interested in participating in the St. Michael/Luther Memorial Mission Trip next summer or next year's Middle School Mission Trip, please talk to Pastor John.



Summer Micah's Backpack - July 2011 Results

Distribution Sites:

Blacksburg Estates Mobile Home Park and Oak Forest Mobile Home Park
104 Children Fed Lunch On-Site
104 Meals Sent Home
130 Volunteer Hours Donated

After the first week of serving lunches at Blacksburg Estates, three children greeted the next week's volunteers waiting for the lunches the volunteers brought.

One child at Oak Forest had his lunch and then went home and brought back a younger sister and cousin to share the lunches with them too. The following week he helped a volunteer find more kids to come to the site to eat lunch.

Thank you for your generous support of Summer Micah's Backpack!

You are Invited . . .

“Second Sunday” Summer Brunch on August 14 at 10 a.m.

You are invited to be a part of St. Michael’s “Second Sunday” Summer Brunch on Sunday, August 14 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. We will have a very brief congregational meeting as well to take the second vote of 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.



Zion Lutheran in Floyd – Music and Theater



Pastor Linda Mitchell Motley and her congregation invite us to the Oak Grove Pavilion at Zion Lutheran on Saturday, August 6, to enjoy “No Strings Attached”, an award-winning quartet based in Roanoke and Blacksburg. The benefit music and a meal is \$10 in advance/\$12 at the door and begins at 5:30 pm.

On August 19 & 20; 26 & 27, the Zion Players will present a melodrama, "Daisey’s Dilemma at the Diamond Dutchess Hotel" at 7:30 p.m. Linda’s husband Billy is the “star”, and Pastor Linda has a small part. The event is free of charge, but donations will be collected during intermission to support local charities.

Shiloh Lutheran / St. Michael Ice Cream Social on August 14



We are invited to an Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 14, at 4 p.m. at Shiloh Lutheran Church. If you have questions, call Verna Reynolds at 552-2292.



New Mt. Zion Lutheran Annual Homecoming Picnic on August 28

We are invited to a potluck picnic at New Mt. Zion Lutheran Church on Sunday, August 28 at the fellowship hall at 12:30 p.m. The congregation welcomes us to the 11 a.m. worship service too. If you have any questions, contact Judy Ridinger at 953-2703.