



St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

2308 Merrimac Road

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October 1, 2011

For the Glory of God

In Virginia, we are blessed with a talented and caring Bishop and Synod staff. As Bishop Mauney begins his 13th year as Bishop, he is traveling around the state to engage youth and adults in conversation and faith sharing. On October 16, he will be at St. Michael to meet with the people of the New River Conference. I hope you and your family will come and experience “For the Glory of God” with Bishop Mauney, Assistant to the Bishop Chip Gunsten and Assistant to the Bishop Dave Delany. I think it will be a wonderful day! Here is the schedule.

Youth Event (5th through 12th graders)

Led by Bishop Mauney and Pastor Dave Delaney

2:30 PM to 5 PM

Dinner for Youth and Adults

5 PM to 5:45 PM

Faith Sharing with the Bishop and Staff for Youth and Adults

5:45 PM to 7 PM

Worship

7 PM to 7:30 PM

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 Joyce Coupey for creating our Thank You cards for Blacksburg’s first responders and for all who baked cookies; Kris Wertz and Sheila McCartan who helped with our first youth night; Linda Elliott and Bill Greer for folding our bulletins each week.

Because of your gifts

Your generous gifts in September provided church software, volleyball team registration, Micah’s Backpack food, our benevolence to the Virginia Synod and mission partner, donations to MCEAP, Lutheran Campus Ministry, ChildFund International, support of our facilities, and salaries for our ministerial staff.

The **Justice and Mercy Fund** continues to assist our neighbors in the community and the world. In September, we assisted **17 families** three with electric service, two with a water bill, five with rent, and five with car expenses.

A thank you note

Dear St. Michael friends,

We want to say thank you for the weekly donations of flowers. Please know they bring such joy and peace to the residents. Heritage Hall is blessed to have a partnership with St. Michael and we hope to continue the friendship. Your friends from Heritage Hall

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.

Needed items: new hanging signs for the corner of Price’s Fork and Merrimac (\$50 each)
Refrigerator (\$600)
DLP Projector for educational presentations (\$400)
Micah’s Backpack tables (4 at \$60 each)
White folding chairs for the fellowship hall (24 @ \$25 each)

Thank you to Burn and Betty Gross who donated a choir robe and to Bee Bedwell who donated a choir robe in loving memory of Renee Brown.

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October Servants

	October 2	October 9	October 16	October 23	October 30
Altar Care	Sandy Birch		Alice Schneider		Raines/Smiley
9 AM Service					
Greeters	Shirley and Angie Linkous	Shirley and Angie Linkous	Carol and Ben Crawford	Ben and Carol Crawford	Hodge family
Worship Asst.	Keith Gay	Matthew James	Jennie and Olivia Hodge	Jacob Dennis	Margaret Larsen Sandy Williams
11 AM Service					
Acolyte	Corson Wertz	Sarah Moehling	Seth Brewer	Parker Wertz	David Christle
Comm. Asst.	Randy Robinson		S. McCartan		Kris Wertz
Greeters	Wanda and James Pascoe	Joanne Pascoe Judy Clemens	Joanne Pascoe Judy Clemens	Deloris Raines Betty Gross	Deloris Raines Dianne Krallman
Lay Reader	Margaret Christle	Jay Nagle	Lorin Crowder	Lori Anne Kirk	Dianne Krallman
Ushers	Ray Howell Ben Simmers	Philip Isenhour M. McGuigan	R. Robinson D. Shepherd	Rick Mayer Don Linkous	Wanda and James Pascoe
Youth Servant	Jessica, Abby, Maddie Brown	Delanie Veit	Camden Brewer	Jayden Hayley	Megan Christle

Mowing schedule: 10/1 and 10/29: William Allen (back); 10/8: James/Dennis (front)

10/15: Jay Nagle (back); 10/22: Joe Young (front)

Rear lot: 10/3: Jim Clemens; 10/10: Dave Surface; 10/17: Jeff Crowder; 10/24: Mike Berg

Micah's Backpack unloading: 10/10: Mark Pasier, Jeff Crowder; 10/24: Keith Gay, David Surface

Women of the ELCA

The Fall Gathering of the Virginia Synodical Women's Organization (VSWO) will be Sunday, October 9 at 2:45 p.m. at Zion Lutheran in Floyd. Plan to attend this wonderful fellowship time with our sisters in the New River Conference. Pastor Linda Mitchell Motley will be our worship leader and the program will include inspirational stories about feeding programs such as Micah's Backpack. A potluck salad supper will be shared. **We will leave the church at 1:45 p.m. and enjoy the lovely fall foliage on the drive.**



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

Remember the Women's Resource Center: In October, we'll continue to collect paper supplies, e.g., toilet paper, paper towels. The collection basket is in the hallway.

In October, the WELCA members at St. Michael are encouraging our congregation **to fill shoe boxes for Christmas for children in the Head Start program (ages 4-6) on the Pine Ridge Indian reservation** in South Dakota. This gift box is often the only gift a child receives.



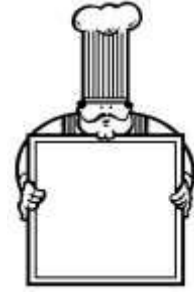
The contents of each box should be worth about \$15 (e.g., about 14-15 items from the Dollar Tree), including books and other educational items (especially those that help them with reading or arithmetic), crayons, pens, pencils, water colors, coloring books, toys (nothing that requires batteries, no toy guns), candy, games, personal hygiene items like toothbrushes and toothpaste, warm hats, gloves, scarves, and socks. Boxes can also be filled for older children or adults, but in that case, please identify the box with an appropriate label, e.g., "teenage girl". These Christmas boxes will be sent to Rev. Karen Rupp, who oversees a homeless shelter on the reservation.

Plastic shoe boxes are available in the narthex. We will be collecting the filled and unwrapped boxes through mid-November and on Sunday, November 13, we will prepare the boxes for mailing at our annual Party with a Purpose.

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 Cor. 9:8

O.K.s (Older Kids)

The **Happy-Go-Lucky group will meet for lunch on Tuesday, October 11 at noon** and enjoy dishes from Boston, MA....Boston Crème Pie, Boston Baked Beans, Boston Brown Bread.....you get the idea.



Our program will be on the important topic of “Identity Theft” and will be presented by Stephen Pond and Bob Ballard of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. We’ll learn how identity theft can occur and tips to help protect ourselves. The program will begin around 12:30 p.m.



**OKs
on the Go!**

In September, ten travelers enjoyed a day in Mt. Airy, taking a tour of the town in a 1960’s Ford Fairlane squad car (with siren) and enjoying lunch at Barney’s Cafe. On

October 5, the Go Green Tour will take us to the National Weather Station, buffet lunch at Amelia’s Pizzeria in Cambria, and a stop at the Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority where we’ll learn all about recycling.

Contact Kemvia Adams-Bush at 382-6975 to see if there are spaces available.



The Southwest Virginia Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is sponsoring a **Biltmore House Candlelight Christmas Tour on Monday, November 28**. The cost of \$90 per person (plus a new Christmas toy) includes transportation with Sunshine Tours, a buffet lunch, and the house tour in its Christmas splendor. More information is posted on the hallway bulletin board...contact the sponsors soon. All are welcome!

Make a Joyful Noise



Anyone who likes to sing and would be willing to serve God through leading in worship is invited to be a member of the choir. This fall, the St. Michael Choir will rehearse on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. For more information contact Eric Young, our choir director, at ericyoung@stmlc.us.

Blessing of the Animals on October 2

St. Michael will have a Blessing of the Animals Service on Sunday, October 2 at 3 p.m. in front of the church. This is the day that the church remembers St. Francis of Assisi. The service gives Christians an opportunity to give thanks to God for our pets who bring us joy and offer us unconditional love.



Youth Nights on October 9 and 23



Youth Night for youth from Kindergarten to 5th grade will be on Sunday, October 9 and Sunday, October 23, at 5 p.m. Come enjoy the fun and learn a little more about God's love for you. If you would like more information, contact Pastor John at pastorjohn@stmhc.us.

Senior High and Middle School Youth - LYNX October 9, 16 and 23

On Sunday, October 9, the LYNX group will be going miniature golfing from 3 to 5 p.m. and enjoying dinner from 5 to 5:30 p.m. On Sunday, October 23, the youth will participate in a service project for the Christmas Store.

On October 16, youth and adults at St. Michael are invited to "For the Glory of God", a Virginia Synod event held at St. Michael. Led by Bishop Mauney and Pastor Dave Delaney, the youth event is scheduled from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Dinner for youth and adults follows at 5 p.m. to 5:45 p.m., conversations with the Bishop from 5:45 to 7 p.m., concluding with worship at 7 p.m. Come and enjoy a day of worship, gatherings, conversation and faith sharing as we seek to be ambassadors for Christ living for the glory of God! To help prepare the proper amount of food, please sign up on the "Welcome" form.

Youth Hike to the Cascades on Sunday, November 6

The youth of the New River Conference will meet on Sunday, November 6, to hike to the Cascades Falls. We will meet in the parking lot of the Jefferson National Forest at 1:30 p.m. and make our way up the trail, enjoying the company, the water and finally the falls. Please use the St. Michael "Welcome" form to sign up and talk with Pastor John for more information.

**Sunday School for All Ages Begins at 9:50 AM in the Sanctuary
Everyone is Welcome!!**

St. Michael's Sunday School provides learning opportunities for individuals from pre-kindergarten through Adults. The Adult Sunday School class will be discussing people and places in the Bible so if you have a special interest, contact Pastor John.

Sunday Night Bible Study on October 23 at 7 P.M.

Pastor John will be leading a Bible Study on Gideon in the large Sunday School classroom on Sunday evening, October 23 at 7 p.m.

Sharing our Treasures



God calls us to be God's heart, hands and voices in the world. Together, our financial gifts make ministry happen. The Stewards Team is asking you to prayerfully consider estimating your giving to ministry at St. Michael in 2012. Estimating your giving provides you with the opportunity to prayerfully reflect on God's gifts to you and to decide what God is calling you to give in response. **You are invited to offer your estimate to God as a part of worship on Sunday, October 9.** With your help, we will continue to be good stewards of the treasures that God has given us.

Welcome to the St. Michael family!

On August 28, we welcomed Carole Wall to the St. Michael family. Carole and her husband Rick have two grown children, Frenda and Nathan. She has been a dairy farm wife for 31 years (the Wall dairy farm is across from the church on Merrimac Road) and also works part time at the Christiansburg Library.



Walking to Bethlehem: The Journey Continues

We're off to a good start. The congregation is reminded to record their miles on the chart on the hallway bulletin board. **Everyone who signs up on Sunday, October 2, gets a "kiss" - chocolate kiss.**

A ¼ mile track has been established in the church parking lot and a 1/10 mile walk inside the church building has been determined. Walking trails around Virginia Tech and the town have been established and maps are available on the hallway bulletin board. Just a walk around the outside aisles in the S. Main Street Kroger is 1/10 mile! Remember that walking boosts our energy levels and promotes better sleep. Walking and other physical activity improves our moods and stimulates chemicals in our brains that can make us feel happier.



We're walking....we're walking.....

We've been invited to walk at the

Blacksburg CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday, October 16 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

More information is posted on the hallway bulletin board.

Support U for Caregivers on October 13, 20 and 27.

Support U, a program on care giving, will be offered on three consecutive Thursdays in October. Support U will help you plan, find and use resources, develop coping strategies and work toward your own well-being. In the afternoon, the class will be held at St. Michael from 1 – 3 p.m. Each class will be repeated in the evening from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Luther Memorial. Respite care will also be available on-site. To register, sign-up on the St. Michael “Welcome” form. For more information, contact Pastor John. The sign up deadline is October 3.

Hope for the Holidays – a Grief Support Group

Hope for the Holidays, a grief support group open to all, is a safe place to share your loss. Please join us from 7 p.m. to 8:30 pm. at Luther Memorial on Thursday evenings from October 13 to December 8. There is no charge, but participants are asked to preregister by October 10 by calling Rhoda Janosik, LCSW,MSW, at 540-230-5376.

Care of Creation Recycling Update

Beginning September 20, Blacksburg’s curbside recycling program expanded to include plastics #3-#7 in addition to #1 and #2 plastic bottles and jugs. Accepted items within this expanded plastics recycling program include, but are not limited to, yogurt containers microwave food trays, plastic cups and coffee containers and plastic tubs that are free of food residue. Many thanks to the town for helping us to be good stewards of God’s creation.

Celebrating 43 Years Together

**St. Michael Lutheran Church
43rd Birthday Celebration**

Sunday, October 2, at about 12:10 p.m.

Enjoy an Italian feast (ziti, salad, rolls) and lots of birthday cakes.

Many memories. Recognition of our charter members. Gathering together old and new friends. Join the St. Michael family for our birthday celebration.



Sponsored by the Caring and Sharing Team and the Women of the ELCA