



St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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Getting Our Hands Dirty

On April 13, youth from the New River Conference and students from Lutheran Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech spent the morning working on projects for Micah's Garden and Micah's Backpack. Part of the group sorted food drive donations and stocked shelves, while the rest of the group moved mulch and prepared flower beds. In the course of a couple of hours, these 30 youth and young adults made a tremendous impact on the feeding ministries sponsored by St. Michael and had a great time putting their faith in action.

Each and everyday, God invites us to respond to God's love for us by putting our faith in action - - invites us to get our hands dirty. Now obviously, everyone can't work in Micah's Garden or help with Micah's Backpack, but I encourage you to seek out ways that you can be God's heart and hands and voices in the world. Remember, you don't need to solve the problem of poverty by yourself in a day to put your faith in action. Faithful responses to God's love vary from something as simple as a quiet conversation with a friend to something as life altering as a missionary trip to a third world country. Think about the gifts God has given you and the things you have fun doing. These are clues to the ways God is inviting you to respond to God's love. Once you identify an area of ministry you are passionate about - - Act. Have fun. Work hard. Listen well. Make a difference. Serve God and in the process I think you will deepen your connection to God's love for you and grow in your understanding of what it means to love one another as God first loved us.

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 Frances Edge, Nancy Young, Carole Wall, Margaret Larsen, and Shirley Linkous who helped assemble all the Easter bulletins and Bill Greer and Linda Elliot who regularly fold the weekly bulletins; everyone who provided Easter lilies and funds for Micah’s Backpack and Micah’s Soup for Seniors as Easter gifts; Pat Smith for regularly delivering our donations to the Food Bank and the Women’s Resource Center; Ron, Seth, and Camden Brewer, Sheila McCartan, and Lynn Price who worked in the yard during our spring clean-up day on April 6 along with the students from the Big Event.



Because of your gifts

Your generous gifts in April supported the Seder Meal expenses, music supplies, our benevolence to the Virginia Synod, donations to MCEAP, Lutheran Campus Ministry, ChildFund International, our facilities, our facilities expansion, and salaries for our ministry staff. The **Justice and Mercy Fund** continues to assist our neighbors in the community and the world.

In April, we provided assistance for 37 families (a record); 19 with electric bills, 13 with rent assistance, 3 with car repairs, and 2 with water bills. We encourage the congregation to continue their contributions to the fund and to refer friends and family to use the fund as you see the 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.

Choir Folder - \$20 (15 Needed)

Thank you to Jerry and Fran Gallimore for providing a multi-function laser printer.



Nearly 20 youth from around the New River Conference volunteered at the Fools for Christ Lock-in at St Michael. Some counted and sorted over 3,000 food items from food drives and others worked in Micah's Garden. They spent part of their morning prepping the garden for the upcoming growing season. There are 4

plots left so feel free to contact Jennie if you'd like to grow your own food and help grow food for friends and neighbors in need. For more information, contact jennie@micahsbackpack.org.



Micah's Backpack April Report



www.micahsbackpack.org

Thursdays and Fridays.

In April, Micah's Backpack fed 236 children and youth in our community with gifts of weekend food. 941 bags went home providing 5,646 meals plus snacks. William Allen and Bryan Katz have joined Jennie Hodge in acquiring their CDL learner's permits to get ready for driving Micah's Mobile Backpack this summer. Micah's Mobile Backpack will deliver food to partner sites including the Blacksburg Library on

Micah's Backpack will collect fruit chews in May. Every month nearly 2,000 snacks go home with hungry children and youth in their Micah's Backpack bag. Please put your gift of fruit chews in the Micah's Backpack collection bin in the entryway. In March and April, St Michael collected over 300 food items for Micah's Backpack.

Warm Hearth to host a Farmer's Market

A Farmer's Market will begin on Thursdays from 3-6 p.m. beginning May 2 at the new Community Center. See the hallway bulletin board for more details.

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May Servants

	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26
Altar Care	Matt Belue			
9 AM Service				
Greeters	Barbara Corbett Lynn Hickok	Rick and Carrie Mayer	Rick and Carrie Mayer	David and Ann Surface
Lay Reader	Keith Gay	Gil Yearwood	WELCA	Matthew James
Comm. Asst.	William Allen	Sandy Williams	WELCA	Jacob Dennis
11 AM Service				
Acolyte	Alex Moehling	Noah Moehling	WELCA	Camden Brewer
Comm. Asst.	Joanna Garcia		WELCA	Seth Brewer
Greeters	Hank and Alice Schneider	Ben and Grace Simmers	WELCA	Wanda and James Pascoe
Lay Reader	John Krallman	Jeff Birch	WELCA	Laura Peery
Ushers	Dickie Shepherd Philip Isenhour	James Pascoe Doug Goldsmith	WELCA	Ray Howell Ben Simmers
Youth Servant	Abbey Birch		WELCA	Camden Brewer
6:30 PM Service				
Greeters	Hodge family	Gary Fetter	WELCA	Deloris Raines
Lay Reader	Mike Berg	Kelly Belanger	WELCA	Charlie Saks
Comm. Asst.	Patty Renneckar	Jennie Hodge	WELCA	Charlie Saks

Mowing schedule: 5/03-J.D. Robinson(front); 5/10-William Allen(back); 5/17-James/Dennis(front); 5/24-Jay Nagle(back); 5/31-J.D. Robinson(front)
Rear: 5/06-Mike Berg; 5/13-Charlie Saks; 5/20-Doug Goldsmith; 5/27-Gil Yearwood

Women of the ELCA

All women are invited to the **Annual Sisters in Christ Luncheon on Sunday, May 5** in the fellowship hall following the 11 a.m. service. We are all sisters in Christ and all are welcome. Bring a neighbor, friend, grandmother, aunt, daughter, or niece to this fun fellowship event. Beverages and dessert will be provided for the salad potluck luncheon. Our theme is "Lydia and Lavender". Purple is "in."



On Sunday, May 19, the worship services will be led by women of the church as we **celebrate women acting boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.**

Please return your **Thank Offering boxes on Sunday, May 19 – Bold Women Sunday.** These thank offerings will provide funds for the prevention of malaria; just \$10 could save the life of a child. It's amazing how our nickels, dimes and quarters add up....last year our total thank offering was nearly \$500. Our goal is to provide a net in the name of every member of St. Michael.

Remember the Food Bank: May is "Italian month" -- bring spaghetti sauce and pasta, though any kind of non-perishable food is always welcome.

Remember the Women's Resource Center: In May, let's provide trash bags (13 and 30 gallon size).

O.K. (Older Kids) News

Happy-Go-Lucky Luncheon

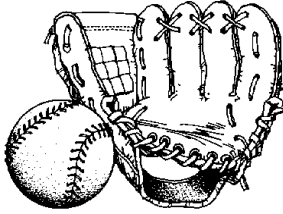
The Happy-Go-Lucky group will gather together to enjoy a "**Second Tuesday**" **spring luncheon on May 14.** Our guest will be Jocy Surface who will give us tips on how to be more active for our health. Social time begins around 11:30 a.m. with lunch at noon and the program at 12:30 p.m.



Our third bus trip will be to the Frontier Culture Museum and Blackfriars Playhouse in Staunton on June 5. The museum has reproduced examples of farmsteads and rural buildings, showing rural life and culture of early migrants while the playhouse is the world's only re-creation of Shakespeare's indoor theater. Lunch will be on our own at the Depot Grill located in the old freight depot of Staunton.

We will have time to explore the unique shops and boutiques located in the historic district. **The registration deadline is May 29** and the cost is \$28. Register early – the first two tours "sold out"! Let's go traveling.....

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.

Monday, May 6	8:15 p .m.	BJCC-LDS
Monday, May 13	6:15 p.m.	Grace Covenant
Monday, May 20	8:15 p.m.	Christ Episcopal
Monday, May 27	8:15 p.m.	NRV Community

Congratulations Graduates

Several members of our St. Michael family will be graduating this spring and will be recognized at a **graduates reception on June 9** at the first 2nd Sunday Summer Brunch at 10 a.m. Emily Garst and Matthew Pasier will be graduating from Blacksburg High School while Emory Yearwood will be graduating from Christiansburg High School. Kevin Krallman and his wife Rachel will be graduating from Oregon State University.



Everywhere Fun Fair:

Vacation Bible School for Youth and Adults begins June 2

The fun begins on Sunday, June 3 and continues through Thursday, June 6. Each night will begin with a light supper at 6:15 p.m. and end at 8:15 p.m. Look for the registration form in the bulletin and online in early May.

Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting on May 5 at 1:45 PM

Everyone interested in helping with Vacation Bible School is invited to a planning meeting and training session on Sunday, May 5 at 1:45 p.m. (following the Sisters Luncheon). Come learn more about Everywhere Fun Fair and prepare for Vacation Bible School. For more information, please talk with Jody Smiley or Pastor John.

Sunday Bible Study on May 19

On Sunday, May 19 at 7:15 p.m., Pastor John will be leading a Bible Study in the large classroom at the church on Acts 2, the story of Pentecost.

Corrections: In the 2013 directory (orange cover), the e-mail address for Patrice Yearwood, our music director, is incorrect. It is patricey@stmlc.us

Welcome to the St. Michael Family



On April 14, we welcomed 15 new members to the family. **Bob Whitmer** moved to Radford in 1942 where he graduated from Radford High School in 1947. After graduating from the University of Richmond in 1952, and spending two years in the Army, Bob began working for the First & Merchants National Bank, now Sun Trust, where he retired after 41 years of service in 1995. Bob was married for 56 years to Joyce, who passed away in 2010. They have two children: Greg, who lives in Charlottesville with

his wife and son, and Ellen, who lives in Birmingham, AL with her husband and two children. Bob enjoys gardening and sports, including following Virginia Tech athletics for the past 59 years.

James “Butch” Akers, has lived in the New River Valley all his life. He graduated from Radford University with a Masters in Art and Psychology and is employed with Carilion St. Albans Behavioral Health as a Mental Health Therapist. His wife Sue also graduated from Radford University with a Masters in Psychology and worked for the Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute as the Director of the Adolescent Unit until an accident left her confined to a wheel chair. She retired after thirty years of service. Butch and Sue reside in Fairlawn where Sue enjoys taking photos and listening to books on tape. Butch enjoys gardening, reading, painting and most sports. They have one son Christopher who resides in Dublin. Butch and Sue were married at Christ Radford in 1970 and were active members there until last year.



Wilma and Lee Pieper moved to Radford in 1983 but due to Lee’s government employment, lived in many places prior to that time, e.g., Nebraska, Kansas, Montana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Iowa and Utah. After 22 years with the government, Lee took early retirement, and decided to become a bus driver for community services and Radford University, while Wilma worked part-time at the RU Bookstore for 10 years. They have three

children, twins Karen and Kenneth, and a younger daughter Peggy. The girls went to nursing school and live in Massachusetts. Ken went to West Point, spent 26 years in the army, retired as a Colonel, and now teaches 7th grade math. They have four grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Radford has won their hearts and offers a good life as the Piepers enjoy square and round dancing, RU ball games, walking, and exercise. Wilma and Lee love attending St. Michael and feel the love and friendship of the congregation.

Welcome to the St. Michael Family

Jane Swing grew up in North Carolina, lived in Little Rock, Arkansas, and with a degree in Special Education, spent the early years of her career teaching in North Carolina and Arkansas. She met her husband Doug on a blind date and they were married in 1989. Jane moved to Doug's hometown of Radford with her son Stephen and joined with Doug's daughter Lisa, and son, Samuel. Daughter Elizabeth was born the following year and recently graduated from VT. Son Robert followed five years later and is a junior at Radford High School. Jane earned her Masters in adult education and is Director of the Office of Adult Education and Literacy Projects at Radford University. Lisa lives in California with her husband and daughter, Samuel lives in Christiansburg and runs his own emergency vehicle repair company, and sadly, Stephen, was killed in a bike/car accident in 1992. Doug Swing passed away in January after a 9-month battle with colon cancer and the family is still struggling to find their footing, but the 3 Fs are getting them through...FAMILY, FRIENDS, and FAITH. Jane loves spending time with her family, reading, traveling, music, crafts...and more. You'll most often find Jane, Bob, Butch, Wilma and Lee at the 9 a.m. service.



Nancy Young and her husband Jim came to Blacksburg in 1962. Jim worked at Poly Scientific (now Moog) on North Main Street. They have three children: Charles, the oldest, works for AT&T in Johnson City Tennessee; Ed works for Moog in Blacksburg and lives in Floyd County with his wife and daughter; daughter Jane lives in Painesville, Ohio with her husband and two daughters. Jim lives in the Virginia Veterans Care Center in Salem, where Nancy travels often to visit. Look for her at the 11 a.m. service usually—and at Happy-Go-Lucky luncheons—often sitting with her friend, Frances Edge.

Congratulations to...

Kevin Krallman and Rachel Erstad, who were married in March 23 in Corvallis, OR. Kevin is the son of John and Dianne Krallman. Kevin and Rachel will be graduating from Oregon State University in June and are seeking employment in their respective areas of Marine Biology and Public Policy.

