



# St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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## **Ministry with Youth This Summer: Sharing, Nurturing and Living**

Each year, St. Michael kicks off the summer with a week of Vacation Bible School. We gather together from 6:15 p.m. until 8:15 p.m. to share a meal, music, crafts and stories. This year, our theme is Everywhere Fun Fair. We will have groups for youth from pre-school through 12<sup>th</sup> grade and I am particularly looking forward to working with our middle school and high school aged youth to develop and lead the opening and closing skits. It should be a wonderful week and I hope you will get involved.

Not long after Vacation Bible School ends, I will take a group of five middle school youth to Confirmation Camp at Lutherock in Newland, NC. During the week we will learn more about what it means to be connected to God's Word and to live out our faith. Our youth will be with thirty youth from other congregations around the southeast and will have the opportunity to explore nature and what it means to be a child of God.

At the end of the summer (July 28 - Aug. 2), I will lead a Middle School Mission Trip to Virginia Beach for all rising 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders. We will partner with other Lutheran youth to learn about homelessness and assist organizations that make a difference in the lives of others. If any youth and their friends are interested in going on the Mission Trip, please let me know.

Your generous support of the ministry at St. Michael makes these opportunities available to our youth. Thank you for helping to share God's Word with them, for nurturing God's word in their lives and for providing them an opportunity to live out their faith in the world.

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 all the bold women who served during our worship services on May 19: reading, singing, greeting, preaching; to Wanda Pascoe and Linda Elliott who helped with last month's newsletter folding; to Nia Indelicato who baked loaves of zucchini bread for our St. Michael mothers on Mother's Day (with zucchini from Micah's Garden); to Dorothy and Abbey Birch who provided our lessons about Lydia and Lavender at the annual Sister's Luncheon.

### **Because of your gifts**

Your generous gifts in May supported our new baby ministry, altar care supplies, our benevolence to the Virginia Synod, donations to MCEAP, Lutheran Campus Ministry, ChildFund, our facilities maintenance and mortgage, 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 **33** families; 23 with electric bills, 6 with rent, 2 with water bills, and 2 with a tank of gas. 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.

### **A Thank You**

*Dear Friends,*

*Thank you for your recent gifts of non-perishable foods, laundry detergent, household supplies and 27 Easter baskets for our shelter residents. Our community is our biggest partner in providing free services to adult and child victims of sexual and domestic violence. Your participation in our mission helps us get closer to becoming a community free of such violence. With sincere gratitude, Pat Brown.*

*Dear St. Michael family,*

*Thank you so much for your love and support of Miles on his baptism! The faith chest is beautiful and the books will be a great help to us as we guide him along his faith journey. We already have so many little reminders to tuck into the faith chest to help him remember the day we gave him back to God! With love, the Maloneys*

### **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 (11 Needed)

Thank you to Ray and Betty Wingate, Bob Whitmer, and Christine McCauley who provided funds for new choir folders.



Sixteen gardeners have rented 20 raised bed plots this year! Feel free to contact Jennie if you'd like to help grow food for friends and neighbors in need. Nia Indelicato will be spearheading the planting in one of the cooperative beds and our friends at Northstar Church will be planting the other bed. Lots of opportunities to help with

harvest and maintenance are available so contact Jennie Hodge at [jennie@micahsbackpack.org](mailto:jennie@micahsbackpack.org) for more information.

### **Micah's Backpack Sharing the Story**

In May, Micah's Backpack fed 236 children and youth in our community with gifts of weekend food. 1,128 bags went home providing 6,768 meals plus snacks. Micah's Backpack grew by a little over 20% this school year with the help of St. Michael and groups and individuals in our community.

Thank you! The first week of June we will launch Micah's Mobile Backpack to continue to feed children and show them that their community cares about them year round.



[www.micahsbackpack.org](http://www.micahsbackpack.org)

**Micah's Backpack will collect microwave popcorn in June.** Every month nearly 2,000 snacks go home with hungry children and youth in their Micah's Backpack bag. Please put your gift of microwave popcorn in the Micah's Backpack collection bin in the hallway. In May, St. Michael collected over 220 fruit chews for the program.

### **Congratulations to...**

**Emily Garst**, a USA Competitive Level 8 Gymnast, who placed second on uneven parallel bars and fourth place all around in her age group at the 2013 State Competition.

**Miles Maloney** who was baptized on May 5, surrounded by many friends and family members.

**Sarah Moehling**, a member of the Glenvar Middle School Track Team, who placed first in the 100 meter hurdles and ran on the second place 4x1 meter relay team in the district track meet.

### **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. See the church calendar for a complete list of games.



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2308 Merrimac Road  
Blacksburg, VA 24060**

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## *June Servants*

	<b>June 2</b>	<b>June 9</b>	<b>June 16</b>	<b>June 23</b>	<b>June 30</b>
<b>Altar Care</b>	Doug and Jody Smiley				
<b>9 AM Service</b>					
<b>Greeters</b>	Dave and Ann Surface	Clifton and Fay Walters	Clifton and Fay Walters	Matthew James Shirley Linkous	Jacob Dennis Shirley Linkous
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Keith Gay	Judith Wolfe	Peggy Morgan	Gary Worley	Jacob Dennis
<b>Comm. Asst.</b>	William Allen	Sandy Williams	Nancy Goad	Sandie Worley	Sandy Birch
<b>11 AM Service</b>					
<b>Acolyte</b>	Alex Moehling	Noah Moehling	Sarah Moehling	Camden Brewer	Seth Brewer
<b>Comm. Asst.</b>			Laura Gruss		
<b>Greeters</b>	Moehling/Belue family	Doug and Wendy Goldsmith	Gruss family	Jim and Judy Clemens	McCartan/Brewer family
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Loren Crowder	Laura Gruss	Seth Peery	Fred Spengler	Nia Indelicato
<b>Ushers</b>	Dickie Shepherd Ray Howell	James and Wanda Pascoe	Randy Robinson Philip Isenhour	Mickie McGuigan Doug Goldsmith	Nia Indelicato Jody Smiley
<b>Youth Servant</b>	Jessica, Maddie Abbie Brown		Rosie Gruss		
<b>6:30 PM Service</b>					
<b>Greeters</b>	Deloris Raines	Gary Fetter	Berg family	Deloris Raines	Deloris Raines
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Charlie Saks	Kelly Belanger	Patty Renneckar	Corson Wertz	Charlie Saks
<b>Comm. Asst.</b>	Patty Renneckar	Deloris Raines	Mike Berg	Kris Wertz	Martie Saks

Mowing: 6/7–William Allen (back); 6/14–James/Dennis (front); 6/121–Jay Nagle (back); 6/28- J.D. Robinson (front)  
Rear Lot: 6/3–David Surface; 6/10–Jeff Crowder; 6/17–Mike Berg; 6/24–Charlie Saks

## Congratulations Graduates



Several members of our St. Michael family graduated this spring. **Emily Garst**, a Blacksburg High School graduate, plans to attend Virginia Tech and study Mechanical Engineering. Emily's favorite activity during high school was gymnastics and she was a USA Competitive Level 8 Gymnast who practiced over 20 hours per week year round. Another BHS graduate, **Matthew Pasier**, loves long-distance running and spending time with his friends. He plans to study Biology at Virginia Military Institute where he will also will be running for the VMI cross county and track teams. **Emory Yearwood**, a Christiansburg High School graduate, is a sports fanatic who participated in basketball, soccer and track. She also loves to sing and was a member of the CHS Chamber Ensemble. Emory will attend the University of Virginia this fall. **Kevin Krallman and his wife Rachel** have graduated from Oregon State University and are seeking employment in their respective areas of Marine Biology and Public Policy.

### **“Second Sunday” Summer Brunch on June 9 at 10:00 AM Honoring 2012-13 Graduates**

You are invited to be a part of St. Michael's "Second Sunday" Summer Brunch on Sunday, June 10 at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Bring a dish to share and come enjoy the fellowship with the St. Michael family. In addition to enjoying the fine food and selecting the new carpet for the fellowship hall, we will be recognizing our 2012-13 high school and college graduates.



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



Our next trip is Wednesday, June 5, to the Frontier Museum and the Blackfriars Playhouse in Staunton, VA. In July, we'll attend the Wohlfahrt Haus Theater's smash hit, "The Fabulous 50's". The registration deadline is July 2 and the cost is \$49 which includes a 4-course lunch, transportation and the production – a "stroll down" memory lane. Registration forms for the trips planned for this year are available on the bulletin board. Contact Sandy Birch (230-8823 or [birch@vt.edu](mailto:birch@vt.edu)) for more information

### **Happy-Go-Lucky Luncheon**

On **Tuesday, June 11**, the fellowship hall will be filled with voting machines, so we're going "out to eat"...at Preston's at the Inn at Virginia Tech at noon. The American Luncheon Buffet features at least two entrees, fresh market vegetables, two house-made soups, a colorful salad bar and an array of sweet treats including Preston's signature bread pudding. After lunch, we'll tour the Inn including a visit to the Virginia Tech museum and a peek at a fancy suite in the hotel. The special price for the lunch will be \$12 including tax and tip. Contact Sandy if you need a ride.

## Welcome to the Family

**Elaine Powers** moved to Blacksburg from Roanoke in 2003 to take the job of Director of Library Services at Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM). She graduated from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro and the Catholic University of America. Elaine taught Jr. High English in Delaware after graduating but has been a librarian since 1983. Besides Delaware, she's lived in Tennessee, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Georgia before returning to Virginia. Traveling, reading, and especially hiking are her favorite things to do. Life is good attending St. Michael Lutheran Church and being near Virginia Tech sports and the Appalachian Trail.



**Neil and Jackie Muir** moved to Dublin in 2006, shortly after Neil's retirement from the United States Army. Neil grew up in Alaska, lived in Scotland, and went to college in San Diego. After college, he entered the United States Army, serving nearly 23 years, with 2 duties in Korea, Desert Storm, and 2 duties in Bagdad, Iraq. Jackie grew up and lived in Floyd County most of her life. After marriage and a move back to the States from Germany, their future was a bit uncertain. Neil went to work for Averitt Express, out of Tennessee, a temporary job which has stretched to eight years so far. Jackie started her new career working at Radford University in the Family Health Clinic and now as an administrator in the RU Clinical Simulation Center, which is part of the School of Nursing. They have two children, Brannon and Kerri Dawn. They also have 3 spoiled rotten Schnauzers, Katarina, Gabi and Martin Luther. Neil is lucky if he gets one day over the weekend at home, therefore not much time for hobbies. However, when possible, they like to travel. Neil does enjoy reading, music (loves setting up home theaters), watching sports and the Schnauzers. Jackie enjoys photography, music, crafts, anything to do with horses, reading, gardening and walking Katie, Gabi and Luther after a day of work. Neil and Jackie met on a blind date in April 1994 and were married that same October. He nearly missed his own wedding due to his obligation during the Haiti conflict. They were married in Jackie's home church in Alum Ridge; Pleasant Valley Church of the Brethren. It wasn't until their tour in Germany when they toured in the paths of Martin Luther that she became Lutheran. Neil grew up in the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church. After moving to Dublin, VA, they attended Christ Lutheran in Radford. They feel so blessed to have become members of St. Michael and to be worshipping with old friends as well as new friends.

### **Power in the Spirit is July 11 - 13 at Roanoke College**

"Joy in the Journey: Celebrating God's Gifts" 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. This year's keynote speaker is Rev. Rolf Jacobson and the Study Leader is Bishop Richard Graham. Additional information is available on the hallway bulletin board.

## Women of the ELCA



### Nearly \$800! Our Thank offering!

Thank you to everyone who saved their change in the little thank offering boxes last month. This special offering will be sent to

the ELCA Malaria Initiative to help purchase malaria nets. All of our pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters really added up and will help prevent and cure this terrible disease.

The annual Virginia Synodical Women's Organization (VSWO) convention will be held at Roanoke College on July 19-21. 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 or Alice Schneider, New River Conference chair, as well.



The annual Sisters in Christ luncheon in May celebrated Lydia as a woman of faith from the New Testament. Thank you to everyone who brought delicious salads to share. Three of our sisters were recognized as our Bold Women of 2013: Sheila McCartan, Joanna Garcia and Nia Indelicato. They were recognized for their service on the St. Michael Congregational Council and as teachers, youth leaders, and successful business women...like Lydia. Pictured below is the Women's Chorus at the 11 a.m. Bold Women Service on May 19.



**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.



## Vacation Bible School for Youth Everywhere Fun Fair

The fun begins on Sunday, June 2 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.

### 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: Pastor John and Patrice Yearwood for leading our opening music, Cindy Dowdy for teaching the pre-schoolers, Margaret Christle and Kris Wertz for teaching the K-2 class, Maggie Maloney and Nia Indelicato for teaching the grade 3-5 class, Carrie Mayer 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.

### We're only an email away . . .

John Wertz, Jr., Pastor	<a href="mailto:pastorjohn@stmlc.us">pastorjohn@stmlc.us</a>
Sandy Birch, Lay Associate in Ministry	<a href="mailto:birch@vt.edu">birch@vt.edu</a>
Suzanne Gay, Administrative Assistant	<a href="mailto:suzanneg@stmlc.us">suzanneg@stmlc.us</a>
Jennie Hodge, Micah's Garden and Micah's Backpack Director	<a href="mailto:jennie@micahsbackpack.org">jennie@micahsbackpack.org</a>
Dianne Krallman, Micah's Soup for Seniors coordinator	<a href="mailto:Dhkrallman@hubbell-ltg.com">Dhkrallman@hubbell-ltg.com</a>
Patrice Yearwood, Music Director	<a href="mailto:patricey@stmlc.us">patricey@stmlc.us</a>
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