



St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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Micah's Mobile Backpack: Feeding the Body and Mind

Thanks to a grant from the Community Foundation of the New River Valley and the support of our generous partners, Micah's Mobile Backpack launched in early June to extend the ministry of Micah's Backpack through the summer. Each Thursday and Friday, the Micah's Mobile Backpack Bus travels around our community delivering weekend meals to hungry students. As a first year ministry, I was hoping that by the end of the summer, we would be able to reach 50 to 60 students per week. As it turns out, I completely underestimated the need and the effectiveness of our leaders and volunteers. By the end of June, Micah's Mobile Backpack has already doubled my expectations and is delivering over 100 backpacks per week. To date, the ministry has provided over 2000 meals to hungry students in our community. Since school doesn't start back this year until September, the launch of Micah's Mobile Backpack couldn't have come at a better time.

In addition to providing food, Fran Shepherd saw this new feeding ministry as an opportunity to feed the mind as well as the body. She organized a group of Price's Fork teachers to travel with the bus and provide summer books to young readers. The response from the students has been tremendous. According to one student who is receiving food and books, "Micah's Mobile Backpack is really cool." If you'd like to ride the bus or help pack, contact Jennie Hodge: jennie@micahsbackpack.org.

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 Kevin Long and Lynn Price, owners of the Cellar Restaurant, who catered the Happy-Go-Lucky luncheon in May and treated us to a plate of delicious desserts; to all the Vacation Bible School teachers and helpers; to Jody Smiley and Nia Indelicato who represented St. Michael at the Virginia Synod Assembly; to Carrie Mayer, Mike Berg and Margaret Christle for serving on the St. Michael Scholarship Committee; to Lynn Price for weeding our flower beds and planting new flowers; Ron Brewer, Sheila McCartan, Seth and Camden Brewer for pruning and weeding; to Gary and Forrest Worley for designing the new Confirmation Camp t-shirt; to all our lawn mowing crew.

Because of your gifts

Your generous gifts in May supported Christ in Our Home subscriptions, young adult Bible study supplies, Vacation Bible School 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 June, we provided assistance for **15** families; 7 with electric bills, 7 with rent, and one with a water bill. 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.

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.

A light-weight wheelchair with at least an 18” seat - \$250

Choir folders - \$20 (10 needed)

Rolling carts for Micah's Mobile Backpack - \$80 (need 2)

Thank you to Ray and Carol Howell, Pat Smith, and Todd and Inga Solberg who provided funds for new choir folders.

Welcoming New Members

St. Michael will be welcoming new members at all services on Sunday, August 18. If you are interested in being a member of St. Michael, please talk to Pastor John.



Things are greening up in Micah's Garden and our first deliveries of lettuce, spinach, and radishes went to friends and neighbors at Giving Tree, Interfaith, and Spiritual Roots food pantries. Nia Indelicato led two growing projects for potatoes and peppers. When it's time to harvest, we'll have a Pepper and Potato Party.

There is 1 plot 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: jennie@micahsbackpack.org.

Micah's Backpack Sharing the Story



www.micahsbackpack.org

In June, we launched Micah's Mobile Backpack! During the second week, 83 children and youth visited the Mobile Backpack and received gifts of six meals and snacks for the weekend. William Allen drives the bus and Betty Falta and Olivia Hodge volunteer to share gifts of food. Fran Shepard coordinates our partnership with the faculty and staff of Price's Fork Elementary School (PFES) who travel on the bus and share summer reading books with PFES

children. We also had a Spanish speaking volunteer from the Language and Cultural Institute at VT help introduce us to families who speak Spanish at home.



Micah's Backpack will collect chicken noodle soup in July. During the summer months, nearly 450 cans of chicken noodle soup go home with children and youth who visit Micah's Mobile Backpack. Please put your gift of chicken noodle soup in the Micah's Backpack collection bin in the hallway. Thank you for your gifts of 400 fruit chews in June!

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July Servants

	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28
Altar Care				
9 AM Service				
Greeters	Gary and Sandie Worley	Gary and Sandie Worley	William Allen Nancy Goad	William Allen Nancy Goad
Lay Reader	Keith Gay	Betty Falta	Matthew James	John Krallman
Comm. Asst.	Jacob Dennis	Sandy Williams	William Allen	Dianne Krallman
11 AM Service				
Acolyte	Camden Brewer		Noah Moehling	
Comm. Asst.	Sheila McCartan		Randy Robinson	
Greeters	Jeff and Sandy Birch	Betty and Ray Wingate	Lisa and Sarah Moehling	Ben and Grace Simmers
Lay Reader	Joanna Garcia	Sandy and Abbey Birch	Mickey McGuigan	Jody Smiley
Ushers	Dickie Shepherd Ben Simmers	James Pascoe Doug Goldsmith	Matt Belue Ray Howell	Philip Isenhour Don Linkous
Youth Servant	Jessica, Maddie Abbie Brown		Noah Moehling	
6:30 PM Service				
Greeters	Charlie and Martie Saks	Berg family	Deloris Raines	Deloris Raines
Lay Reader	Charlie Saks	Mike Berg	Wertz family	Patty Rennekar
Comm. Asst.	Martie Saks	Mike Berg	Wertz family	Patty Rennekar

Mowing: 7/5–William Allen (back); 7/12–James/Dennis (front); 7/19–Jay Nagle (back); 7/26–J.D. Robinson (front)

Rear Lot: 7/1–Doug Goldsmith; 7/8–Gil Yearwood; 7/15–Dave Surface; 7/22–Jeff Crowder; 7/29–Mike Berg

“Second Sunday” Summer Brunch on July 14 at 10:00 AM

You are invited to be a part of St. Michael’s “Second Sunday” Summer Brunch on Sunday, July 14 at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Bring a dish to share and come enjoy brunch at St. Michael.



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



Our next trip is Tuesday, August 13 to Claytor Lake for the annual Happy-Go-Lucky picnic. On the way to the lake, we’ll take a tour of the new Montgomery County Court House in Christiansburg. The cost of the trip is \$10 and the registration deadline is August 6. Registration forms for the trips planned for this year are available on the bulletin board. Contact Sandy Birch (951-3455 or birch@vt.edu) for more information. An added attraction on August 13 – we’re going to play BINGO.



O.K. Trip to the Greenbrier Resort and the “Bunker” in May

Happy-Go-Lucky Luncheon on July 9

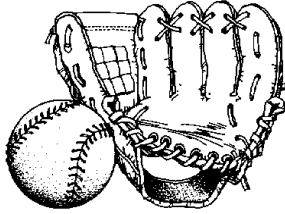
On **Tuesday, July 9**, we’ll celebrate “Christmas in July” and enjoy a traditional holiday meal and program. Feel free to bring an unwrapped “mom or dad” gift for the Christmas Store, e.g., hand lotion, flashlight, small tool, stationary. This is a perfect time for “regifting”, i.e., sharing that lovely gift you may never use.



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.

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, July 1	8:15 p .m.	BJCC-LDS
Monday, July 8	8:15 p.m.	Christ Episcopal
Monday, July 15	6:15 p.m.	First Wesleyan

Women of the ELCA

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.



Remember the Food Bank: July continues with "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 July, we'll continue to collect baby food.

Our graduating seniors were honored at the first Second Sunday Summer brunch in June sponsored by the Women of the ELCA. Thank you to Joanna Garcia, Anna Rossomando, Dianne Krallman, Sandy Birch and Suzanne Gay for set-up and clean-up of the brunch and to all who brought a dish to share.

Men in Mission Participate in Habitat Project



On May 22, Jeff Birch, Ron Brewer, Pastor John and several members of Luther Memorial spent the evening tearing out metal wall heaters from condemned apartment buildings near the Virginia Tech campus. The scrap metal will be used by Habitat for Humanity to fund future homes. Appliances and other usable items from the apartment complex will be sold at the Habitat store in Christiansburg.

Christmas in July - Sunday, July 21



On Sunday, July 21, 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.

Congratulations to Dianne Krallman Hearts and Hands Honorable Mention Award

Lutheran Family Services of Virginia, an agency committed to supporting older adults, recently recognized Dianne Krallman for her role in Micah's Soup for Seniors. Her vision for a ministry that provides both physical and spiritual food for hungry seniors has shaped Micah's Soup for Seniors into a ministry that is about more than just food. The judges were impressed with the leadership that Dianne has shown and the partnerships that she has built to make the program a success. Thank you Dianne for your joyful service.



At the last distribution, 27 volunteers, including Boy Scout Troop 348 from Riner, helped pack and distribute 90 bags of food for seniors at Warm Hearth. Troop 348 and Warm Hearth volunteers sponsored three food drives and collected 2,244 food items for use in the program. The next packing and distribution date will be Tuesday, July 23, at 5:00 p.m. All are welcome to help. More good news: The Warm Hearth Foundation recently awarded \$2,150 for Soup for Seniors.

Congratulations to our St. Michael Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to our three St. Michael Scholarship winners: **Emily Garst** for being a dedicated member of St. Michael and an outstanding student with many extra-curricular activities; **Emory Yearwood** for her outstanding grade point average and impressive list of activities including sports and choir; and **Taylor Dobson**, for his amazing amount of volunteer work with Micah's Backpack. Each of these graduating high school seniors was awarded a \$300 scholarship for their freshman year of college.

Congratulations to...

Isaac Nagle and Becca FitzGerald who were married June 15 at the German Club on the Virginia Tech campus. Becca and Isaac reside in Franklin County, VA. Isaac is the son of Jay and Becci Nagle.

Hal and April Bullock who were married on June 15 at St. Michael.

Elvira (Elvie) Dimas, our nursery assistant, who graduated from Virginia Tech in Interdisciplinary Studies in May, and is now enrolled in the graduate program in Curriculum and Instruction at Tech. We are happy Elvie will be with us for another year.

All of **St. Michael's graduates** who were honored at the June Second Sunday Summer Brunch. Pictured are Matthew Pasier, Elvie Dimas and Emily Garst.



Everywhere Fun Fair a Great Success

Approximately 80 youth and adults participated in this year's Vacation Bible School, the Everywhere Fun Fair. Thank you to everyone who shared their gifts to make it such a wonderful week!

