



St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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“Not Just 50, But 260!”

As we anticipate celebrating the 50th anniversary of St Michael Lutheran Church, it is helpful to learn about our legacy that goes back, not just 50 years, but more than 260 years! There was a missionary by the name of Mr. Schnell (who was ordained a Lutheran pastor in 1751) who walked to the New River settlement from the Lutheran church in Hebron, Virginia, just north of Charlottesville.

From the diary of Missionary Schnell of 1749:

“I had difficulty finding my way to New River; met a wolf, frequently waded waters; (took the whole journey on foot) had hard work swimming the James River; went up the Catawba twenty miles, no homes or houses; stopped at Justice Robinson’s who owned a mill; crossed Catawba Creek twenty times. On November 19th I arrived just before noon and crossed the river to Jake Herman’s who with his wife received us with great joy and love. November 20 preached on “I Am King John 18:23... Left on the 27th retracing our steps for Pennsylvania via the Valley German settlements.”

St. Michael Lutheran Church established itself formally as a Lutheran congregation on October 16, 1796. The land upon which St Michael Lutheran stands this day was deeded to the church on August 5, 1806.

Through many good years and lean years; through name changes and pastoral changes; through years of war and years of peace; we come to our celebration in September.

By God’s blessings on this parish, we have much to celebrate!

Rev. Paul

Noisy Offering



Beginning September 2, the children will be collecting loose change to be given to a local ministry group. Bring your loose coin jar!

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 everyone who donated school supplies for children at Price's Fork Elementary; to Wanda Pascoe and Mildred Wall for folding the August newsletter; to everyone who provided and delivered food for the Price's Fork Elementary School breakfast for faculty and staff and to everyone who helped deliver food for Micah's Mobile Backpack over the summer.

Because of your gifts

Your generous gifts in August provided supplies for cleaning supplies and online computer backup renewal bulletin paper, stamps, our benevolence to the Virginia Synod and mission partner, donations to MCEAP, Lutheran Campus Ministry, our facilities, and salaries for our ministerial staff.

The **Justice and Mercy Fund** continues to assist our neighbors in the community and the world. 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. In August, we assisted 9 families: 7 with their electric bills and 2 with water bills.

Women of the ELCA



*Women of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

Lunch and Learn: Monday, **September 10**, at noon, at the church. We will enjoy lunch together, followed by a short Bible study led by Jody Smiley. All women are invited to come, bring a friend if you'd like. Lasts about an hour, in time to go back to work or to your next activity. A sign-up sheet will be in the bulletin inserts.

Thank you to everyone who brought in **school supplies for children at Price's Fork School**. They are very grateful for all the materials we donated for children in need of help with supplies to begin the school

year.

This year's **VSWO (VA Synodical Women's Organization) Convention** was August 3-4 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Winchester, VA. At convention our July **50 for the 50th Donation** of 210 articles: soap, toothbrushes, combs, nail clippers - were used to assemble health kits for Lutheran World Relief. Alice Schneider and Jody Smiley, VSWO President, attended joined by about 100 women from around the state.

Thank you to Joyce Coupey, Dottie McKinnon & Alice Schneider for sewing a total of 26 **fabric walker caddies**. We will be happy to give one to anybody who could use a caddie for their walker or wheelchair, to help hold their “stuff”. Please just ask Alice Schneider, Sandy Birch or Jody Smiley.

Remember the Food Bank: In September please bring individually packed **fruit cups**, although any other non-perishable foods are always welcome.

Remember the Women's Resource Center: Kleenex

Thank you for all the ways you help our neighbors.

St. Michael Lutheran Church
2308 Merrimac Road
Blacksburg, VA 24060

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September Servants

	September 2	September 9	September 16	September 23	September 30
Altar Care	Pasier Family				
9 AM Service		10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	
Acolyte		Jack Graves	Megan Christle	Emily Graves	
Greeters	Wilma Pieper Dave Surface	Butch Akers Sandy Birch	Dianne Krallman Lylah Shelor	Clifton and Fay Walters	Elaine Powers Joe Garst
Lay Reader	Keith Gay	Jeff Birch	Pastor	Gary Worley	Judith Wolfe
Comm. Asst.	Lylah Shelor	Sandy Williams	Pastor	Sandie Worley	Lori Anne Kirk
Ushers		Butch Akers Sandy Birch	Dianne Krallman Lylah Shelor	Clifton and Fay Walters	
Youth Servant		Emily Graves	Emily Katz	Bryce Dowdy	
11 AM Service					
Acolyte	Emily Graves				
Comm. Asst.	Jody Smiley				
Greeters	Cindy Lang Ray Howell				Randy and Sharon Robinson
Lay Reader	Jody Smiley				Jeff Birch
Ushers	Ray Howell Ben Simmers				Randy Robinson Dickie Shepherd
Youth Servant	Jack Graves				

Please Note: Sunday the 9th, 16th and 23rd are 50th year Celebration Sundays and there will only be one service at 10:00 a.m. Greeters/Ushers please take the attendance, write the number down and place in the offering plate.

Mowing schedule: 9/1-Dickie Shepherd (front); 9/8-Dniel Farrell (back); 9/15-James/Dennis (front); 9/22-Jay Nagle(back); Dickie Shepherd (front)
 Rear: 9/3 –Mike Berg; 9/10-Doug Smiley; 9/17-Dave Surface; 9/24-Charlie Saks

Happy 50th Anniversary St. Michael Let the celebration begin...



The history lessons:

On three consecutive Sundays, September 9, 16 and 23, at 9 a.m. in the fellowship hall, Pastor Paul will share informal **history lessons** about St. Michael Lutheran Church. Donuts, coffee and juice will be provided. Join him for an entertaining and educational time.

A special “historical” worship and Open House – Sunday, September 9:

Worship Service **10 a.m.** We will gather together at one service.
Open House **11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.**
Altman Family Singers **11:30 a.m.**

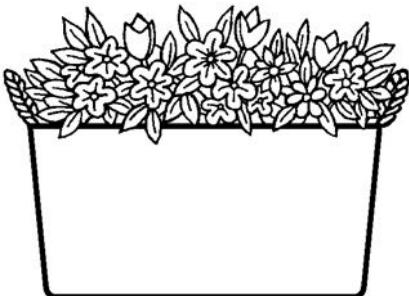
The community will be invited to our Open House. Cookies and punch will be provided. Special music will be featured in the sanctuary. All of our wonderful programs will be highlighted. Invite your friends and neighbors.

Worship and lunch with Bishop Humphrey – Sunday, September 16:

Worship Service **10 a.m.** Pastors John Wertz, Linda Mitchell Motley and Paul Henrickson will participate in worship. Again, we will gather at one service.
Celebration Luncheon **11 a.m.** The congregation is invited to provide salads and casseroles/main courses for a good old-fashioned Lutheran potluck. Incredible gourmet anniversary cakes will be created by one of our in-house bakers, Sandy Williams. A program of pictures and memories will follow.

Worship, bulb planting, lunch and music – Sunday, September 23:

Worship Service **10 a.m.** We will gather together at one service.
Bulb planting and light lunch **11 a.m.**
The Clergy Mountain Band **noon** Pastor Mauney, Pastor Delaney, and our own Pastor Henrickson, will provide spirited entertainment.



50 flower bulbs for 50 years

On September 23, the congregation will be planting 50 flower bulbs (or more) on the church grounds in celebration of our 50th Anniversary. Donations of your favorite flower bulbs, perhaps some from your own gardens, will be collected during September. A basket will be available in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for sharing...and for planting.

Micah’s Backpack Sharing the Story



Great news! **Sarah Ryan** has agreed to be the new director of Micah's Backpack and Micah's Mobile Backpack. Sarah was one of our bus riding, food-delivering volunteers this summer who spent almost every Thursday delivering bags to kids in the community. And she has packed bags with us in the past as well. Her passion for MBP and her love for kids was evident to all of us who saw her at work on the bus



over the summer!

Sarah is a teacher at Price's Fork Elementary where I am told the kids and the staff absolutely love her (no surprise!). She grew up in Blacksburg, went to B'burg High School, got her undergraduate degree at Virginia Tech and her Master's degree from Mary Baldwin College. She has a three legged dog named Tucker and in her "free time" (whatever that is!), she loves to read, hike, run, volunteer, and watch Planet Earth. She is a member of the B'burg Junior Women's Club and attends Blue Ridge Church. Sarah's bright, upbeat spirit, her sense of humor, her ability to work with all different kinds and ages of people, her creativity, her generous heart, her organizational skills, her ability to deal with whatever comes her way, and her wonderful sense of humor will be great assets for MBP. Let's all welcome her with joy!

First packing day is September 6 at 6:00. Come help get the school year off to a great start!

Feel free this month to bring small cans or packets of **tuna** this month!



School has started and it's time to begin the fall buying and delivery for Micah's Closet, which supplies students with a week's worth of new clothing. The teachers will begin identifying students September 4. The forms will be collected the week of September 10 and we will need shoppers during the following week. We anticipate clothing returned to church by September 24 so that delivery to the school can be completed by October 1. We anticipate assisting 40 students. If you are able to shop, fill out the bulletin insert or contact Jody Smiley, Kris Wertz or Fran Shepherd. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry.

The **packing date** for September is **September 25th**. We continue to support over 95 seniors at Warm Hearth with monthly donations of food and Panera. If anyone can help with the Panera - picking up the leftovers on Monday night, please let me know. Hopefully, we can get several volunteers so we can alternate months.



Thanks to all the faithful group of volunteers that have helped out during the summer months. With vacations and not having the extra help from Va Tech students, it is always nice to see our "regulars" step up and lend a hand.

For **September**, we will be collecting **green beans**.

School Supplies for Price's Fork Elementary School

We support Price's Fork in many ways as the school year begins. On Thursday, August 9 we supplied a breakfast for the teachers as a welcome back to school. At the breakfast we shared information about Micah's Backpack and Micah's Closet. We will be purchasing clothing for Micah's Closet in September. We also helped the students at Price's Fork Elementary by purchasing supplies for this school year. The items were delivered before school started. Thank you for your continued support for the school community.

School supplies collected included:

Pencils	132	Colored pencils pack	9
Dry erase markers	76	Crayons pack	16
Notebooks	9	Scissors	8
Folders	15	Pencil pouches	9
Spiral notebooks	46	Erasers	80 small
Composition books	19		16 large
Notebook paper packs	6	<u>Other items</u>	<u>38</u>
Glue sticks	131	Total items	619
Glue 4 oz.	9		

Call Committee

The Call Committee has been formed and the members are Cindy Dowdy, Sandy Birch, Carol Crawford, Jack Graves, Bryan Katz and John Krallman. They will soon begin their work as they meet with Pastor Kelly Bayer Derrick to learn about the process. One of their first tasks will be to complete the Ministry Site Profile. Your input will be needed as this profile is completed and we will let you know when that time comes. Beyond this profile, much of their work is private as they talk to prospective candidates. Updates will be shared when appropriate.

The O.K.s (Older Kids) Happy-Go-Lucky Back-to-School Gourmet Luncheon – September 11



in

On **Tuesday, September 11**, we will enjoy a special back-to-school luncheon and an exciting program.....with music of course. We especially invite our charter members to the luncheon as we celebrate St. Michael's 50th Anniversary in September.

Kroger Community Rewards Program – Need to Renew Your Card Number

For a number of years, members of St. Michael have contributed to Micah's Backpack and the Justice and Mercy Fund through our Kroger Plus cards, adding thousands of dollars to these programs. But we must renew our card numbers each year. Just visit the secure website: kroger.com to update your individual Kroger Plus card to one of St. Michael's accounts. Members can designate their contribution to Micah's Backpack using **#83513** or Justice and Mercy using **#82386**.



St. Michael Lutheran Church ... our more recent history

(see part 1, our earliest beginnings, in the August newsletter)

The story continues. Over the years, the nine Lutheran congregations in Montgomery County were yoked in a variety of parish alignments. From 1951 until 1968, New St. Peters, St. Marks, Shiloh and New Mt. Zion were joined as the New River Parish, served by one pastor. After much discussion as to the future of the parish, New St. Peter and St. Mark agreed to merge and assume the historic name of St. Michael Church. On September 15, 1968, St. Michael Lutheran Church became an active congregation, with services, at first, rotating between the two churches. The original property was acquired, and on August 9, 1970, ground was broken for the construction of the modern St. Michael Lutheran Church. The sanctuary, with a wing for offices and classrooms, was dedicated on May 16, 1971.

In the fifty years since the formation of the congregation, St. Michael has lived out its calling through expanded worship opportunities, through new facilities and through community partnerships which help people in need. When the congregation formed, its ministry was supported by a sanctuary and small support building. Today, the fellowship hall and classroom addition provide additional space, which allows St. Michael to offer a Mother's Morning Out program, to provide an Early Childhood Head Start partnership, and to offer meeting rooms to community groups. When the congregation was formed, it provided meals to families who were grieving or dealing with illness. Today, St. Michael partners with over 200 local community groups to operate Micah's Caring Initiative which provides over 300 weekend meals to hungry students in Blacksburg, operates a community garden which provides fresh produce for local food pantries, delivers meals to low-income seniors, donates new clothes at seasonal changes to students at Price's Fork Elementary School and offers dinner to the community on Thanksgiving Day. The on-going helping ministries of the congregation also include: the Christmas shoebox project for Head Start students on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, a Justice and Mercy Fund which assists an average of 20 families each month with living expenses, a fall collection of school supplies for Price's Fork Elementary School and a middle school mission trip.

We thank our charter members who worked so lovingly and diligently to create our worship home in 1968. Forty charter members still on the St. Michael roll will be recognized and honored at our Celebration Luncheon on September 16.

Happy 50th Anniversary St. Michael!!



Grounded in Faith
Growing in Grace
Giving to Serve

St. Michael Lutheran Church

September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:00 AM Worship - Communion 10:00 AM Engagement Team Meeting 11:00 AM Worship	27 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out	28 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 11:00 AM Bible Study 5:00 PM Micah's Soup for Seniors	29 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 7:00 PM Choir Practice	30 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	31 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out	1
2 9:00 AM Worship - Communion 11:00 AM Worship - Communion	3 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out	4 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 11:00 AM Bible Study 5:30 PM Quilting Party in the Fellowship Hall	5 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 5:30 PM Families of Faith 7:00 PM Choir Practice	6 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 6:00 PM Packing for Micah's Backpack 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	7 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out	8
9 10:00 AM Worship - Communion 11:30 AM Altman Family Singers 11:30 AM St. Michael Community Open House 2:15 PM Congregational Council	10 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 12:00 PM WELCA Lunch and Learn 7:00 PM Boy Scout Merit Badge Meeting	11 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 11:00 AM Bible Study 12:00 PM Happy-Go-Lucky Back to School Luncheon	12 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 3:00 PM Music Lesson	13 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 6:00 PM Packing for Micah's Backpack 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	14 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out	15
16 10:00 AM Worship - Communion 11:00 AM 50th Anniversary Celebration Potluck Luncheon 2:30 PM Confirmation at Our Saviour	17 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 7:00 PM Boy Scout Merit Badge Meeting	18 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 11:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM Price Family Historical Society	19 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 3:00 PM Music Lesson 5:30 PM Families of Faith	20 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 6:00 PM Packing for Micah's Backpack 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	21 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out	22
23 10:00 AM Worship - Communion 11:00 AM St. Michael Anniversary Bulb Planting and Lunch 12:00 PM The Clergy Mountain Band	24 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 7:00 PM Boy Scout Merit Badge Meeting	25 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 11:00 AM Bible Study 5:00 PM Micah's Soup for Seniors	26 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 3:00 PM Music Lesson	27 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 6:00 PM Packing for Micah's Backpack 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	28 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out	29
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Updated Calendar Information is available online at: www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org

Food Bank - Fruit cups; Women's RC - Kleenex; Micah's Backpack - Tuna; Soup for Seniors - Green beans