



# St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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Volume 43, Number 11

November 1, 2019

## Well Done, Good and Faithful Servants

In Matthew 25 as he relates the Parable of the Talents, Jesus begins, “The kingdom of heaven is like...” The servants who use the king’s resources wisely are congratulated with the words, “Well done, good and faithful servants...” All work that furthers the Kingdom of God is rewarded with the words “Well done good and faithful servants.”

These are the words that come to my mind as we near the end of the 15 month journey from the formation of the Call Committee to issuance of a call to Pastor Michelle Stramiello. There have been surveys and meetings and skype calls and follow-up and more meetings and more conversation and the process has brought us to a new pastor for St. Michael Lutheran Church. To the members of the Call Committee I say “Well done good and faithful servants!”

But also to the faithful members of St. Michael Lutheran, I say “Well done, good and faithful servants.” In the year of pastoral vacancy, the ministries of SMLC have continued and even grown; financial giving has increased, committee work has continued, attendance at worship has remained steady.

Good and faithful servants, you have done your work very well! But don’t relax. There is a new chapter about to be written in the legacy of SMLC. Good and faithful servants, let’s see what else God is calling us to do.

Pastor Paul

The wonderful news is that Pastor Michelle Stramiello has accepted our call to be the new Pastor at St. Michael Lutheran.

**WELCOME** to Pastor Michelle and John.

Serving the community through  
faith, fellowship, worship,  
learning and grace.

## 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 Lynda Kinzey, Margaret Larsen, Wanda Pascoe, Mildred Wall and Betty Wingate for folding the October newsletter; to Sandy Williams for baking the most delicious cakes for the Birthday Brunch and the Confirmation Reception; to Sandy Birch for setting up for the Church Council/Call Committee Dinner with Pastor Michelle and John and also for setting up for the Birthday Brunch; to Dickie Shepherd for repairing the playground swing and assembling the new bench; to Jeff Birch for weeding the church yard; to Gary Steck for auditing the church financial records; to Fran Shepherd, Jody Smiley and Kris Wertz for organizing Micah's Closet and to all the volunteers who helped shop; and to all of the Sunday School teachers for teaching our youth.

### Because of your gifts

Your generous gifts in October provided funds for communion supplies, Sunday School materials, stamps, church software renewal, Faithchest and baptism supplies, the Families of Faith Dinner and Discussion event, bulletin paper, annual fire extinguisher inspection, our benevolence to the Virginia Synod and mission partner, donations to MCEAP, Lutheran Campus Ministry, support of our facilities, and salaries for our ministerial staff.



**Thank you** to everyone who shared an **Estimate of Giving for 2020**. With your help, St. Michael will continue to be God's heart and hands and voices in our community and in the world. Estimates can still be submitted. Additional forms are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

The **Justice and Mercy Fund** continues to assist our neighbors in the community and the world. In October, we assisted **7 families**: 4 with electric bills, 2 with rent, and 1 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.

### Mission Support

November's Noisy Offering (November 3) will be to support ELCA's Global Missionary, Jessica Hill. An article was in the October newsletter and information can be found on the bulletin board.

## Micah's Closet



Many thanks to all those who shopped for Micah's Closet. Forty-five students at Price's Fork were excited to receive the new clothing. Another chance to support the work of Micah's Closet is coming up as we will once again participate in the **Belk Charity Sale** on **November 9**. Belk Charity Sale tickets will be available for purchase at church for \$5.00. This money stays at St. Michael for Micah's Closet. With a Charity ticket you receive \$5.00

off your first purchase. Please consider some early Christmas shopping as you support Micah's Closet.

## Micah's Soup for Seniors



The packing date for November is **Nov 26<sup>th</sup>**. We continue to support over 100 seniors at Warm Hearth with monthly donations of food and Panera. We want to thank all our church volunteers, Chi Delta Alpha service sorority and the many other

volunteers in the community for their support each month.

We love having both our loyal volunteers and all new volunteers help us out. Please consider an hour of your time once a month to help support Soup for Seniors. We continue to be able to carry on this program with your generous gifts of time and money. Thanks to everyone for their continued support.

Our Tech student volunteers will be on Thanksgiving break for our packing date so please mark your calendars to help out this month - we will need some extra hands!

For **November**, we will be collecting **Peanut Butter**.

## Micah's Garden



The dry hot days have caused our garden to go into a holding pattern. We have planted a fall crop of broccoli and cabbage. We are blessed to have Mr. Pascoe keeping the cistern filled. The plants have been watered twice a week and have grown in spite of the heat. The last 25 pounds of squash were delivered to the food pantry in October. 1,085 pounds of home grown produce were delivered this

season! And to quote John Kell, "2000 pounds of fun!" If anyone would like to join in on the fun of winterizing the garden later this fall, please contact Mary Nickle.

## Community Thanksgiving Dinner - Thursday, November 28



Our annual community dinner will be held at 1 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day, **November 28**. Sign up on the *Welcome to St. Michael* form during the first Sundays in November if you can donate a pie, sweet potato casserole, jello salad or funds for the turkey fixings. Anna Rossomando is the coordinator this year so direct questions to her.

We will also need helpers in the kitchen, servers and drivers. Let's all make a special effort to invite those in the community who may not have family in the area. Invitations will be available on the table in the back of the church for distribution and posting . . . spread the word!

## To Our House – November 23-27

St. Michael will be helping out with the meals for the **To Our House** program from **November 23 through November 27**. I will be getting more information out as we get closer to the dates.

The **To Our House** program is sponsored by New River Community Action. This is a winter overnight shelter program for homeless men and women from November through March. They have sponsored this program for the last nine years. They provide a warm shelter for the night and that includes dinner, breakfast and a bag lunch. Local Blacksburg churches provide space for the overnight shelter and provide the meals. St. Michael will help with the meals for the **five** days listed above.



Look for more information in the Sunday bulletin. Email me or call me if you wish to help out. [dhkrallman@gmail.com](mailto:dhkrallman@gmail.com) or [dhkrallman@vt.edu](mailto:dhkrallman@vt.edu). My cell is 540-239-2539. Thanks, Dianne

## Families of Faith



Families of Faith meets monthly on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. The dates for November are 11/6 and 11/20. We will begin in the sanctuary at 6 p.m. for songs, conversation and prayer. A pizza dinner will follow, along with a craft. Please RSVP to Maggie Maloney by email ([mmaloney@mcps.org](mailto:mmaloney@mcps.org)) so we have enough pizza. We hope you can join us!

## Confirmation Classes

Confirmation Classes will begin in November. Pastor Wanda from Our Saviour is planning for both churches. The schedule will be sent to families soon. If you have a child that would like to be included, contact Suzanne. Youth start these classes in grade 6 or later.

## New Outdoor Bench

A new bench has been placed outside that was provided by two of the Micah's Backpack workers from Our Saviour in Christiansburg. Donna Knarr and Cindy Whitehead are the "Bag Ladies" from OSLC. The bench is made from waste plastic. If you would like to join the recycling effort leave your plastic in the Micah's Backpack room. Items that can be recycled include grocery bags, bread bags, case overwrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, wood pellet bags, Ziploc & other re-sealable bags, produce bags, bubble wrap, salt bags, and cereal bags. *All materials must be clean, dry and free of food residue.*



### E-Newsletter

Each Thursday, St. Michael publishes an **E-Newsletter** with the latest information on our ministry. If you have not signed up for the E-Newsletter, you can do so at: <http://eepurl.com/OnGc9>

folder.

If you are not receiving the newsletter, please check your "Spam"

**St. Michael's Office will be closed** on Tuesday, November 5 so that we can serve as a polling place for the election.



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2308 Merrimac Road  
Blacksburg, VA 24060**

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## *November Servants*

	<b>November 3</b>	<b>November 10</b>	<b>November 17</b>	<b>November 24</b>
<b>Altar Care</b>	Worley Family			
<b>9 AM Service</b>	<b>All Saints Sunday</b>			
<b>Greeters</b>	Lynn Hickok Barbara Corbett	Campus Ministry	Dave Surface Wilma Pieper	Nancy Goad Elaine Powers
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Jane Swing	Campus Ministry	Gary Worley	Lori Anne Kirk
<b>Comm. Asst.</b>	William Allen	Campus Ministry	Sandie Worley	Jane Swing
<b>11 AM Service</b>				
<b>Acolyte</b>	Emily Graves		Jack Graves	
<b>Comm. Asst.</b>	Doug Smiley		Jody Smiley	
<b>Greeters</b>	Ray Howell Cindy Lang	Campus Ministry	Josiah and Litha Tlou	James and Wanda Pascoe
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Jessica Brown	Campus Ministry	Anna Rossomando	Hank Schneider
<b>Ushers</b>	Ray Howell Ben Simmers	Campus Ministry	Josiah and Litha Tlou	James and Wanda Pascoe
<b>Youth Servant</b>	Emily Graves		Emily Graves	

**Please Note:** Greeters/Ushers at both services please take the attendance, write the number down and place in the offering plate.

Mowing Schedule: 11/2-Dickie Shepherd (front); 11/9-James/Dennis (back); 11/16-Jay Nagle (front); 11/23-Daniel Ferrell (back); 11/30-Dickie Shepherd (front)

Rear Lot: 11/4-Doug Smiley; 11/11-Dave Surface; 11/18-Gary Steck; 11/25 George Hahn

### **Women of the ELCA**



**Lunch and Learn:** Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at noon in the fellowship hall. All women are invited for a light lunch and an always interesting Bible study related to current topics led by Jody Smiley. Please sign up on the Welcome Sheet and as always, guests are welcome!

**Fall Gathering** - Eighteen women shared worship and communion as well as fellowship and refreshments at Trinity, Pulaski October 6. There were a total 41 games, puzzles & card games collected for Lutheran Family Services day care facilities and 27 Birthday Party kits. Thank you to each St. Michael member who helped provide these very welcome supplies for LFS clients' use and enjoyment. The \$250.00 offering was divided between VSWO to help benefit women's programs and Lutheran Disaster Relief.

**For the Food Bank:** In November, please bring foods for a holiday dinner – packaged potatoes, gravy, vegetables, cranberry sauce, stuffing mixes, etc., although the food bank always welcomes all non-perishable foods.

**For the Women's Resource Center:** Kleenex

**Thank you for helping our neighbors in many ways!**



**Linus blankets delivered to Penny Sweet**



**Fall Gathering at Trinity Pulaski**

**Change your clocks: Sunday, November 3**







## **St. Michael Music NOTES**

St. Michael's Choir welcomes all singers! We practice two Wednesdays per month and two or three Sundays per month to prepare special music for the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services. Rehearsal links are given so you can listen and continue to learn the music at home! Come join us!

**CHOIR REHEARSAL**- NOVEMBER 10 at 4:00 p.m. when we will begin learning Advent and Christmas music.  
Afterwards we'll go out to eat.  
Come join us!

### **HANDBELLS!**

There are 3 ringers signed up! The ideal number is 8...  
Won't you join us? Let's get started so we can ring during Advent and Christmas!



## **December Congregational Meeting**

A Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 8, at 9:50 a.m. with a snow date of December 15. The Congregational Meeting is to elect three Council members for a three year term. If you are interested in being on Council, please let a Council member know. The budget for 2020 will also be presented for approval. The budget and nominee names will be available before December 8. Make plans to attend.



## Veterans Day

November 11th is not only Veterans Day, but also the day to remember St Martin of Tours, namesake for Martin Luther.

In honor of Veterans Day three years ago, the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), called upon the church to pray for members of the armed services, veterans, chaplains and their families. Bishop Eaton was responding to a request by the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly "to establish a Sunday of prayer and action closest to Veterans Day each year to unite this church in prayer and encourage practical assistance for military members, veterans, ELCA chaplains and families."

On Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, please recognize and honor with prayer, appreciation and gratitude, all veterans but especially the members of St. Michael who are veterans, including those on active duty.

Air Force  
Joe Garst  
Keith Gay

### Army/National Guard

Billy Brown  
Ben Crawford  
Ray Howell  
Bert Kinzey  
Neil Muir  
Jeanette Pasier  
Mark Pasier  
Rebecca Steck  
Jaimie Edwards



### Coast Guard

Chris Maloney  
Dave Surface

Marines  
Tommy Howell

### Navy

Jeff Birch  
John Krallman  
Mac McLeod

### **Currently serving:**

Army  
Matthew Pasier

Air Force  
Michelle Pasier

Marines  
Katie Garst

*Honor to the soldier and sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause. Honor, also, to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field and serves, as he best can, the same cause.*

--Abraham Lincoln

Almighty God, our Creator, provide your protection upon all those who have been and continue to be in the service of our country; guard them from all harm and danger of mind, body, and soul; sustain and comfort their families at home, especially in their hours of loneliness, anxiety, and sorrow; help those who struggle today for the basic necessities and who wrestle with demons yet tamed and expelled; give success to our defenders on land, sea, and air; and grant to us and all nations an enduring and lasting peace. Amen.

-- ELCA Congregational Resources: <http://elcachaps.com/>

## November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> Confirmation Sunday Reformation Sunday <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship - Communion <b>9:50 AM</b> Choir Practice <b>10:00 AM</b> Adult Discussion <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship	<b>28</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out	<b>29</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>11:00 AM</b> Bible Study <b>5:00 PM</b> Micah's Soup for Seniors Packing and Delivering	<b>30</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>2:45 PM</b> Music Lesson	<b>31</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>6:00 PM</b> Packing for Micah's Backpack	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> All Saints Sunday - Prayer for Healing Service Daylight Savings Ends - Fall Back <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship - Communion <b>10:00 AM</b> Adult Discussion <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship - Communion	<b>4</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out	<b>5</b> Election Day - Office Closed <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out	<b>6</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>2:45 PM</b> Music Lesson <b>6:00 PM</b> Families of Faith <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir Practice	<b>7</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>6:00 PM</b> Packing for Micah's Backpack <b>6:00 PM</b> Scout Merit Badge Meeting in Large Classroom <b>7:15 PM</b> Scout Troop Meeting	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship - Communion <b>10:00 AM</b> Adult Discussion <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship <b>12:15 PM</b> Congregational Church Council Meeting <b>4:00 PM</b> Choir Practice	<b>11</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out	<b>12</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>11:00 AM</b> Bible Study <b>5:30 PM</b> Quilting Party in the Fellowship Hall	<b>13</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>2:45 PM</b> Music Lesson	<b>14</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>6:00 PM</b> Packing for Micah's Backpack <b>6:00 PM</b> Scout Merit Badge Meeting in Large Classroom <b>7:15 PM</b> Scout Troop Meeting	<b>15</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Quilting Party Fall Retreat	<b>16</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Quilting Party Fall Retreat
<b>17</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship - Communion <b>10:00 AM</b> Adult Discussion <b>10:00 AM</b> Choir Practice <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship - Communion	<b>18</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>12:00 PM</b> WELCA Lunch and Learn	<b>19</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>11:00 AM</b> Bible Study <b>7:00 PM</b> Price Family Historical Society	<b>20</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>2:45 PM</b> Music Lesson <b>6:00 PM</b> Families of Faith <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir Practice	<b>21</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>6:00 PM</b> Packing for Micah's Backpack <b>7:15 PM</b> Scout Troop Meeting	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> To Our House
<b>24</b> Christ the King Sunday To Our House <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship - Communion <b>10:00 AM</b> Adult Discussion <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship - Communion	<b>25</b> To Our House <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out	<b>26</b> To Our House <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>11:00 AM</b> Bible Study <b>5:00 PM</b> Soup for Seniors - Packing and Delivering	<b>27</b> To Our House <b>8:45 AM</b> Mother's Morning Out <b>2:45 PM</b> Music Lesson	<b>28</b> Thanksgiving Day <b>1:00 PM</b> Community Thanksgiving Meal	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>