



St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

2308 Merrimac Road

Blacksburg, VA 24060

540.951.8951

hope@stmlc.us

www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org

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November 1, 2021

Dear people of God,

On October 2, I had the distinct honor and pleasure to attend the installation service for Pastor Libby Pfaff at Christ Lutheran Church in Bisset Park, Radford. I always enjoy attending these events because they give me time to pause and think about my own call. The Dean of our Conference (New River), the Rev. William King, presided over the service, and as he spoke, I was reminded of how blessed I am to serve alongside each and every one of you.

These are the words from the sermon that I found particularly poignant in our journey together, “So let’s be clear. Today we install a pastor, but we also renew the covenant between her and the people she serves. This is not **her** ministry, it is **our** ministry, which we undertake with God’s guidance and her leadership. Her task, as mandated in our gospel lesson, is to feed you, the people of God, with the gospel—to care for you, guide you, inspire and challenge you with the word of Christ. Your calling—and you do have a calling—is to be the best part of the body you can be.”

As I listened, I could feel my heart fill with gratitude for being called to a people who truly understand what it means and what it takes for St. Michael to be a beacon of hope in our community. Your witness has blessed both John and me and we want you to know how grateful we are.

Still in one peace,
Pastor Michelle

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 Betty Wingate and Keith Gay for folding the October newsletter; to Fran Shepherd, Jody Smiley and Kris Wertz for organizing Micah's Closet and to all the volunteer shoppers; to John Stramiello for leading a weekly Men's Bible study; and to Doug Smiley and Mickey McGuigan for making sure the Micah's shelves are full of food for the children.

Because of your gifts

Your generous gifts in October provided funds for the supply pastor's salary, heat pump repair, newsletter paper, gasoline for lawnmowers, engineering services for planning for connection to the Town of Blacksburg sewer system, communion supplies, annual renewal of church software, and annual fire extinguisher inspection.

Core
Ministry
Fund



Thank you to everyone who shared an **Estimate of Giving for 2022**. With your help, St. Michael will continue to be God's heart and hands and voices in our community and in the world.

The **Justice and Mercy Fund** continues to assist our neighbors in the community and the world. In October, we assisted **ten families**: **four** with electric bills, **three** with rent, **two** with water bills and one with gasoline assistance. 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.



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"

Change your clocks: Sunday, November 7



Micah's Backpack



By the eighth week of the school year, 9,418 meals had been packed and delivered through the Micah's Backpack Program. We continue to partner with Jersey Mike's Subs each month. The last Saturday of each month is Micah's Backpack Day! We were presented a check for August for \$511.00. Please stop in to get some freshly prepared food while helping to support our students. Our next event is November 30th,



AT& T has donated \$10,000 to MBP, thanks to Garrett McGuire, Regional Director. Mr. McGuire is a VT alumnus. Thank you to Stacie Castro and John Krallman for helping to secure a \$4,000 grant for MBP!

We are still in need of snacks, specifically individually wrapped peanut butter crackers, cheese crackers and fruit & grain bars.

Don't forget about our Amazon Wish List. You can find the link on Micah's Backpack website, Facebook and here: <https://a.co/iiMajxK>. Please feel free to share the link with friends and family.

Stay tuned for the yearly Cummings/Ivers Challenge. Connie Cummings and Joe Ivers are willing to match donations up to \$5,000 this year. That means a possible total of \$10,000 for MBP. Please spread the word. More details to come...

Contact John J. Stramiello if you have questions about MBP: 540-599-4682

Email: hope@micahsbackpack.org or stram@stmhc.us

Micah's Mini Pantry

Thank you for helping Micah's Mini Pantry continue to make a difference in the community! November is here! Proteins (tuna, Vienna sausages, Spam), can soups, can veggies, and can beans really are a warm and filling meal on the cooler days to come. Remember - Please **take what you need and leave what you can**. All donations are greatly appreciated!



We are in special need of personal care items. They include - toothpaste, toothbrushes, floss, bar soaps, hair products, hygiene products like toilet paper, deodorant and feminine items, band-aids, sunscreen, anti-biotic creams, and even can openers. Also, any other items are greatly appreciated at this time! Other donations of non-perishable, non-expired foods such as peanut butter, jelly, canned pasta, boxes of cereal, cans of soup, canned beans, canned vegetables, snacks, popcorn, oatmeal, and other canned meats and proteins are needed as well.

Please continue to donate at the in-person church services and on Mondays from 10 a.m. - noon. Thank you! You make our hearts happy!

God's Work - Our Hands



Micah's Soup for Seniors

We are continuing to pack and distribute over 100 bags to the seniors at Warm Hearth. We are getting food from Feeding America, Food Lion and Kroger. We have returned to our prior routine of packing the bags at the church with volunteers and then loading up the cars and delivering them to Warm Hearth. We are being asked at this time to leave the bags at the door after knocking. We are packing generic bags and are not providing a menu selection option as in the past but this has been working well. The bags contain some basic items: tuna, peanut butter, soup, spaghetti, cereal, fruit cups and crackers in addition to any special items we may be able to get from Feeding America.

We will be packing and delivering the 4th Tuesday of each month. At this time, we are packing at 10 a.m. and then leaving immediately after to deliver. We are excited to be back delivering to the Seniors at Warm Hearth and look forward to continuing our program in this manner.

Our schedule for the next several months will be:

November 23rd

December 28th

We plan on adding some special items to the bags we pack in December, so please check the weekly Thursday emails for more details on what you can donate for the seniors as a special Christmas gift.

We will be collecting **peanut butter** (16 oz.) in **November**.

Micah's Closet

Micah's Closet partnered with the church Mosaic and was able to increase the number of students served at Price's Fork Elementary to 52. The parents of the Head Start students at St. Michael were asked if they had clothing needs for their children and six families and one teacher shared needs for their child. St. Michael was able to fill those needs. Thank you for assisting in this ministry.



Community Thanksgiving Basket Pick Up - Saturday, November 20



St. Michael will again be handing out Thanksgiving Baskets to those in our community. Because of COVID-19, high unemployment and food insecurities, the need to feed those in our neighborhood is greater than ever.

Like last year, the Thanksgiving Baskets will be handed out at a **drive-through pick up only on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, November 20th**. We plan on packing at 9:30 a.m. and pick up will be 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. We feel we will have a better turnout and those receiving the baskets will have more time to prepare the meals since all the items in the baskets will be canned or boxed.

With the COVID restrictions, we feel this is the best way to serve everyone safely.

Please look for more information on how you can help volunteer or help with food donations. Dianne Krallman (dhkrallman@gmail.com) and Jody Smiley (jdsmiley29@comcast.net) are the coordinators this year so you can direct any questions to them.

To Our House – November 20-26

To Our House is a service offered by New River Community Action to house homeless men and women during the winter months.

This year St. Michael has volunteered to provide meals in November for November 20th through November 26th. We are still working out the final details on how we will be setting up the meals and deliveries, so please look for further information. Our Savior Lutheran Church in Christiansburg will be the host church during the week we will be providing meals. New River Community Action will be staffing and serving, and they will have several safety measures in place like last year.



We will be providing breakfast and lunch food and making hot meals for dinner. We are looking for volunteers who can either provide the food and paper products that will be needed for those meals or provide monetary donations to help buy larger refrigerated items. We may also need volunteers (1 to 2 per night) to help deliver the food to Our Savior Lutheran Church.

Jody Smiley and Dianne Krallman will be the coordinators this year and we will have a method for signing up electronically. That electronic signup sheet should be available in early November. You may contact Dianne at dhkrallman@gmail.com or Jody at jdsmiley29@comcast.net if you have any questions.

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November Servants

	November 7	November 14	November 21	November 28
Altar Care	Smiley and Birch (for the month)			
10:00 a.m. Service				
Greeters/Ushers	Gary Worley Sandie Worley	Sandy Williams Anna Rossamando	Wilma Pieper Jane Swing	Dave Surface Butch Akers
Lay Reader	Mickey McGuigan	Dianne Krallman	John Stramiello	Doug Smiley

Please Note: Greeters, please take the attendance, write the number down and place in the offering plate. Paper and pen are in the bookshelf drawer.

Mowing Schedule: 11/6-Jay Nagle (back); 11/13-Daniel Ferrell (front); 11/20-Dickie Shepherd (back); 11/27-Matthew James (front)

Rear Lot: 11/1-Dave Surface; 11/8-Doug Smiley; 11/15-Gary Steck; 11/22 Jeff Crowder; 11/29-Dave Surface

Women of the ELCA

WELCA Wednesdays: Lunch and Learn: All St. Michael ladies are invited to participate in the next of our fall series, at noon on Wednesday November 17th. We will meet at the church for fellowship and a Bible study. We will socially distance and wear our masks. Our fall Bible studies will explore **The Gifts of the Spirit**. Our final session is titled: **Wind of God: Refiner and Re-router**. The Holy Spirit is the wind of God, moving us into deeper faithfulness and more authentic love. We will see the ways in which God's Spirit moves us to bear good fruit in the world and refines us into our truest selves. We will also follow the Spirit's movements through the early church to see how the Spirit re-routes God's people, guiding us into transformed lives and renewed communities of faith. If you have any questions please contact Jody Smiley, jdsmiley29@comcast.net or Alice Schneider, aa_schneid@yahoo.com



Church Council Elections

Church Council elections will be held at the December Congregational meeting. Council terms are for three years and meetings are held monthly, currently on Sunday after worship service lasting approximately two hours. Anyone interested in serving on Church Council for the 2022-2024 term, please let a current Council member know by November 6.

Church Cleaning

St. Michael was blessed when Elizabeth Graves recommended Fred Robinson to us for our cleaning needs. Fred is the owner of **Next Solution**, a company that specializes in medical, university, commercial office cleaning and more. He is a former Marine who worked in construction before moving to the cleaning business. Fred had been very successful with his company and was looking for a way to give back in praise to God for his success. At the end of the interview Fred told us he wanted to clean our church with no charge as his way to give back. Needless to say, the interview team was astounded and accepted this gift. As Pastor Bill said the following Sunday in his sermon, you can focus on yourself or on the larger community. We are blessed that Fred is focused on the community. Thanks to Elizabeth for her suggestion and strong recommendation. God has blessed us with this gift.

*Happy
Thanksgiving*

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 several 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 14th, 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
Matthew Pasier
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
Will Sharpe

Air Force
Michelle Pasier

Marines
Katie Prewitt

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 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00 AM Sunday School for Adults and Children 10:00 AM Indoor Worship Service at St. Michael 10:00 AM Watch Virginia Synod Online Worship Service at peacehopeva.org 3:00 PM Blacksburg-Radford Lutheran Fellowship Reformation Day Service at Luther Memorial	1 All Saints Day	2 General Election - Office Closed	3 6:00 PM Packing for Micah's Backpack	4 1:00 PM Memorial Service for John Travis Krallman 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study via Zoom 7:00 PM Scout Troop Meeting 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study via Zoom	5	6 3:00 PM Memorial Service for Marguerite Olinger
7 All Saints Sunday Daylight Savings Ends - Fall Back 9:00 AM Sunday School for Adults and Children 10:00 AM Indoor Worship Service at St. Michael 10:00 AM Watch Virginia Synod Online Worship Service at peacehopeva.org	8 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out	9 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 4:00 PM Music Lessons	10 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 3:00 PM Music Lessons 6:00 PM Packing for Micah's Backpack 6:30 PM Choir Practice	11 Veteran's Day 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study via Zoom 7:00 PM Scout Troop Meeting 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study via Zoom	12	13
14 9:00 AM Sunday School for Adults and Children 10:00 AM Indoor Worship Service at St. Michael 10:00 AM Watch Virginia Synod Online Worship Service at peacehopeva.org 11:00 AM Choir Practice 11:15 AM Congregational Church Council Meeting	15 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out	16 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 4:00 PM Music Lessons 7:00 PM Price Family Historical Society	17 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 12:00 PM WELCA Lunch and Learn 3:00 PM Music Lessons 6:00 PM Packing for Micah's Backpack 6:30 PM Choir Practice	18 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study via Zoom 7:00 PM Scout Troop Meeting	19	20 To Our House 9:30 AM Community Thanksgiving Meal - Packing Meals 10:00 AM Community Thanksgiving Meal - Meal Pick Up
21 Christ the King Sunday To Our House 9:00 AM Sunday School for Adults and Children 10:00 AM Indoor Worship Service at St. Michael 10:00 AM Watch Virginia Synod Online Worship Service at peacehopeva.org 11:00 AM Choir Practice	22 To Our House 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out	23 To Our House 10:00 AM Packing and Delivering for Soup for Seniors	24 To Our House 6:00 PM Packing for Micah's Backpack	25 Thanksgiving Day To Our House	26 To Our House	27
28 First Sunday in Advent 9:00 AM Children's Sunday School with Pastor Michelle 9:00 AM Sunday School for Adults 10:00 AM Indoor Worship Service at St. Michael 10:00 AM Watch Virginia Synod Online Worship Service at peacehopeva.org 11:00 AM Choir Practice	29	30 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 4:00 PM Music Lessons	1 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 3:00 PM Music Lessons 6:00 PM Packing for Micah's Backpack 6:30 PM Choir Practice	2 8:45 AM Mother's Morning Out 7:00 PM Scout Troop Meeting	3	4