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Those Called to Special Service

2011 Congregational Council

Jim Clemens	Sheila McCartan	Lori Anne Kirk
Rick Mayer	John Krallman	Michelle Pasier
Keith Gay	Gary Worley	Randy Robinson

Officers of the Congregational Council and Congregational Leaders

President.....	Jim Clemens
Vice President.....	Rick Mayer
Secretary.....	Rick Mayer
Financial Officer.....	John Krallman
Financial Secretaries.....	Jim Clemens
.....	Cindy Dowdy
.....	Ben Simmers
Current Fund Treasurer.....	John Krallman
Recording Secretary.....	Doug Smiley
Memorial Fund Secretary/Treasurer.....	Cindy Dowdy
Sunday School Secretary.....	Jim Clemens
.....	Doug Smiley

Trustees	Jeff Birch	Jim Clemens	Betty Gross
	Fran Shepherd	Ben Simmers	Dave Surface

Ministry Team Leaders and Ministry Staff

Worship Committee.....	Lori Anne Kirk
Caring and Sharing.....	Carol Crawford
Finance.....	John Krallman
Stewards/Support.....	Sandy Birch
Property.....	Fran Shepherd
Memorial.....	Jim Clemens
Women of the ELCA.....	Alice Schneider
Lutheran Men in Mission.....	Jeff Birch
Lay Associate in Ministry.....	Sandy Birch
Administrative Assistant.....	Suzanne Gay
Choir Director	Eric Young
Accompanist.....	Brandy Baxter
Nursery Worker.....	Keely Jones
Webmaster.....	Philip Isenhour



St. Michael Lutheran Church
2308 Merrimac Road
Blacksburg, VA 24060
(540) 951-8951
Rev. John Wertz, Jr., Pastor

February 3, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your generous support of God's ministry at St. Michael. With your help, our ministry touched the lives of approximately 5300 people during 2010. From helping ministry projects to nurturing youth in their lives of faith to meaningful worship, together we are living as God's heart and hands and voices in our community.

Over the last year, we have seen our ministry grow in exciting ways. Micah's Backpack now feeds 110 students per week with the support of 35 community partners. The Thanksgiving Meal fed over 165 individuals and sent home another 50 meals for hungry people. We took a group on our first Junior High Servant Event and had groups attend two synod youth events. Our music ministry is engaging people of all ages and our senior adult ministry sponsored a walk to Bethlehem which encouraged us to get healthier. On Christmas Eve, we shared the story of Christ's birth with over 300 people. Together, we are making Christ known to more people than ever before.

As I look to the future, I see opportunities to strengthen and expand the ministry God is calling us to do in three ways.

- 1) We will begin a new capital campaign, *Growing with Faith: Expanding God's Mission*, to grow forward our giving by \$275,000 over the next three years to address three specific areas of need at St. Michael: renovation, debt reduction and future ministries.
- 2) We will continue to expand ministry partnerships. Pastor Bill King is developing hands-on service projects for St. Michael, Luther Memorial and Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech. With the support of Lutheran Family Services of Virginia, Virginia Lutheran Homes and Luther Memorial we will host a grief support group at St. Michael and we hope to expand Micah's Backpack to serve 150 students during the 2011-2012 school year.
- 3) We will explore additional ways to use our expanded facilities for ministry. Currently, a Mother's Morning Out program serves 10 families per week and the opportunity exists to create other ministries that will serve even more families in our community.

May God's presence be with us in our ministry and guide us as we proclaim God's love to the world.

Peace and hope,

Pastor John Wertz, Jr.

Our Mission Statement

As a community of believers guided by the Holy Spirit, the mission of St. Michael Lutheran Church is to:

C Care for God's people in need,

H Hear of God's love through Word and Sacrament,

R Respond to God's grace with thankful hearts,

I Invite others into Christ's community,

S Serve God in our daily lives, and

T Tell the story of God's love for all.



Vacation Bible School



Preparing Thanksgiving dinner for the community



Youth Night Family Fun Game

CARING AND SHARING TEAM

I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go,

Genesis 28:15a

PURPOSE: This team is responsible for the establishment and execution of programs in support of the elderly and handicapped, community service projects, and witnessing to prospective, inactive, and new members; and in general providing an environment of love and caring within and outside the congregation.

MEMBERS: Sandy Birch, Fran Gallimore, Betty Gross, Burn Gross, Maggie Maloney, Andrea Robinson, Anna Rossomundo, Judith Wolfe, Carol Crawford (Chair)

The Caring and Sharing Team offers **special thanks to St. Michael's members and friends** who supported the 2010 projects with their time, talents and contributions.

- **Community Thanksgiving Dinner** -- approximately 175 persons joined together to celebrate the Thanksgiving meal. Special thanks to Kroger for donating the turkeys, to St. Michael members for preparing delicious side dishes, and to Girl Scout Troop 737 for designing attractive placemats for the tables. Volunteers from the area assisted St. Michael's members in serving this meal. Volunteer Coordinator – Fran Gallimore
- **Pictorial Directory** – a new directory was provided by the talents of Joe Young, our volunteer photographer, and Sandy Birch, project coordinator.
- **Price's Fork Fair Outreach Booth** – Pastor John and 14 church members spent two days at the fair playing games and painting faces for children while reaching out and making our presence known to the community. Handouts included faith-themed coloring books, Bibles, grief resources, family devotionals and general information about the church. Volunteer Coordinator – Carol Crawford
- **Salvation Army Angel Tree** – 25 “angels” received gift packages of clothing, shoes and toys. Volunteer Coordinators – Suzanne Gay, Jennie Brogan, Andrea Robinson
- **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** – this traditional activity brought people together for food and fellowship. Members of New Mt. Zion and Shiloh joined in this fellowship. Donations received were distributed to MCEAP (Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program) and World Hunger.
- **SHARE Program** – 40 families participated in this monthly food program. On September 25, New River Community Action's SHARE program held its final food distribution. The distribution site at St. Michael was considered a “model” program and volunteers were often sent to our site to observe. Our thanks to Betty & Burn Gross, Wanda & James Pascoe, and Jenny & Sam Akers for nurturing SHARE for many years with the help of other congregational volunteers. Volunteer Coordinator – Betty Gross
- **Boy Scout Troop** – Jan Helge Bohn continued to serve as an energetic and enthusiastic Scout Master of Boy Scout Troop 158. Membership increased and the Scouts developed survival skills, leadership abilities, and friendships. The Troop meets each Thursday evening at the Church. For the fourth year in a row, our unit earned the prestigious Quality Unit Award.

- **Adventure Crew** – St. Michael BSA Crew 158 serves boys and girls, ages 14 to 20. This is a new BSA program to build character, citizenship and leadership skills in older youth. Sara Bohn is the Adventure Crew Advisor.
- **Meals for Funerals/Illness:** – this very important program of our congregation continued to be coordinated by Judy Clemens.
- **Happy Go Lucky** – activities involved monthly meetings with good fellowship, good food and interesting programs. Volunteer Coordinator – Sandy Birch
- **Second Sunday Summer Brunches** – High School and college graduates were recognized at the June brunch hosted by WELCA. July and August brunches were coordinated by the Caring and Sharing Team
- **Softball Team** – 16 men and women representing St. Michael enjoyed a successful season with 9 wins and 3 losses. Volunteer Coordinators – Jeff Birch and Doug Smiley
- **Volleyball Team** -- 9 members representing St. Michael competed in the Blacksburg Recreation League on Thursday evenings.

OTHER PROJECTS INCLUDE:

MCEAP (Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program), Justice and Mercy, Foster Children and Welcome letters to new members



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus instructs us to "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you." St. Michael offers a variety of educational opportunities to help teach individuals and families about God and help them grow in their life of faith. From September until May, Sunday School meets each Sunday morning offering classes for kindergarten through adults and during the summer we offer special classes twice a month. We are blessed with leaders, teachers, and assistants who love to work with our students and students who have a desire to hear, study, and share God's Word. Their willingness to share their gifts is what makes our Christian Education program special. St. Michael would especially like to thank Loren Crowder for leading the Sunday School Opening each week.

This year, St. Michael's Youth Ministry continued to grow and expand. Pastor John and Sheila McCartan lead a group for Kindergarten through 5th graders and Carrie Mayer, Jeanette Pasier and Kris Wertz lead the LYNX Youth Group for 6th through 12th Grade. The groups meet on the second and fourth Sunday of the month and reach 12 to 20 youth per month. Thank you to all the families who support our ministry with young people.



In October, Elizabeth Berg, Will Sharpe, Katy McGuigan, and Steffan Bohn celebrated their confirmation. Confirmation is a three year program which consists of two overnight lock-ins and three mini-retreats per year to focus on different areas of a life of faith. In addition, students attend a week of Confirmation Camp during the summer after seventh grade.

Vacation Bible School was held in June with over 60 youths and adults participating. This year's theme was "High Seas Expedition" Classes were offered for preschool and kindergarten through Middle School as well as adults. Many thanks go out to all the teachers, music leaders, and ladies who provided the meals. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Jesus.



Around Christmas, we took a Journey to Bethlehem. The youth shared a wonderful Christmas program which was attended by over 120 people. The program was followed by a covered dish meal and a family craft night. It was a delightful evening of fun and fellowship as we heard the story of God's love at Christmas.

Pastor John leads a Bible Study each Tuesday morning at 11 AM which focuses on the readings for worship. In addition to the Tuesday morning Bible Study, Pastor John also leads a monthly Sunday evening Bible Study which focuses on individual topics.

Property Committee

Purpose: The property committee's main function is to oversee the church property, making improvements and repairs as needed. There were a number of improvements and repairs made in 2010.

Members: Bob Brown, Jim Clemens, Ray Howell, Wanda Pascoe, Randy Robinson, Fran Shepherd

Activities included:

- Sponsored the “spring and fall clean-up” (outdoors)
- General upkeep and mowing of the grass
- Moved playground area
- Removal of snow
- Trimmed overgrown bushes
- Coordinated weekly weeding schedule
- Spraying monthly for insects
- Painting of some exterior and interior areas
- Cleaned lights in sanctuary
- Installed bulletin boards and white boards in Sunday School rooms

- Special thanks to all those folks who work behind the scenes and who are a major part in the upkeep and maintenance of our church including. . .
- Ray Howell for his help in our maintenance issues.
- The “Mowing Crew” that mows and keeps our grounds looking nice.
- JC Martin for assisting with the new playground
- Dickie Shepherd for spraying the perimeter of the church lot.

We remember David Hillis, faithful member of St. Michael and church custodian, who died in 2010. We give thanks for his life and service to St. Michael.



Stewards Team

The Stewards Team is called to promote understanding of congregational stewardship and encourage the sharing of our time, talents and treasures.



Our theme for 2010 was “God is Calling” to use our hearts, hands and voices to do His work. Time and talent surveys were completed in March, with an excellent member response. Members of St. Michael volunteered to serve on committees and teams, teach in our Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, prepare food, maintain the church grounds, sing in our choirs, serve on Sunday morning as ushers, lay readers, acolytes, communion assistants, greeters and altar care providers. During the year, many donated their time and talents to special projects such as representing St. Michael at the Price’s Fork Fair, preparing Micah’s backpacks with weekend food for elementary school children, or serving food at the Roanoke Rescue Mission.

A regular feature in the monthly newsletter, *Sharing Our Gifts: Time, Talents and Treasure*, was devoted to recognizing servants who volunteered their time and talents for numerous tasks and activities at the church and thanking the congregation for participating in a variety of projects throughout the year.

Here are some examples of how the St. Michael congregation shares its gifts with the community and the world.

- Food and paper goods for the Montgomery County Food Bank
- Food, cleaning supplies, paper goods, and baby items for the Women’s Resource Center
- School supplies for Prices Fork, Kipps, and Eastern Montgomery Elementary Schools
- Christmas gifts for 25 children sponsored by the Salvation Army Angel Tree project
- Over 40 Easter baskets for children at the Women’s Resource Center and the Salvation Army
- 312 Christmas shoebox gifts for Head Start children on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota (a joint project with other New River Lutheran churches and other groups such as the DAR); mailing prepared at “Party with a Purpose” in November; extra supplies, e.g., quilts, sent to Pastor Rupp, who runs a homeless shelter in Pine Ridge.
- An average of 10 flower arrangements for Good Samaritan Hospice created weekly from altar flowers
- \$3,042 for the Brown Fund
- 107 health kits for Haiti and monetary gifts to Haiti Earthquake Relief
- \$3,120 for the Montgomery County Emergency Assistance (MCEAP) program plus an additional \$74 from Souper Sunday. An additional \$74 from Souper Sunday was donated to Micah’s backpack.
- Support of two children in Indonesia and India through ChildFund International
- Thank offering of \$470 to support ELCA national and international programs for women and children
- Assistance to 190 families (23 more families than the previous year) for rent and medical expenses, electric and water bills, heating oil, food and other expenses totaling \$7,600 from the Justice and Mercy Fund
- \$19,000 donated to the Virginia Synod to support ministry in the Synod, the country and in the world. \$1,200 to Grace Lutheran Church in Spotsylvania, and Bedford Lutheran, our Mission Partners
- Assistance of \$820 to our Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary partner
- Food and funds for the annual community Thanksgiving dinner
- Chicken noodle soup and pork and beans for the Montgomery County Christmas Store
- \$3,900 to Lutheran Campus Ministries
- New children’s books for the Roanoke Rescue Mission

- \$9,910 (for 2010-2011 school year) for Micah's Backpack which now assists over 105 children in 5 area elementary schools, one middle school and a Head Start program. Hundreds of food items were donated to the pantry during "Un-trim the Christmas Tree" in July.

Stewardship of our earth was emphasized through newsletter articles and postings on the hallway bulletin board. St. Michael continues to take good care of our earth by such actions as recycling ink cartridges and used cell phones, using recycled copy paper, and providing recycling bins in the church for paper and cardboard.

The stewardship of our congregation is exceptional and we thank you all. A catered brunch was held in December to honor all the St. Michael stewards. You are generous supporters of the ministry at St. Michael, in the community and the world.

Sandy Birch, chair Ben Simmers Jody Smiley Hank Schneider Pastor John Andrea Robinson

We offer with joy and thanksgiving what He has first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of His gracious love.



Campus Ministry

The Campus Ministry Committee at Luther Memorial continued to provide support and guidance to both the mission and the activities of the campus ministry program at Luther Memorial in 2010. In addition to providing guidance to the pastors and students of the Lutheran Student Movement group, the Campus Ministry Committee helped organize Luther's Luscious Lunches (L-cubed) and graduation festivities for graduating students. Below are some of the activities that the Lutheran Student Movement (LSM) was involved with during the 2010 program year:

- Attendance at worship services by students has been between 15 – 25 students each Sunday. Students participate during worship services by volunteering as lectors, ushers, communion assistants, etc.
- At LSM Tuesday evening events, the attendance has been between 13 - 15 students.
- Service projects included helping with game day parking, participation in the "Big Event" with Virginia Tech, Micah's backpack, service at Kipps Elementary School, service project at Valley Interfaith Child Care Center, participation in Relay for Life, turnip gleaning, and an evening of babysitting for the younger families of LMLC.
- Each year students participate in an Alternative Spring Break service project. Last year eight LSM students went to Pickens County, SC near Clemson University to work on a Habitat for Humanity building project. This year's Alternative Spring Break will be in conjunction with University of Virginia campus ministry students who will travel together to Boone, NC for a week of service learning.
- The Rev. Dr. David Rhoads was the Visiting Theologian this last year from February 27 to March 1. He gave a Greening Congregations Workshop and talked about Lutherans restoring creation. This visit was jointly sponsored by the Visiting Theologian program and the CreationCare Committee. This year's Visiting Theologian will be Dr. Daniel Bell from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary on April 3 and 4. He will be discussing how we can communicate the gospel in new, easy-to-understand language.
- Lutheran Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech continues to be an example of a valued partnership with St. Michael's congregation.
- The Ministry Generated Resources (MGR) for 2010 closed the year with gifts totaling \$26,436.44 just slightly above last year's receipts. Unfortunately, it was below our goal of \$28,500. Receipts for 2010 included \$12,243.44 for game day parking, gifts of \$12,959 from parents/alumni/friends, and \$1,234 from the Thrivent program. While we saw a good increase in the amount of donations from parents/alumni/friends this year, we were down about \$3000 on game day parking. Otherwise, we would have met our goal. Game day parking is a variable target based on the number of home games, the teams we are playing, and the weather. The 2011 MGR goal is \$30,000.
- This year was significant in that the Lutheran Campus Ministry underwent its Quadrennial Review from the ELCA on October 18-19, 2010. The Review Committee found that our ministry is in compliance with the ELCA Campus Ministry Policies and Procedures, meets the Operating Grant Eligibility Criteria and that supporting our ministry is in the best interest of the Campus Ministry Mission. Comments from the team's report:

- LCM at VA Tech has great potential for truly exceptional campus ministry. A clear strength of this ministry is the collegiality, longevity, and stability of the pastoral staff team at Luther Memorial.
 - This team affirms the benefits and strengths of a campus ministry that is fully integrated with a congregation that views the campus as central to its mission. This appears to be one of the best models for effective and ongoing long-term campus outreach and impact.
 - We urge continued building of student and congregational member relationships in the carrying out of campus ministry.
 - We strongly affirm the commitment and support provided to LCM by St. Michael congregation, which believes in campus ministry without always receiving the benefits from it.
- Lutheran Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech has received the following annual financial allocations for fiscal year 2010, which begins Feb. 1, 2010:
 - 2011 ELCA Church wide Operating Grant: \$5,600
 - 2011 Virginia Synodical Operating Grant: \$43,370

This year's ELCA and Synod funding is the same as last year's allocation. The remainder of the LCM operating funds is provided for in Luther Memorial's budget which also incorporates the above funding levels from the ELCA and Synod. Ministry Generated Resources also contribute to the LCM budget.

Finally, I would like to thank some of our previous committee members who have been invaluable to the team and have stepped down over the last year. Thanks go to Larry Schoff and Patty Marickovich. This means we have more openings available on the Campus Ministry Committee and are soliciting new members to join now or through Time and Talent to start next fall.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Pierson, Chair

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

The Memorial Committee meets on an as needed basis to act on Council recommendations or conduct other business related to overseeing the use of all money donated to St. Michael as memorials.

This past year, no designated funds were used for purchases. Un-designated funds in the amount of \$2840.44 were used for playground construction and improvements.

Donations in memory of Tim Clemens, Leona Criner, Renee Brown, Alice Noonkester, Jeanne Keister, David Hillis and Dot Turman went into the Memorial Fund.

Donations in memory of Renee Brown were used to purchase bulletin boards for the Education Addition, chimes music, Micah's Backpack and music ministry items.

Donations in memory of Janette Ellerby and Brian Ellerby went into the Micah's Backpack Fund.

Donations in memory of Van Nester went into the Micah's Backpack Fund.

Donations in memory of John Robert Price were used to purchase tables for Micah's Backpack.

The committee maintains a list of suggested Memorials to be used by families, and is always available to answer questions or assist in choosing a memorial gift. Members of the committee are: Bob Brown, Cindy Dowdy-Treasurer, Jim Clemens-Chair, Jay Nagle, Donna Oliver, Peggy Price, Anne Surface and Sandy Birch.

The Memorial Fund Treasurer's report gives a complete breakdown on designated and undesignated money, received and disbursed from the fund.

Jim Clemens

Chair

Memorial Fund - 2010

Beginning Balance	\$2105.02
Expenses	None
Income	
*In memory of Leona Criner	\$75.00
*In memory of Tim Clemens	\$50.00
*In memory of Renee Brown	\$420.00
*In memory of Alice Noonkester	\$40.00
*In memory of Jeanne Keister	\$25.00
*In memory of David Hillis	\$55.00
*In memory of Dot Turman	\$350.00
*Interest	<u>\$1.67</u>
Ending Balance	\$3121.69

Women of the E.L.C.A.

The purpose of the Women of the ELCA is:

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, society and the world.

The group has monthly meetings during the school year which generally include a brief program, work on projects and fellowship time. This year we have begun a Bible study series based on the ELCA's "The People of God: Unity in the Midst of Diversity". WELCA is led by a team of three: Jody Smiley and Sandy Birch and chaired by Alice Schneider.

Projects and activities for 2010 included the following:

- Sponsored monthly collection of items for the Women's Resource Center from paper goods and cleaning supplies to socks and baby needs.
- Sponsored monthly donations to the Montgomery County Food Bank.
- An Italian buffet was enjoyed by a large group for "Ladies Night Out" at Amelia's Restaurant in Christiansburg.
- Sixty Easter baskets were assembled for the Salvation Army and the Women's Resource Center, including some "Mom" baskets.
- Hosted the annual Easter Breakfast, one of the summer "Second Sunday Brunch" series, which also honored St. Michael graduates and lunch for the Virginia Tech L'Cubed Lutheran Students group.
- In May the women conducted a Bold Women Sunday worship service which celebrated women acting boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Thank offering boxes received provided \$434.00 to benefit ELCA national and international women and children's projects.
- The Sisters in Christ Luncheon program featured Mary and Martha.
- Two women attended the Virginia Synodical Women's Organization (VSWO) annual convention at Roanoke College in July. Jody Smiley is in the last of two terms as VSWO President.
- New books were donated by the congregation and delivered to the Roanoke Rescue Mission during the VSWO conference.
- A summer potluck dinner was enjoyed at the Shepherd's Newport home.
- Coordinated and delivered school supplies and backpacks collected by the congregation to East Mont, Kipps and Price's Fork Elementary Schools Wal-Mart gift cards were included for each school.
- Several members enjoyed the annual October New River Conference Fall Gathering and salad dinner at Our Savior's new fellowship hall and kitchen facilities. The Rev. Terrie Sternberg presented a program and slide show about the ELCA World Malaria program. The Rev. Bill King told us about his VT student programs. The offerings were donated to the ELCA Malaria Fund and the VSWO. Over 160 Health Kits were collected for ELCA Haiti and International World Relief.

- WELCA again sponsored the collection of Christmas gift shoe boxes for the Head Start children at Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Boxes were donated by members of the New River Conference churches, the local DAR chapter and Christ the King, Richmond. At the Party with a Purpose on November 22, adult and youth members shared supper and readied 312 gift boxes for shipment. Included were some shoeboxes for older children and several large boxes of additional gifts and quilts for Rev. Karen Rupp's programs at the Reservation.
- The annual Italian Festa birthday dinner was held in November. Featured was Anna Rossomando's baked entrees, as well as delicious birthday desserts provided by many cooks. A donation was sent to the Montgomery County Christmas Store.
- A Price's Fork Elementary School family was adopted for the holidays. Gifts were donated for both the children and parents.
- The Baby Blessings project visited several new babies giving each a book and small gift.



Submitted by: Alice Schneider

Men in Mission

The Men in Mission group is “on-call” to support the programs of St. Michael and provide community service as needed. In 2010, the Men in Mission

- unloaded the St. Michael Backpack truck two Mondays a month
- built a handicap ramp for a family in the community;
- met with representatives of Bedford Lutheran Church to discuss construction/remodeling/repair projects with which we might assist;
- assembled a playground set for a family in Shawsville;
- led worship on April 18. Scripture readings from 2 Timothy spoke of the farmer, soldier and athlete and reflections were shared by Jerry Gallimore, Keith Gay and Jeff Birch;
- served dinner at the Roanoke Rescue Mission on September 19;
- directed traffic in the parking lot of the Montgomery County Christmas Store on December 11.



Older Kids (O.K.s) Senior Ministry

An active group of “over 50’s” had a number of opportunities for fellowship during the year. The Happy-Go-Lucky group met monthly on Tuesdays for a catered luncheon and program in the fellowship hall. In the spring and summer, the group experienced a series of programs and menus about healthy bodies, introduced by Dr Jake Moll, a retired physician and member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church, who shared a presentation entitled, “A Healthy Diet to Feed Our Aging Gut.” Successive programs featured such topics as “Feeding our Brains”, “Happy Hearts”, and “Healthy Feet”. In the fall, the luncheons highlighted regional foods from several states including Louisiana, South Carolina (hosted by Frances and Charlie Edge in their new home), North Dakota and colonial Virginia. Many thanks to our “caterers”, including Lynn Hickock, Alice Schneider, Anna Rossomando, Frances Edge and Sandy Birch, who cook and bake for our luncheons and to the O.K.s who contribute \$5/meal for the groceries.

The O.K.s met twice for dinner during the year: at the Hakkaido Buffet in February and Amelia’s Pizzeria and Restaurant in September and enjoyed fine food and fellowship in the private dining rooms of each restaurant.

The O.K.s also went traveling in a cooperative program with the Montgomery County Parks and Recreation Department. In 2010, the O.K.s started their adventures with a trip to Roanoke and viewed two shows at the Megadome Theater, toured the Farmers Market, and enjoyed a stop at the Bubblecake Shop. In June, members visited three of the Buffalo Mountain stone churches, with stops along the Blue Ridge Parkway. A picnic at Claytor Lake and a tour of the Claytor Lake Dam were the July activities. In the fall, the O.K.s toured the Mansion at Fort Chiswell.

A Walk to Bethlehem was sponsored by the O.K.s in the fall and the congregation was encouraged to walk, bike, swim, or run towards a 6,114 mile goal. Over 40 members of all ages participated and met the goal within 12 weeks. The O.K. logged 2,488 miles during the journey. A 1/10 mile indoor “track” and a ¼ mile outdoor track were set up at the church to encourage healthy walking.

Announcements posted on the hallway bulletin board and in the newsletter kept the O.K.s informed of AARP and other senior organizations’ activities throughout the year.

The younger O.K.s, now known as the “middle-agers”, sponsored several fellowship activities during the year including a potluck cook-out at the Williams home. The middle-agers are loosely described as those “between PTA and AARP”.

Submitted by Sandy Birch



Micah's Backpack
Blacksburg Partnership Fights Hunger in Low Income Youth
January 2010 - December 2010

Micah's Backpack, a free ministry sponsored by St. Michael Lutheran Church in Blacksburg helps families eat more healthy meals and snacks through their local elementary school www.micahsbackpack.org Each Friday afternoon school children receive a backpack of healthy food and snacks. From January 2010 through December 2010, the following impacts of the Micah's Backpack program were recorded:

- 7 Partner Schools - Gilbert Linkous Elementary School, Harding Avenue Elementary School, Kipps Elementary School, Margaret Beeks Elementary School, Price's Fork Elementary School, Blacksburg Middle School, and the Blacksburg Head Start Preschool
- 130 Students Helped
- 604 Volunteer Hours Donated
- 2,443 Backpacks Delivered
- 14,668 Meals Delivered
- 5954 Items of Donated Food
- Grants were received from The Food Lion Charitable Foundation and the ELCA Domestic Hunger Grant program
- Over 35 partner organizations and numerous individuals provide support for Micah's Backpack.

Thank You for your generous support of Micah's Backpack!



2010 Investments in Ministry through the Core Ministry Fund

	Actual 2009	Projected 2010	Actual 2010
Giving in Support of 2010 Spending Plan for Ministry	\$162,278	\$171,000	\$178,190
Sharing Our Gifts: Includes gifts to Virginia Synod, Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech,	\$ 28,427	\$ 28,269	\$ 28,397
Worship Includes Supplies for Worship and Music Programs and Salaries	\$ 20,597	\$ 18,814	\$ 19,113
Youth and Education Ministry Youth and Family Programs, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and Child Care Staffing	\$ 8,596	\$ 9,700	\$ 9,983
Caring and Sharing Includes Fellowship Events, Softball and Volleyball Teams, Publicity, Future Programs and Associate in Ministry	\$ 6,995	\$ 7,506	\$ 6,549
Pastoral Support Includes Salary, Benefits, and Continuing Education	\$ 83,349	\$ 84,546	\$ 83,397
Parish Administration and Support	\$ 19,102	\$ 17,634	\$ 17,920
Property	\$ 8,061	\$ 10,650	\$ 12,391
Total Spending Plan for Ministry Investment	\$175,100	\$177,119	\$177,750

Notes:

1. *In the Core Ministry Fund, giving exceeded expenses by \$440.*
2. *Total Giving to All Funds in 2010 (including Core Ministry Fund, Facilities Expansion Fund, Justice and Mercy Fund, Micah's Backpack and other Restricted Funds) was \$311,069 which was an increase of approximately \$41,000 from the total giving to all funds in 2009.*
3. *The Balance in the Justice and Mercy Fund at the end of 2010 is \$4,062.*
4. *The Balance in the Property Maintenance Fund at the end of 2010 is \$5,846.*
5. *The mortgage balance with Thrivent at the end of 2010 is \$567,312. In December 2010, we refinanced our loan with Thrivent and reduced our loan term from 18 years to 15 years and from 6.8% to 5.5%.*

2011 Investments in Ministry

	2011	2010
Investments in Ministry Partnerships: Sharing Our Gifts		
VA Synod & ELCA	19,500	19,000
Mission Congregation Partnership	1,200	1,200
Lutheran Family Services/Lutheran Homes: Grief Groups	500	0
Mont. County Emergency Assistance Program	3,120	3,120
Christian Children's Fund	720	720
Community Ministry Support	600	600
Campus Ministry at VA Tech	<u>8,000</u>	<u>3,900</u>
Total	33,640	28,540
Investments in Core Ministries		
Worship		
Music and Choir Supplies	700	700
Inserts and Bulletins	600	600
Altar Supplies	400	400
11 AM Accompanist	7,022	6,885
Choral Director	6,502	6,375
Choral Director Continuing Education	250	250
Accompanist Continuing Education	100	100
9 AM Accompanist	2,809	2,754
Supply Pastor	0	300
Organist Substitutes	250	350
Instrumentalist	150	0
Miscellaneous	<u>550</u>	<u>100</u>
Total	19,333	18,814
Caring and Sharing		
Associate in Ministry	4,596	4,506
Associate in Ministry Continuing Education	100	100
Fellowship	700	700
Evangelism/Publicity	700	700
Sports Teams	350	350
Older Kids Ministry	200	200
Future Programs	500	500
Appreciation	300	300
Miscellaneous	<u>150</u>	<u>150</u>
Total	7,596	7,506

Youth and Education Ministry

Youth

Youth Activities	1,800	1,700
Family Programs	750	750
Nursery Worker	2,000	2,000

Education

Christian Education	1,400	1,300
Confirmation	2,200	1,800
Conferences	600	600
Subscriptions/Devotionals	1,100	1,100
Miscellaneous	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>

Total	9,900	9,300
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Faith Milestone Ministry

New Baby Ministry	75	75
Faithchest Resources	125	125
Faith Builders Toolbox Resources	150	150
Grief Resources	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>
	400	400

Pastoral Support

Salary	32,546	31,546
Housing	21,588	20,106
Pension, Insurance	22,852	22,154
Social Security	6,163	5,870
Continuing Education, books	<u>1,350</u>	<u>1,350</u>
Total	84,499	80,546

Support

Materials	50	50
Workshop	100	100
Miscellaneous	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>
Total	200	200

Parish Administration

Administrative Assistant	7,984	7,534
Social Security	2,800	2,600
Office Supplies	1,400	1,500
Postage	1,000	1,000

Copier Maintenance	1,850	1,850
Telephone	900	900
Internet Service	1,000	1,000
Mileage Reimbursement	3,500	3,500
Conventions and Conferences	550	550
Miscellaneous	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
Total	21,484	20,934

Investments in Preventative Maintenance and On-going Restoration

Improvements	500	500
General Maintenance & Repairs	750	750
Insurance - Church	3,200	3,000
Custodian Services	2,500	2,500
Utilities	3,200	2,800
Snow Removal	500	500
Pest Control	500	500
Miscellaneous	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
Total	11,150	10,650

Total Spending Plan for Ministry **188,202** **176,890**

Total Projected Core Ministry Fund Giving 2010 **179,000**

Total Estimated Core Ministry Fund Giving 2011 **184,000**



Investments in Preventative Maintenance and On-going Restoration:

Property Maintenance Fund

Landscaping & Maintenance	\$ 2,500
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 500
Heat Pump Maintenance	<u>\$ 1,701</u>
	\$ 4,701

Total Estimated Giving to Property Maintenance Fund \$ 5,500

Investments in Facilities Expansion Fund

Mortgage on Classroom Addition \$55,284

Notes on the 2011 Investments in Ministry

Thank you for your investment in the ministry of God at St. Michael. With your generous stewardship of God's gifts to you, St. Michael's ministry continues to grow. Overall giving to the ministries of St. Michael including gifts to support the Core Ministries like Worship, Youth and Shepherding, the Micah's Backpack Fund, the Justice and Mercy Fund, the Facilities Expansion Fund and the Property Maintenance Fund is strong.



Based on your estimates of giving for 2011 and established giving patterns, the Council prepared an investment plan that will support expansion of our ministries, recognize the excellence of our staff and increases our partnership with Campus Ministry. The Council expects giving to the Core Ministry Fund in 2011 to increase by approximately 3 to 5 % and therefore has projected investing approximately 3% in our Core Ministry areas including a 2% raise for members of the staff, plus an additional two hours per month of administrative support. The Council unanimously recommends a 5% pay increase for Pastor John in recognition of his leadership and ministry, and because the Council honored Pastor John's request for no increase in pay in 2010.

St. Michael is currently exploring new and exciting ministry partnerships which expand our ability to help God's people in need. The partnership with Lutheran Family Services of Virginia, Virginia Lutheran Homes and Luther Memorial provides needed grief support services in the New River Valley. The expanded ministry partnership with Campus Ministry will increase the participation of Pastor Bill King in the ministry of St. Michael. Pastor King will preach at St. Michael more frequently and begin to develop helping ministry projects for St. Michael, Luther Memorial and Campus Ministry.